

**Longhorsley Parish Council Annual Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall**

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

Clerk G Turner

1 Member of the Public was present (7.10 to 8.10 pm)

**CO1/1 Election of Chairman for 2024/25**

Cllr Douglas asked for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr Alcock proposed Cllr Douglas and this was seconded by Cllr Bell. With no other nominations being received, Cllr Douglas was duly elected to the position of Chairman.

**CO1/2 Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman**

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

**CO1/3 Election of Vice-Chairman**

Cllr Douglas asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Bell proposed Cllr Boyle and this was seconded by Cllr Douglas. With no other nominations being received, Cllr Boyle was duly elected to the position of Vice-Chair.

**CO1/4 Apologies for Absence – County Cllr Sanderson.**

**CO1/5 Minutes** of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and signed with one minor amendment to Minute CO11/8.3 (ii) “to be contacted rather than has been”.

**CO1/6 Declaration of Interests for items on the Agenda** – No interests were submitted. The Clerk reminded all councillors to review their declaration forms on the NCC website

to ensure that they are up to date. Cllr Bell informed the meeting that she would be removing her declaration re: the sale of land on East Road as this was now completed.

**CO1/7** **Date of Next Meeting(s)** – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council meetings would be: 12<sup>th</sup> June and 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, with the Annual Parish Assembly on 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

**CO1/8** **County Matters** – County Councillor Sanderson was not in attendance but had submitted an email covering the following:

- i. The potholes along the Smallburn Road, down to Stanton are currently being sorted out with the hope of repairing the Burgham road later this year where there is a problem in the shoulders of the road.
- ii. The road to Forger-me-Not is also down for structural repairs.
- iii. He will assist in getting the new grit bin for outside of the Village Shop.
- iv. He is still waiting for the Police to agree to his request for the speed camera van to be deployed and will continue to issue reminders.
- v. The way forward for the British Volt land at Cambois has been agreed and the Artificial Intelligence Campus will be developed over the next seven years, employing over 1,000 people on construction and hundreds when the work is completed. At between £5bn to £10bn this is one of the largest investment projects in the County ever. There will still be sufficient land for a battery plant should one come forward.
- vi. The Post Office has withdrawn the service in Shilbottle with no consultation which is worrying – he will contact them asap.
- vii. He had noticed that the 30 mph sign on the West Road to Wingates was leaning and he reported it straight away. It has now been fixed.

**CO1/9** **Update on behalf of Northumbria Police**  
Members noted and received the report of PC Sutcliffe dated 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**CO1/10** **Finance**

10.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for May 2024, totalling £2,690.06.

10.2 **Review of Standing Orders**  
Members reviewed and endorsed the Standing Orders as dated 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

10.3 **Review of Financial Regulations**  
Members reviewed and endorsed the Financial Regulations as dated 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

10.4 **Review of the Insurance Policy**  
Members considered the Insurance Policy Renewal document as provided by Hiscox and approved the renewal as from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024.

## 10.5 **Bank Signatories**

The Clerk confirmed the current signatories as Cllrs Alcock, Bell and Douglas, together with the Clerk.

## CO1/11 **Routine Items for Review**

### 11.1a) **Planning Decisions –**

- 24/0146/AGRDO Prior Approval for proposed steel portal agricultural calf building at South Linden Farm – Decided.
- 24/00623/TREECA Trees in Conservation Area to be crowned and lower limbs removed at Horsley Tower, West Road – Decided.

### 11.1b) **Review of Planning Applications –**

- 24/01360/FUL Conversion to existing conservatory to form sunroom at 28 Church View – No objections.
- 24/01227/TREECA Trees in Conservation Area to have overhanging branches cut back at The Paddock, West Road – No objections.
- 24/01164/LBC Listed Building Consent re partial demolition of existing conservatory at Linden Hall Lodge – No objections.
- 24/01042/FUL Demolition of existing wooden conservatory and rebuild at West House, West Road – No objections.
- 24/00919/FUL Erection of new agricultural steel portal shed for storage of manure at Paxton Dene Farm – No objections.

### 11.1c) The following applications are to be kept on the Agenda in order to ensure that they are not forgotten:

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

### 11.2 **Moor Management Committee**

- i. The draft Minutes of the site visit held on 17<sup>th</sup> April were noted and received. The Clerk will seek legal advice about the installation of fencing on the Moor, East of the A697.
- ii. Cllr Potts reported seeing 21 sheep and 5 ponies as of 7<sup>th</sup> May.
- iii. The Clerk reported that she has booked Tom Voyce from Trevow Vegetation for a week in the Autumn and he will attend the August Committee meeting.
- iv. The Clerk has sent the Wildfire Risk Assessment to the RPA as requested and a further copy has been forwarded to Northumberland Fire Rescue.
- v. The quotation for fencing works at Moor Edge has been received. It was agreed that we should seek advice from the NCC legal department before going ahead with fencing the area.

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

- i. Two working parties met on 20/21 April, mainly concentrating on the beds in the Old Church and strimming along the path to the Old Church. Tidy up in the old Vestry with space made for remnants of the weeding. We'll be arranging a further working party in June likely - dates to be confirmed.

- ii. The footpath has been completed by Mr Paterson.
- iii. Need to get in contact with James Chisholm to arrange for the grass to be cut on the walkways.
- iv. Cllr Boyle asked for a quote to be obtained to have a proper path created around the church wood - hardcore or similar. It should be wheelchair friendly and would need drainage underneath. The Clerk will ask the RPA if permission is needed.
- v. Cllr Boyle mentioned that the grass and weeds are growing under the benches & picnic tables. They need to be lifted so that they can be strimmed and membrane/bark put underneath.

#### 11.4 **Play Areas**

- i. Members considered and noted the report supplied by Mr Paterson.

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

- 1. Mr Archibald, Chairman of the football club, was in attendance to discuss the end of year awards/presentation night to be held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 5pm to 9pm. He agreed to have parking marshalls on site to ensure that cars are parked-up safely and not causing a nuisance.
- 2. Remedial works to rectify the clubhouse (push back) will take place over the summer once the land has dried out.
- 3. There is grant funding available to football clubs to improve land drainage of pitches – up to £25k. Members were in favour of any works to improve the drainage.
- 4. The installation of a cricket crease is to be investigated
- 5. It was reported that some 100 cars were parked on site when the home team should be using the Village Hall car park - Mr Archibald agreed to contact all teams to inform them of where to park.

#### **No other issues were raised and the meeting recommenced at 8.10pm**

#### **Routine Items for Review Continued**

- 11.5 **Allotments** – Cllr Boyle is to obtain quotes for materials to build the new community area.
- 11.6 **Village Maintenance Issues**
  - i. Car Parking on Common – as discussed in public session above.
  - ii. Haining Gate – Cllrs Douglas and Boyle met on site with Northumbria Fencing and are looking at various solutions.
  - iii. Mr Paterson be asked to sort out the trees at Wilding Place and Jubilee Orchard (cutting around trees and mulching).
- 11.7 **Website** – nothing required at this time.

11.8 **Longhorsley Tree**  
The Clerk was asked to write articles covering the Community Awards result, Annual Assembly, drop-in event at Dobbies and D Day Beacon Event.

11.9 **Donation Requests:** - none received.

11.10 **Village Hall Committee** – next meeting to be held in June. Cllr Peat gave a verbal update about the arrangements for the Village Fete in July. Members were minded in principle to support the reinstatement of grant funding for the event upon receipt of a grant application form.

#### **CO1/12 Items Carried Forward**

12.1 **Housing Developments and Planning Matters in the Village**  
South Road Development – nothing to report at this time.

12.2 **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr Parker is continuing to refresh the document and will submit it to Council when completed.

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

12.4 **Welcome Letters** – letters requested for 8 and 14 Reivers Gate.

#### **CO1/13 Other Agenda Items**

13.1 **Councillor Duties** – members considered the list of councillor duties and added the following duties:

- Flooding Issues to be added to Cllr Boyle
- Beacon Lighting to be added to Cllr Potts

13.2 **D Day Commemorations** – The Clerk to compile an event Risk Assessment form. She has informed Northumberland Fire Rescue of the event to be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> June.

#### **CO1/14 Other Items for Information -**

14.1 A question was raised about the administration of the Longhorsley Community Facebook Page.

#### **CO1/15 Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the agenda)**

Nothing raised.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.