

Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting 13th September, 2023 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Present Cllrs: S Alcock
K Bell
P Boyle (Vice-Chair)
N Douglas (Chairman)
J Parker
A Peat
T Potts

Clerk G Turner

2 Members of the Public were present (8pm to 8.20pm)

CO4/1 **Apologies for Absence** – None.

CO4/2 **Minutes** of the Council Meeting held on 12th July, 2023 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and signed.

CO4/3 **Declaration of Interests for items on the Agenda** –

- Cllr Bell declared a permanent disclosable pecuniary interest in the East Road Development – ownership of land.
- Cllr Douglas declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Planning Application 23/03124/FUL Moor View.

CO4/4 **Date of Next Meeting(s)** – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council will be 11th October and 8th November, 2023.

CO4/5 **County Matters** – County Councillor Sanderson was not in attendance.

CO4/6 **Update on behalf of Northumbria Police**

No update report received.

CO4/7 **Finance**

7.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for August/September 2023, totalling £7,404.70.

- 7.2 **Budget Monitoring** - Members approved the monitoring statements to the end of August, together with the account transactions for the year, petty cash documents and bank reconciliation to 31st August, 2023.
- 7.3 **Investment/Treasury Management and Banking Strategy** – Members considered and approved the presented Strategy, together with the endorsement of opening a CCLA deposit account to hold surplus funds.

CO4/8 Routine Items for Review

8.1a) Review of Planning Decisions –

- 23/00455/DISCON Discharge of conditions 8 (cycle parking facilities), 10 (foul water disposal), 11 (surface water), 14 (protective measures), 17 (Topographical Survey – Earthwork), 18 (temporary lighting), 21 (integrated bird boxes and integrated bat boxes) and 24 (energy consumption) on approved application re Land South East Of The Shoulder Of Mutton South Road – NCC **PERMITTED** this application.

8.1b) Review of Planning Applications –

- 23/02636/FUL 2 storey rear extension at 3 Normandy Terrace – no objections
- 23/01595/FUL Retrospective external alterations at Belmont, East Road – Members noted that the Conservation Officer has made a lengthy report about this application
- 23/03124/FUL Demolition of existing out-building and construction of replacement at Moor View, South Road – a vote was taken as to the objections for this application and the result was a unanimous 6 votes in favour of objections. *(Cllr Douglas declared a pecuniary interest in this application and took no part in the decision making process).*
- 23/02892/PRUTPO Tree Preservation Order to reduce to a 7m pollard at Badgers Ford, 56 Church View – no objections.

8.1c) The following applications are to be kept on the Agenda in order to ensure that they are not forgotten:

20/01242/FUL	Belmont – ongoing – works are on-going
21/01300/VARY	Caravan at Low Southward Edge
21/02183/FUL	1-2 South Road

8.2 Moor Management Committee – update by Cllr Potts

- i. Members received the draft Minutes of the site visit held on 9th August.
- ii. Members were informed that specialists will be visiting the Moor on 18th October as requested by Natural England.
- iii. The Clerk was asked to contact Northumbria Fencing re: marker posts for the Moor path.

8.3 **The Old Church Wood – verbal update by Cllr Alcock**

- i. The regular maintenance, including cutting of perimeter pathways, has been undertaken during the summer.
- ii. Cllr Alcock has met with P Ford and T Fish to discuss adding a further 2 wildflower areas. Once agreed a proposal for funding will be made to the Windfarm Community Fund.
- iii. The Clerk to contact Mr Paterson to trim the pathway from Old Church to the fallen trees.
- iv. Another working party of volunteers will be organised over the coming weeks.
- v. It was noted that the weeds under the picnic tables need cutting back.
- vi. It was also noted that the sign pointing to the wood at the bus stop is covered with foliage which also needs cutting back.

8.4 **Play Areas**

- i. Members considered and noted the report supplied by Mr Paterson.
- ii. Members agreed to meet on Wednesday 20th September at 7pm to discuss the various plans and quotes for the refurbishment of Church View.

8.5 **Allotments** – Cllr Boyle informed the meeting that:

- i. Following the letter sent to the Play Group re: the state of their allotment, it has been found that a tenancy agreement had never been signed. The Clerk will bring a copy to the meeting on Wednesday 20th to be handed over.
- ii. The allotment funding obtained from the Wingates Community Fund must be allocated for community improvements by the end of November or the money returned.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.00 pm to allow parishioners to speak

1. 2 members of the football club were in attendance to give members an update on the remedial works to rectify the clubhouse i.e. cladding, decking etc. The decking has now been taken back by half, the cladding has been added to the container and a skip has been ordered to remove the rubbish. There has been a delay in the moving back of the containers as the farmer who is to carry out the work has been delayed. This will hopefully be carried out over the next few weeks. The line markings have also been done.
2. Mr Archibold will let the Clerk know the size of the replacement nets required.
3. Football Fixtures are to be publicised in the Tree.
4. A concern was raised as to the increase in dog fouling on the Common and elsewhere in the Village. The Clerk will write an article for the Tree.
5. Concern was raised about a large dog, which had escaped and knocked over a young child on the Common. The same dog knocked over a pregnant woman the following week. The Clerk was asked to write to the owners reminding them to keep the dog in check.

No other issues were raised and the meeting recommenced at 8.20pm

8.6 **Village Maintenance Issues**

- i. Car Parking on Common – no issues raised.
- ii. Members considered the reported problem of potholes on VG land along the East Road – Cllr Boyle agreed to take a look and report back to the Clerk.

8.7 **Website** – nothing to add at this time.

8.8 **Longhorsley Tree**

The Clerk was asked to write articles covering the increase in dog fouling in the Village, Fix My Street reporting and CCTV in the Village.

8.9 **Donation Requests:** - none received this month.

8.10 **Village Hall Committee** – Cllr Peat gave the following verbal report:

- i. The next meeting is scheduled for October.
- ii. There has been an events group established to come up with ideas to get the community together and also to raise funds for the VH.
- iii. Volunteers from the village prepared the Hall prior to the redecoration and replaced curtains/furniture etc. afterwards.
- iv. New posters have been created to promote the hire of the hall for events.
- v. The Warm Spaces project has started again and had 18-20 people attending.

8.11 **Climate Change** – nothing further to report at this time.

CO4/9 Items Carried Forward

9.1 **Housing Developments and Planning Matters in the Village**

- a) South Road Development – nothing to report at this time.
- b) East Road – The Clerk informed the meeting that the Land Registry Transfer forms have now been completed and that the sale of the transferred land was completed on 1st September with proceeds being received into bank on that date. The Clerk was asked to find out if a S106 was in place for this development as it was suggested at the beginning of the process many years ago.
(Cllr Bell declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in this issue)

9.2 **Neighbourhood Plan** – members agreed to support the request received from Staffordshire re Planning Inspectors decision to allow a housing development in contravention to their Neighbourhood Plan which could set a precedent for others.

9.3 **Village Green** – nothing to report at this time.

9.4 **Welcome Letters** – none issued this month. Members to inform the Clerk of new residents in Whitegates.

CO4/10 Other Agenda Items

10.1 **The Common – Longhorsley Football Club** – as discussed under public session above.

- 10.2 **Gypsy, Roma and Travellers Strategy** – members considered and endorsed the proposed strategy. The Clerk will order the necessary signage (i.e. no overnight parking x 2). The Clerk will contact members in alphabetical order should a liaison representative be required if another encampment arrives.

CO4/11 Other Items for Information - None

CO4/12 Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the agenda)

- 12.1 Cllr Potts informed the meeting that the Fieldhead Road has now been resurfaced. However, speeding motorists are now causing issues. A local resident has asked for support for a 20 mph speed limit through Fieldhead. It was agreed that this is an issue for NCC to resolve. Members agreed to approach Cllr Sanderson for funding to install planters and signage advising motorists to “Please Drive Carefully”.
- 12.2 Cllr Boyle reported that the Smallburn passing places have now been resolved to our mutual benefit. However, it has been reported that further places are required (after the houses before the bend and down the dip) as vehicles are pulling in leaving ruts on the roadside.
- 12.3 The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Chisholm for a quote to repair potholes in the area next to St Helen’s Church.
- 12.4 The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Paterson to put down some extra dust on the Archies Pond footpaths.
- 12.5 Cllr Bell reported that the Windfarm has now received approval to update their current agreement to increase the amount of funds held from the current £90k to £120k. She also informed the meeting that training courses were being held re hedge laying and bird/bat box making. A machine to record areas of biodiversity has been requested by another Parish Council which could hopefully be shared with others.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.