PATHS, PLANTS and PEOPLE

The project was previously known as the Green Necklace Project and was started as a result of suggestions in the Longhoughton Review of 2018. Many volunteers have come forward to help with this project and twenty seven people are now involved. This is tremendous! Gill Bromley is leading the project but at a recent meeting it was decided to split into sub-groups.

The Footpaths sub-group, led by Chris Thomas, is walking all the existing footpaths assessing their condition and putting together suggestions for extensions and new footpaths. This will include the original suggestion of green ways around Longhoughton village. Please contact Chris with your suggestions or comment and they will be included in the discussion. The Planting sub-group is compiling proposals for new planting and new trees around the village of Longhoughton to brighten up the village and improve its appearance. Initially the Parish Council has given £100 to purchase new planters for the public parking area across from the church and a donation has been made to improve the looks of the traditional black and white sign at the junction of South End and North End.

The Heritage sub-group is focusing on establishing the history of Longhoughton that will then be used for proposals to develop a heritage trail.

The Pondfield sub-group is beginning to compile proposals for the Pondfield to become a central feature in the village and the start of the heritage trail.

All these proposals will be subject to approval by the Parish Council. Funding will come from an amount set aside for the implementation of the Longhoughton review but major schemes are likely to be subject to gaining grants. The output from this project will also inform the NDP.

HEALTH WALKS from LONGHOUGHTON and EMBLETON

Alnwick Medical Group has introduced free health walks starting in September. The first one was on Thursday 19th September starting from Longhoughton Surgery. The next will be from Howick Gardens car park at 10.30 am on 3 October. Please park at rear of car park. The next one is 8 October from Rock Farm walk car park at 10.30am. Dogs on leads are welcome. The walks are suitable for all ages and abilities, especially those who may need company or be recovering from mental or physical illness.

For more information contact Longhoughton Surgery Tel 577380
ALL ARE WELCOME.
HOWICK’S THIRD INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL Friday 18 to Sunday 20 October 2019
Howick Community Film Club is based in the beautiful old village hall in Howick. Our regular film nights are held every 3-4 weeks and alternate between Sunday evenings when we show mainstream or old classic films and Friday evenings when we show world cinema films. We have recently installed a high definition projector system including a 4.0m wide screen which provides a true cinematic experience. This was made possible by securing a number of generous grants, including one from Longhoughton Parish Council. Our 3rd International Film Festival will be showing four world cinema films over the weekend.
There is no need to book in advance for our film events, please just turn up. It’s a very relaxed and informal evening and new visitors are made most welcome. We have a ‘cabaret style’ table layout so you can sit with your family and friends. Please bring your own drinks. During the winter we have a roaring log fire on the go. There is no admission charge but we do appreciate small donations to cover our running costs (suggested £4/ head). If you would like to be added to our circulation list for details of our film festival or the regular film nights please contact John on 01665-576413 or email johnroper1@btinternet.com

LITTLEHOUGHTON TRAFFIC SPEED
Residents in Littlehoughton are concerned about the speed of traffic going through the hamlet. Councillor Pattison is hoping to have speed monitoring strips installed.

HOWICK VILLAGE HALL
Our Hall continues to be busy with the following regular events:
Howick Art Club Every Monday 10-12 noon
Film Club - various dates.
Contact John Roper johnroper1@btinternet.com
Howick Coastal Choir Tuesday 7 pm
Craft Club Thursday 7-8.30 pm
Contact Audrey Jamieson 577797
Howick WI meet on the first Wednesday in the month
Contact Jeanette Archbold 577384
Other events such as bingo, Highlights live performances and musical events will be advertised as they occur. Please come along and join us for any of these!

BOULMER MEMORIAL HALL EVENTS
Sunday 27 October 2019 Pop-up Café 10.00am to 3.00pm
Sunday 17 November 2019 Christmas Craft Fair 10.00am to 3.00pm.
Local crafts, homemade cakes and refreshments will be available.

NORTH END PARKING
There is currently a driving prohibition on the north Boulmer cul-de-sac with an exemption for those who need to access the properties. The prohibition includes all motor vehicles apart from motorcycles. This parking prohibition can be enforced by the police, who can issue fines.

ROAD FLOODING
The heavy rain in August again caused huge ponds of water to cover the road from Longhoughton to Boulmer in two places on the Longhoughton side of the RAF Camp. The drainage system is inadequate in these locations. Residents are nervous to go through such ponds in case it causes their vehicle to stall. This was discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 16.09.19 and is to be taken up with the County Council Highways Department.

SEED GATHERING
On 17 September nine volunteers brought together by Coast Care, spent two hours collecting seeds from the wildflowers that have grown on the meadow. The seeds will be re-sown on site and some will be going to Embleton quarry which is undergoing major rejuvenation as a wildlife centre and meadow.
Parish Council News

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)
The Steering Group met on 11 September to review and take forward a number of issues concerning housing, to agree a proposed consultation with residents and to agree a brief for the appointment of a planning consultant.
The NDP is considering the period 2016 to 2036 and a key issue is whether there is sufficient land for house building within the Parish. The Group has looked at land such as the Old Recreation Field and the Pondfield where there are competing uses between recreation and housing. The sustainability of the Parish is the absolute goal when considering these issues. Proposals for consultation with residents and statutory consultees are now being prepared to cover the vision for the Parish in 2036 and the objectives of how we are going to achieve the vision. It will also cover the factors influencing the balance of land use across the Parish but will not include any individual sites

YOUR HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY FEEDBACK
The final report of the Housing Needs Survey that residents completed in June has now been received and considered by the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group. It has identified thirty five households have expressed a housing need.
Overall, a hundred and ninety nine surveys were completed, which was 28% of those distributed and this is considered to be a good response and equivalent to other similar surveys in Northumberland. The survey was conducted by Community Action Northumberland (CAN) and they compiled the following key points:

• The most common reasons expressed for housing need were that no suitable homes were available locally, the current home was too large, or the current home was too small.
• A strong theme emerged around the need to adjust housing accommodation as people grow older. This was often associated with access issues using stairs, a perceived lack of local amenities or the need to downsize and reduce outgoings.
• Evidence of some need for families to grow and for children to find their own accommodation was also present.
• 34% of households who expressed a housing need were interested in buying on the open market with a discount (11 households).
• 31% indicated a desire for affordable rented homes from the local authority (10 households) with 15% expressing a similar desire for affordable rented homes from a housing association (5 households).
• Buying on the open market was the preferred option for many households expressing a housing need (56%).
• The largest expressed need is for two bedroom bungalows (13 preferences in total) followed by two bedroom houses (8 preferences). Demand is also expressed for three bedroom houses (6 preferences), four bedroom houses and three bedroom bungalows (5 preferences each).
• 55% of respondents, who indicated their household income and expressed a housing need, indicated an annual household income of less than £25,000. 32% could not afford more than £400 per month for their housing and 22% could not afford a deposit of £1,000.

The full report can be read on the Neighbourhood Development Plan web site at www.longhoughtonndp.co.uk/consultations

This is a vital piece of evidence that will contribute to the Neighbourhood Development Plan and the need for housing.

CHANGES in PARISH COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION PROPOSED
Longhoughton Parish Council has requested a change in the number of councillors that represent each ward. Currently the numbers are: five in Longhoughton, three in Boulmer and two in Howick. The proposal is to change this to six in Longhoughton, two in Boulmer and two in Howick. The reason for change is the increased population of Longhoughton village. This proposal is being considered by Northumberland County Council who have powers to conduct community governance reviews.

Next Parish Council Meetings
Monday 21 October 2019 at Boulmer Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30pm
Monday 18 November 2019 at Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre commencing at 7.30pm.

Delivery of the Newsletter
Many thanks to the 16 volunteers who help to deliver the newsletter. Your efforts are much appreciated.
BOULMER and LONGHOUGHTON WI

Our members met on 3 September and took the opportunity after the long summer break of catching up with friends old and new. We discussed arrangements for next meeting on 1 October which will be a visit to Alnwick Cheese Room to sample its produce and learn about the history of the buildings in the area. On 5 November in Longhoughton Community Centre we will have a demonstration of stitching Christmas stockings from supplied packs, with the opportunity of personalising them. On 3 December we all look forward to enjoying a Christmas dinner outing to a local hostelry and those considering joining our membership are always welcome.

GET DIGITAL

At Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre from Thursday 3 October for 4 weeks.
Contact Ellie on 577563

DOMINO DRIVE

Thursday 10 October 2019 at Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre. Doors open 6.30pm. Eyes down 7.00pm. £4 per ticket including supper.

COME ALONG and JOIN in the HALLOWEEN FUN

Spooky Family Disco! Saturday 2 November 4-6pm
Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre
Bring your own drinks and nibbles.
Baked Potatoes. Halloween games.
Best Dressed Halloween costume prizes - children and adults!
Raffle.

The ROAD to DENWICK

Residents and the Parish Council have been agitating for years for the surface of this road to be improved. Major improvements have been made this year and at last the section outside Chancel Place has now been improved. However, the road under the railway bridge is still poorly maintained. The County Council will be asked about this.

COMMUNITY LUNCHEONS

Community luncheons at Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre will be held on Wednesday 30 October 2019 and Wednesday 27 November commencing at 12.00noon. Everyone is welcome and the lunches are very friendly and have a useful social purpose. Donations of £4 per head are welcomed for an appetising two course meal. We are enormously grateful to the team of volunteers who give their time to provide these lunches.

COMMUNITY CENTRE in NEED of NEW TRUSTEES

The Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre is looking for volunteers from the community to become trustees. The role would involve attending committee meetings and contributing to joint decisions on the running of the Centre and ensuring that it meets the needs of Longhoughton residents as the village hall for Longhoughton. If you have this sort of experience we would love to hear from you. This is a really good opportunity to put something back into the community. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Secretary, Adrian Hinchcliffe on 01665 572888 or email adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com

PILATES GROUP

A pilates group meets each Wednesday at the RAF Beacon Community Centre in Portal Court. Meet at 10.00am for a 45 minute session for just £1. All welcome

LOG BANK

A pilot log bank is currently being established near Wooler. Logs will be available to people who are rurally isolated, in poor health or have financial constraints and are finding it difficult to handle or obtain logs for burning. For these people the logs are completely free, will be delivered and stacked entirely free.

For more information contact Kate Thick, email katethick@hotmail.com or telephone 07900 963234