

## Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

**Present** Cllrs: S Alcock  
K Bell  
N Douglas (Chaiman)  
J Parker  
A Peat

Clerk G Turner

The Chairman announced the sad news of the death of Ex-Cllr Kate Foreman. Kate, had worked tirelessly on behalf of the Village and been awarded the title of Freewoman of the Village. A one-minute silence was held in respect of her memory.

**CO8/1** **Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs P Boyle and T Potts and County Cllr Sanderson.

**CO8/2** **Minutes** of the Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and signed.

**CO8/3** **Declaration of Interests for items on the Agenda** – None

**CO8/4** **Date of Next Meeting(s)** – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council will be 14<sup>th</sup> February and 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.

**CO8/5** **County Matters** – County Councillor Sanderson was not in attendance but relayed that NCC would be setting its budget in February.

**CO8/6** **Update on behalf of Northumbria Police** – not received

**CO8/7** **Finance**

7.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for January 2024, totalling £1,817.44.

7.2 **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 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2023.

7.3 **Budget 2024/25** – Members considered the 2024/25 budget papers. It was unanimously agreed to set an expenditure budget of £45,850 and a precept of £28,560.

This represents a 5% increase in precept over the previous year or £4.19 per annum per Band D property.

## **CO8/8 Routine Items for Review**

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

- 23/03515/DISCON Discharge of conditions 4 (samples) and 5 (roof timbers and purlins) on approved application 23/00973/LBC at The Old Vicarage, Drummonds Close– NCC **PERMITTED** this application.
- 23/02636/FUL 2 storey rear extension with alterations to access and parking to the front of 3 Normandy Terrace – NCC **REFUSED** this application.
- 23/04402/DISCON Discharge of Condition 3 (Protected and notable species method statement) on application 20/00107/FUL re Land South of East Road – NCC **PERMITTED** this application.

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

- 23/04481/TREECA Trees in Conservation Area T2 (Holly) remove ivy to 3m, T4 (Lawson Cypress) fell to ground level, T5 / T9 / T11 / T12 / T14 (Common Limes) remove epicormic growth, at St Thomas Martyrs Presbytery West Road – LPC had 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

### **8.1d) Moor View – the Clerk has contacted NCC regarding their comment about Village Green not being mentioned in the Neighbourhood Plan for planning purposes, when it is protected separately by Secretary of State.**

## **8.2 Moor Management Committee**

- i. The Clerk presented the 3 quotations prepared by consultants in respect of compiling the Heath and Scrub management plans. Members noted that one company had been out to inspect the site with the Chair of the Moor Committee and the Clerk. Members endorsed the quotation by George Dodds at a cost of £2,580.

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

- i. P Ford is standing down as the liaison representative and Tim Fish has agreed to be her replacement. Cllr Alcock will meet with him to discuss the area. The Clerk was asked to contact Miss Ford to thank her for all of her valuable work and commitment to the site.

8.4 **Play Areas**

- i. Members considered and noted the report supplied by Mr Paterson.
- ii. Church View Play Area Refurbishment - the Clerk informed members that the site meeting originally scheduled for Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January had been put back to Friday 12<sup>th</sup>.

8.5 **Allotments** – nothing to report at this time.

8.6 **Village Maintenance Issues**

- i. Car Parking on Common – nothing to report.
- ii. Members agreed that the tree donated by Cllr Alcock be planted up in March – the Clerk was asked to inform Mr Paterson.

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

8.8 **Longhorsley Tree**

The Clerk was asked to write articles covering the Beacon Event and to thank those involved with the Christmas Tree etc, the refurbishment of Church View Play Area and a separate article re Kate Foreman.

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

8.10 **Village Hall Committee** – nothing to report at this time.

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

**CO8/9 Items Carried Forward**

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

- a) South Road Development – the Clerk informed the meeting that the advice from our solicitors had been passed on to the agents re: sticking to the agreed level of allowable costs.

9.2 **Neighbourhood Plan** – The Clerk has contacted the Planning Officer re: comments about VG as per 8.1d above. Members agreed that the VG needs to be added to the NP during the review process.

9.3 **Village Green** – it was agreed that this issue be followed-up in the new year.

9.4 **Welcome Letters** –Members were informed that a letter had been issued to the new residents at 45 Whitegates.

**CO8/10 Other Agenda Items**

10.1 **The Common – Longhorsley Football Club** – due to the recent bad weather, the area is too boggy at the moment for the containers to be pushed back. The work will be carried out once the ground is hard enough to enable vehicles on site.

**CO8/11 Other Items for Information – none**

**CO8/12 Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the agenda)**

- 12.1 The Chairman raised the issue of the Clerks impending retirement. She confirmed that she had not as yet fixed a date but that she would give 3 months' notice and would stay until her replacement was in situ.
- 12.2 A question was raised about signage to inform the public of the items included on the Queen's Jubilee Bench. Members unanimously agreed that a lectern type board be installed to explain the bench and the Clerk was asked to liaise with Claire Percy.

The meeting closed at 8.02 pm.