

Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting – 12th January, 2022 in the Village Hall, at 7pm

Present: Cllrs: P Ford (Chairman)
K Bell
P Boyle
N Douglas (Vice-Chair)
A Hedman
D Pringle

Clerk G Turner

1 Parishioner

A one-minute silence was held in respect of our late Chairman, Cllr Iain Elliott. Cllr Ford gave a short speech reiterating the sad loss felt by the Council and highlighted Cllr Elliott's hard work and commitment to his fellow councillors and to the community of Longhorsley.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr G Sanderson and PC Teasdale.

2. **Appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chair**

Cllr Ford asked for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr Boyle proposed Cllr Ford and with no other nominations being received, Cllr Ford was unanimously elected to the position of Chairman.

Cllr Ford completed and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office form, which was made before the Clerk, Gillian Turner.

Cllr Ford asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Boyle proposed Cllr Douglas and with no other nominations being received, Cllr Douglas was unanimously elected to the position of Vice-Chair

The Clerk presented the Notice of Election form to the meeting, which was unanimously endorsed with the end date of 1st February being noted. The form to be placed on the Village Hall noticeboard on the following morning and copied to the Elections office at NCC.

3. **Minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th December, 2021 (previously circulated) were approved and duly signed.

4. **Declaration of Interests** – Cllr Bell declared a permanent disclosable pecuniary interest in the East Road Development – ownership of land.

5. **Date of Next Meeting(s)** – It was agreed that the dates of the next meetings would be the 9th February and 9th March, 2022, with meetings being held in the Village Hall.
6. **County Matters** – Cllr Sanderson was not in attendance. Cllr Douglas read out the update which will appear in the next edition of the Tree, which included the review of storm Arwen - which will hopefully give the county better protection in the future.
7. **Update by PC Andrea Teasdale / PCSO Coulson** – nothing to report at this time.
8. **Finance**
 - 8.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list to 12th January, 2022, totalling £2,509.45.
 - 8.2 **Budget Monitoring** – Members approved the monitoring statements to the end of December, together with the account transactions for the year, petty cash documents and bank reconciliation to 31st December, 2021.
 - 8.3 **Budget 2022/23** – Members considered the 2022/23 budget papers. It was unanimously agreed to set an expenditure budget of £42,180 and a precept of £24,660. This represents a 3% increase in precept over the previous year or £2.46 per annum.
 - 8.4 The Clerk raised the issue of the office lap-top beginning to decline with error messages about the hard-drive being received. It was agreed that she replace it as soon as possible.
 - 8.5 It was also agreed that the Clerk investigate loan rates being offered through the PWLB as an interim measure to replace Church View Play Area and surfacing at the Common.

9. **Routine Items for Review**

9.1a) **Planning Decisions:**

21/04102/DISCON Discharge of conditions 3, 4 and 7 on approved application 20/03211/FUL re Westfield on the West Road – NCC **PERMITTED** the application.

20/04285/FUL Erection of residential development of 9 dwellings with associated access, parking and landscaping re Land East of Normandy Terrace, East Road - NCC **PERMITTED** the application.

9.1b) **Review of Planning Applications:**

21/04775/FUL Installation of 8 pole mounted floodlights at existing outdoor riding arena re the Equestrian Centre at West Moor Farm - no objections.

21/04871/FUL Double storey extension at Ginfields – this application relates to a neighbouring parish and would have no effect on Longhorsley Parish Council.

9.1c) **Aerial Masts at Davison Court** – the Clerk had previously circulated an email received from Planning Enforcement stating that the aerials have now been removed with no further action required.

9.1d) The Chairman asked the Clerk to keep the following applications on the Agenda in order to ensure that they were not forgotten:

20/01242/FUL	Belmont
21/01300/VARY	Caravan Low Southward Edge
21/01561/FUL	Westridges

9.2 **Moor Management Committee – Cllr Pringle gave the following update:**

- It is currently a quiet time for the Moor with the next Committee meeting scheduled for 2nd February.
- Inspections of the wildlife continue and all livestock are fine.
- The damage caused by storm Arwen has been rectified.

9.3 **The Old Church Wood (Barbara’s Wood) – Cllr Ford gave the following update:**

- Nothing to report about the Wood since the last meeting.
- The Old Church information boards have been ordered together with the benches. The dog-fouling signage has been received and are ready to be installed. The pathway, which was blocked by damage caused by storm Arwen, has been looked at by the NCC Footpaths Officer, and the local land owner has been contacted – the path has now been cleared.

9.4 **Play Areas**

- i. Members received and noted Mr Paterson’s monthly report.
- ii. The Clerk was asked to let Mr Paterson know the date of the scheduled surface repairs at Church View in order for him to meet representatives on site to discuss the works.
- iii. The Clerk has contacted Speeder re: the MUGA token box but has not had a reply. Cllr Boyle agreed to ring his contact about the replacement front plate, in order to prevent users of the area using 50p pieces instead of the official tokens.

9.5 **Allotments** – the Clerk to chase-up the documents sent out for the current vacancy for plot number 8.

9.6 **Village Maintenance Review**

- i. Car Parking on Common – Cllr Boyle informed the meeting that he is arranging a meeting with Mr Chisholm and Mr McMorrow in February/March, to discuss what surface would be the best option for the area.
- ii. Archies Pond Project Update – Mr Paterson gave a verbal report including: he has spoken to Marmax regarding the decking and supports, the works are to be completed by the end of March. He asked that the council contact Northern Ark for permission to park-up his mini-digger during the project and Cllr Ford agreed to speak to the owner.

- iii. Ash Dieback – no response has been received from NCC as yet.
- iv. Community Orchard – Cllr Hedman reported that the trees from the Tyne Valley Garden Centre are due to arrive on 14th January. Mr Fish is to source stakes and strap ties.
- v. Reports of problem Hawthorns on the Lonnen, damaged by storm Arwen, have been received. It was agreed that Cllrs Boyle and Douglas, together with members of the Old Church Wood volunteer group be asked to clear the area.

9.7 **LPC Website** – nothing to report.

9.8 **Longhorsley Tree** – The Clerk to write articles in remembrance of Cllr Elliott, and the MUGA token box.

9.9 **Donation Requests** – none received.

9.10 **Village Hall Committee** – Cllr Ford informed the meeting that the next Committee meeting will be held on February 8th 2022.

10. **Items Carried Forward**

10.1 **Housing Developments in the Village**

- a) South Road Development – Our solicitors have emailed to say that a 3-year option period has now been agreed.
- b) East Road Development – The planning application has now been approved by the Planning Authority.
- c) Kirkups Corner – The Clerk informed the meeting that the final result from the Planning Inspectorate is still awaited.

10.2 **Neighbourhood Planning** – nothing to report at this time.

10.3 **Village Green Issues** – the Clerk was asked to chase-up NCC on this issue.

10.4 **Welcome Letters** – letter to be sent to Drovers Cottage.

10.5 **EWD Plaque** – ongoing. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had been contacted by the agent representing 1 / 2 South Road to arrange a site meeting to discuss parking issues and the recent planning application.

11. **Other Agenda Items**

11.1 ZEBRA Business Case – Members discussed the council's response to the consultation and members agreed in principle to support the case. The Clerk to use the template letter to respond.

12. **Other Items for Information** - none.

13. Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the Agenda)

- 13.1 **Village Christmas Tree** – the Clerk had contacted Mr Lishman to thank him for the beautiful tree. Thanks, were also extended to those who helped set-up the tree and lights. Cllr Boyle is to send the closing meter reading to the Clerk.
- 13.2 **HM the Queen’s Jubilee** – The Clerk informed members that she had registered the Village to take part in the “Lighting of the Beacons” event. Members hoped that the Village would also take part in other events on the day. The Clerk was asked to find out if NCC had funds/grants available to support initiatives. The Clerk was also asked to source an official “Jubilee Flag”.
- 13.3 **“What’s App Group”** – Members agreed that Cllr Boyle set-up the group for the Council.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm