

Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting 13th November, 2024 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Present Cllrs: K Bell
P Boyle
N Douglas (Chaiman)
J Parker
A Peat
T Potts

Clerk G Turner
Clerk Designate S Doyle

1 member of the public in attendance 19.50 to 20.15

CO6/1 **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr S Alcock and County Cllr Sanderson.

CO6/2 **Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th October, 2024 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and duly signed.

CO6/3 **Declaration of Interests for items on the Agenda**
None tendered.

CO6/4 **Date of Next Meeting(s)** – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council meetings will be 11th December 2024 and 8th January 2025.

CO6/5 **County Matters** – County Cllr Sanderson was not in attendance.

CO6/6 **Update on behalf of Northumbria Police** – Members received and noted the Police Report dated 2nd November. The Chairman informed the meeting that the police representatives didn't work on Wednesdays and had asked for us to change the dates of our meetings which is not possible. The Clerk was asked to write to the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner expressing our disappointment.

CO6/7 **Finance**

7.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for November 2024, totalling £10.914.91.

7.2 **Budget Monitoring** - Members approved the monitoring statements to the end of October, together with the account transactions for the year, petty cash documents and bank reconciliation to 31st October, 2024.

7.3 **CCTV Upgrade.**

Cllr Boyle informed the meeting that he and Mr Paterson would be installing the trench the following week. An electrician was required to supply the cable, power-up and provide advice.

7.4 **Budget 2025/26**

Members received version 2 of the Budget. The Clerk informed the meeting that the revised taxbase has been received showing an increase in the number of Band D properties. Members are minded, at this time, to apply a 3% increase in the precept to cover inflation on service heads. The Clerk will bring version 3 of the Budget to the December meeting for consideration.

7.5 **Quotations for Tree Works along the A697** – Members agreed in principle to accept the quotation from TC Tree Services. The Clerk was asked to contact them to ask if they will meet Cllr Boyle on site to ensure that the work is based on like-for-like and to include 30 trees.

CO6/8 Routine Items for Review

8.1a) **Review of Planning Decisions –**

- 24/02990/NONMAT Non-material amendment pursuant to planning permission 19/00790/REM to allow alterations to the approved layout, housetypes, plot car parking and provision of visitor parking at Land South East of the Shoulder of Mutton – **REFUSED**.
- 24/02982/VARYCO Removal of condition 4 to allow applicant to work from home and operate accountancy company from studio at Oak Tree House, Drummonds Close – **PERMITTED**.

8.1b) **Review of Planning Applications –**

- 24/03617/DISCON Discharge of condition 9 (Biodiversity Landscaping Plan) and condition 19 (Construction Management Plan) at Land East of Normandy Terrace – **No Objections**.
- 24/03557/DISCON Discharge of conditions 5 (Foul and Surface Water), 8 (Tree Protection) and 10 (Contamination) re Land East of Normandy Terrace – **No Objections**.

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

21/02183/FUL 1-2 South Road – the property is now on the market as one property and as such members agreed to remove this item from future agendas.

8.2 **Moor Management Committee** – Members received and noted Cllr Pott's written update report.

8.3 **The Old Church Wood – report by Cllr Alcock**

- i. J Chisholm has cut the wildflower meadow and trimmed the pathways.
- ii. A working party of volunteers is planned for early 2025.
- iii. T Fish is contacting firms for quotations for the installation of footpaths.
- iv. T Fish informed the meeting that the path from the bus stop to the gate is to be improved and patched by NCC, hopefully before Christmas.
- iv. The Clerk has made enquiries with the admin section of the Forestry Commission about the possible sale of land to the Church and the effect this could have on previous grant payments etc. Maps have been received to highlight the area in question – these have been passed on to the Church to show which land they are considering.

8.4 **Play Areas**

- i. Members considered and noted the report supplied by Mr Paterson.
- ii. The Clerk to chase-up the hopscotch motif for Church View.

8.5 **Allotments**

- i. Nothing to report at this time.

8.6 **Village Maintenance Issues**

- i. Car Parking on Common – Cllr Boyle presented photographic evidence of car parking on the Common to the Chairman of the football club. People are still using the Common rather than the Village Hall car park. Mr Archibold has written to all members of the club to reiterate the parking arrangements. Councillors suggested that a car parking attendant/monitor is needed. It was agreed that Cllr Boyle initiate a review of the Partnership Agreement with the Club.
- ii. Members considered the email received from a local resident requesting speeding restrictions at Church View and Whitegates. It was agreed that this request be forwarded to NCC as this came under its responsibility.
- iii. The Clerk has contacted Mr Woods who has agreed to undertake the village maintenance tasks carried over from last months meeting. JP Garden Services are retiring next year and Mr Woods has agreed to undertake the Ground Maintenance contract too – the Clerk will offer the work at the same price for the first year.
- iv. Cllr Alcock informed the meeting that she has some trees to be planted up in Wilding Place – the Clerk to arrange with Mr Paterson.
- v. The noticeboard has been installed next to the Tree but requires a sign to inform residents that it is for public use.
- vi. The grit bin next to the Village shop needs replacing – the Clerk to report it to NCC via fix-my-street.
- vii. A bollard is needed to be installed at the entrance to the VH car park in order to prevent people parking-up on the grass.
- viii. Several potholes were reported by the vicarage and Church Road. This is Village Green land.
- ix. Comments had been received about the Union flag not been flying on Remembrance weekend. Mr Robinson has stepped down from his role and Cllr Boyle agreed to ask Mr Percy if he would be willing to fulfil this role. The Clerk to update the flag flying dates and forward to Cllr Boyle.

- 8.7 **Website** – The new Clerk’s details to be added.
- 8.8 **Longhorsley Tree**
The Clerk was asked to write articles covering the Tree public noticeboard, tree works planned for the new year along the A697, Lighting of the Beacon event, welcome to S Doyle and goodbye to G Turner, the issue of not dealing with anonymous complaints/requests.
- 8.9 **Donation Requests:** - none received.
- 8.10 **Village Hall Committee** – Cllr Peat gave the following update from the last Committee meeting held on 15th October 2024:
- Village Hall roof – NCEL can secure funding for procuring the structural engineer and could possibly also secure funding for the work to strengthen the roof.
 - The Warm Space Coffee morning on 25 September raised £510 for Macmillan Cancer Support.
 - Social Committee:
The Table Top Sale on 13 October raised £169.50.
The Coffee Morning on 9 November is to raise funds for the new boiler.
38 tickets for the Wine Tasting on 29 November have been sold.
A Christmas Quiz will be held on 4 December in the Shoulder of Mutton.
The Wreath Making on 7 December, some tickets already sold.
Ideas for future events were discussed to try to cover all age groups.
 - The ramp at the Fire Exit was discussed - It was decided to put a hold on this until the roof work is complete.
 - Ownership of the Village Hall lease, reported that the Clerk to the Parish Council was trying to get clarification from Karbon Homes, to date there had been no response. Copies of documents held by the Village Hall will be copied and forwarded to see if they help. The Village Hall Committee will be kept updated.
 - The Parish Council have agreed to erect a Notice Board at the top of Drummond Close next to The Tree.
 - The Treasurer reported the current balance is £18,471.
 - Cleaning of the Village Hall was raised - volunteers currently clean the Hall every few months. It was suggested that a regular cleaner be employed once a month. It was suggested money from the Warm Space could fund this.

CO6/9 Items Carried Forward

- 9.1 **Housing Developments and Planning Matters in the Village**
a) South Road Development – nothing to report at this time.
- 9.2 **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr Parker informed the meeting that she has received the updated 5 year housing report from Mr Etchells to be included in the NP review.
- 9.3 **Village Green** – on-going.

9.4 **Welcome Letters** the Clerk issued letters to Oak Tree House and the Catholic Church House. She was informed that new residents had taken Akenside Cottage on the West Road.

CO6/10 Other Agenda Items

10.1 **The Common – Longhorsley Football Club** – discussed under 8.6 (i).

CO6/11 Other Items for Information –

- i. The Clerk informed the meeting that the Kings portrait has been repaired and is ready to be placed in situ.
- ii. The Clerk informed the meeting that the new replacement Christmas Lights have arrived.

CO6/12 Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the agenda) –

12.1 The Clerk distributed notification from National Highways that the A1 dualling project from Morpeth to Ellingham has been cancelled.

12.2 The Clerk had distributed the Pharmacy Services Consultation to all members for response.

12.3 A request has been received from a local resident for poppy and “Tommy” silhouettes to be placed on lampposts etc for Remembrance events. Members unanimously agreed to purchase 12 of each.

12.4 It was reported that the litter bin on the West Road has been removed – Cllr Boyle agreed to verify.

12.5 Members asked the Clerk to invite Mr Joe Morris MP to one of our Council meetings.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.