

Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting 9th October, 2024 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Present Cllrs: S Alcock (arrived at 7.05pm)
K Bell
P Boyle
N Douglas (Chaiman)
A Peat
T Potts

County Cllr Sanderson (Left at 7.15pm)

Clerk G Turner

No members of the public were present

CO5/1 Apologies for Absence – Cllr J Parker

CO5/2 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th September, 2024 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and duly signed.

CO5/3 Declaration of Interests for items on the Agenda
None tendered.

CO5/4 Date of Next Meeting(s) – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council meetings will be 13th November and 11th December 2024.

CO5/5 County Matters – County Cllr Sanderson gave the following updates;

- i. There had been a problem of flooding in Blyth on the previous evening where 3 inches of rain fell in a couple of hours.
- ii. The date for the speed camera van to attend the Village is still on-going. However, agreement has now been reached for the digitalisation of the permanent speed camera. A question was raised whether or not the camera could be re-positioned further south on the A697 where most speeding occurs. Cllr Sanderson will ask the question but believes that the wiring and electrics already in situ would be too expensive to relocate.
- iii. Some patching is underway to improve the surface at the View Law junction and beside the Forget-me-Not caravan park.
- iv. Funding of £1m has been approved to improve gullies and drainage maintenance.
- v. The Clerk asked if he had any updates about the plans/designs for the improvements proposed at the Old Church junction – he agreed to chase-up Highways Design Team.
- vi. Cllr Boyle raised the issue of installing a camera/CCTV on the lamppost adjacent Church View Play Area.

Cllr Sanderson left the meeting at this point - 7.15pm.

CO5/6 **Update on behalf of Northumbria Police** – Members received and noted the Police Report.

CO5/7 **Finance**

7.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for October 2024, totalling £2,375.60.

7.2 **Budget Monitoring** - Members approved the monitoring statements to the end of September, together with the account transactions for the year, petty cash documents and bank reconciliation to 30th September, 2024.

7.3 **CCTV Upgrade.**

Members noted that Cllr Boyle had met with Atom Alarms and assessed the potential to spread the CCTV coverage up the Haining and Church View play area. They also discussed upgrading the cameras and the recorder box. Members received the quotation from Atom Alarms of £4,110 plus VAT. Cllr Boyle explained that funding would also be necessary for the trench, post and power transformers. He would obtain quotes for the additional works and report back to the next Council meeting. Members were minded to approve the project in principle.

7.4 **Budget 25/26**

Members received version 1 of the Standstill Budget. The Clerk informed the meeting that the revised taxbase is due at the end of October and then version 2 of the Budget will be produced.

CO5/8 **Routine Items for Review**

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

- 24/02417/FUL Installation of new window, roof alterations with solar panels, infilling gateway, creation of parking and new side access gate at Belmont, East Road – Permitted.
- 24/24/02964/TREECA Trees in Conservation Area Removal of one Cherry Blossom Tree at The Paddock, West Road – no objections from NCC.

8.1b) **Review of Planning Applications – None**

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

8.2 **Moor Management Committee** – Members noted the draft Minutes of the site visit held on 2nd October 2024.

- 8.3 **The Old Church Wood – report by Cllr Alcock**
- i. The grass has been cut and a final cut of the wildflower meadow is planned.
 - ii. A working party of volunteers (6) was held on Sat/Sun 28th/29th September to tidy-up the Church beds and ensure that the newer trees are continuing to grow.
 - iii. Cllr Alcock is in the process of obtaining quotes for the installation of perimeter paths.
 - iv. The Clerk is making enquiries about the possible sale of land to the Church and the effect this could have on previous grant payments etc.
- 8.4 **Play Areas**
- i. There was no maintenance report this month.
- 8.5 **Allotments**
- i. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Woods to undertake the work to clear the shrubbery adjacent to the allotment area which is very overgrown and out of control.
- 8.6 **Village Maintenance Issues**
- i. Car Parking on Common – nothing to report at this time.
 - ii. As Mr Paterson could not undertake the work to clear the path from the Village Hall down to Church View the Clerk was asked to contact Mr Woods to ask if he is available to cut back the area.
 - iii. The Clerk reported that she has received a quotation for the lectern to go onto the Village Green depicting the individual elements on the Queen’s Jubilee bench of £600 + VAT – members approved the quotation.
 - iv. The Clerk informed the meeting that she has received 2 quotations so far and is awaiting another for the tree works along the A697.
 - v. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Chisholm about cleaning out the Haining ditch.
 - vi. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Lishman about the provision of the Christmas tree and to source new lights – Cllr Boyle to let the Clerk know what length of lights is required.
- 8.7 **Website** – nothing new to add at this time.
- 8.8 **Longhorsley Tree**
The Clerk was asked to write articles covering thanking residents who have cut back hedges, inconsiderate parking on pathways and consideration for pedestrians and correctly disposing of dog-poo bags,
- 8.9 **Donation Requests:** - none received.
- 8.10 **Village Hall Committee** – the Clerk informed the meeting that she has not had a response from Karbon Homes regarding the lease. Cllr Peat informed the meeting that the next Village Hall Committee is scheduled for 15th October 2024:

CO5/9 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** – nothing to report at this time.
- 9.3 **Village Green** – on-going.
- 9.4 **Welcome Letters** – the Clerk issued a letter to Oak Tree House and was informed of new residents in the Catholic Church House.

CO5/10 Other Agenda Items

- 10.1 **The Common – Longhorsley Football Club** – nothing to report at this time.

CO5/11 Other Items for Information – Cllr Bell informed the meeting that at the Windfarm Meeting held in September, the Bulb project at the Old Church, the request for marquees for Simonside Fair and the Longhorsley Village Hall defibrillator had all been successful. However, more information was required for the Wildflower Meadow project at the Old Church Wood.

CO5/12 Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the agenda) – none.

CO5/13 Exempt Business – Exclusion of Public and Press

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to resolve that members of the public and press be requested to leave the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

- i. Members received the questions to be asked at the interviews scheduled for Wednesday 16th October.

The meeting closed at 9.17 pm.