

## Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

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

Clerk S Doyle

**CO9/1** **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr S Alcock, County Cllr Sanderson and K Woods.

**CO9/2** **Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2025 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and duly signed.

**CO9/3** **Declaration of Interests for items on the Agenda**  
None tendered.

**CO9/4** **Date of Next Meeting(s)** – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council meetings will be 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

**CO9/5** **County Matters** – County Cllr Sanderson was not in attendance but supplied an email covering the following:

- i. It is hoped that the Budget for 2025/26 will be agreed at the next full Council meeting
- ii. The Council Environment Policy is a year old and they have continued to improve our Country Parks and green spaces - and kept the first hour car parking free. As part of the actions, it was agreed to pick up more roadside litter and to date have collected almost 10 tons of litter from verges.
- iii. The Council will be writing to all Parish and Town Councils soon on the back of our Environment Policy and particularly Councils aim to help nature recovery, the Council will look at any requests to leave certain grassed areas uncut and so on.
- iv. The work on the Longhorsley to Netherwitton road is finished and there are arrangements being made for some resurfacing work on some of our smaller roads for the summer particularly but in the meantime the repair crew will make good those areas that need it.

**CO9/6** **Update on behalf of Northumbria Police** – Members received and noted the Police Report dated 3<sup>rd</sup> February.  
It was noted that Police Officers had been seen in the village.

**CO9/7 Finance**

- 7.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for February 2025, totalling £2,738.67.
- 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> January, 2025.
- 7.3 **CCTV Upgrade.**  
Cllr Boyle informed members that the Cabling hadn't arrived so no work has taken place yet. Cllr Boyle will chase this up with the electrician.
- 7.4 **Final Accounts 2024/2025** - Members considered and approved the following documents along with the appointment of Gary Kennedy as Auditor for the 24/25 financial year
- i. Internal Audit – Review and Checklist
  - ii. Annual Risk Assessment

**CO9/8 Routine Items for Review**

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

- Ref. No: 25/00215/MISC - Erect two (2) telecommunications poles.  
Land North Of High Stables Longhorsley Northumberland – **PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT**
- Ref. No: 24/04222/FUL - Removal of late 20th century flat roof conversion and replacement with 4 new smaller dormers, with 3 facing North and 1 facing South within new roof structure and existing footprint. Removal of old coal store and old tank from East side. New ground floor extension addition to living room incorporating new orangery and increased living room space. New and replacement windows and doors throughout. The Moorings Longhorsley Morpeth Northumberland NE65 8UX - **PERMITTED**
- Ref. No: 24/04229/NONMAT - Non-material Amendment pursuant to planning permission 19/00790/REM to allow for alterations to the approved layout, housetypes and materials. Land South East Of The Shoulder Of Mutton South Road Longhorsley Northumberland **PERMITTED**

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

- Ref. No: 25/00274/DISCON - Discharge of Conditions 3 (Historic Building Record), 4 (Partial Demolition Works), 5 (Remedial Works) and 6 (Ecology) pursuant to planning permission 24/01164/LBC  
Linden Hall Linden Hall Lodge Drive Longhorsley Northumberland NE65 8X – LPC had no objections
- Ref. No: 25/00215/MISC - Erect two (2) telecommunications poles.  
Land North Of High Stables Longhorsley Northumberland - 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 - **None at this time.**

8.2 **Moor Management Committee –** Cllr Pott's gave the following update:

- i. A meeting had been held to discuss the possibility of a "Friends of" group. An article will be printed in the tree inviting parishioners to the Village Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> April to find out more information.
- ii. The Livestock were counted and reported as 16 sheep plus 1 sheep from another farm and all 5 ponies visible at the time of checking.
- iii. A reminder that the meeting between Natural England, George Dodds and the Parish Council is taking place on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 11am.
- iv. Moles have been reported on the moor. Members were asked to consider using waste ground coffee beans from the local shop as a natural way to stop them.

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

- i. A meeting is being held at the Village Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> April welcoming all parishioners to obtain more information in relation to forming the "Friends" group. An article will be published in the next edition of the Tree. Administrative items need to be carried out for the "Friends" group, Tim will supply an example constitution and Clerk to check for an existing bank account.
- ii. 2 Working party weekends were coordinated by Tim Fish to discuss and arrange checking the hedgerows around the perimeter. Another working party to be arranged for the Spring.
- iii. The plastic tree guards have been removed from the Old Church Wood and taken to a collection point at Scots Gap.
- iv. Neighbourhood Services for Litter Picking was discussed, lots of ideas to generate manpower, finances, welfare facilities were discussed. More information to follow.
- v. The "no access" sign has been ordered for the gate.

#### 8.4 **Play Areas**

- i. Members considered and noted the report supplied by Mr Paterson
- ii. The Clerk will contact Wicksteed to discuss the necessary works to rectify the Church View Play area that has been highlighted in the report.
- iii. The Clerk has emailed Town and Country regarding some works to trees that have been reported. Dates to be confirmed that they can attend.
- iv. Bob will repaint the step to the Village Hall car park from the footpath in white paint that has highlighted in his report.

#### 8.5 **Allotments**

- i. 1 application form has been sent and is yet to be returned.

#### 8.6 **Village Maintenance Issues**

- i. The Clerk to submit an application to the Windfarm to ask for funding for matting on Village Green for car parking. If no funding available then then this project will be deferred until funding is available.
- ii. The Village Hall asked the members for permission to use the Village Green as car parking for the upcoming Village Fete, members agreed.
- iii. The Clerk has requested dates from Town and County to meet with Cllr. Boyle to look at the overhanging tree branches in the Muga.
- iv. The Clerk has forwarded Cllr. Boyle the programme of works for maintenance and grass cutting to liaise with Mr Woods so that he can confirm his pricing to the Parish Council.

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

#### 8.8 **Longhorsley Tree**

The Clerk was asked to write articles covering the use of “Fixmystreet” and highlighting what it can be used for, the development on South Road; the open communication to the developer with a hope to hold a Public Meeting and the Community Awards.

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

#### 8.10 **Village Hall Committee – report by Cllr Peat**

- i. The Chair of the Village Hall Committee would like to make contact with Karbon Homes regarding increase Lease length, Chair of the Parish Council confirmed this is something the Parish would do and has asked the Clerk to make contact with Karbon regarding the purchase of the freehold of the Lease.
- ii. The chair of the Social Committee reported; the Wine Tasting had raised £466.88, Quiz Night had raised £685, Wreath Making had raised £535 and Bingo had raised £126. Since October £2361.48 had been raised.
- iii. A cleaner for the Village Hall for 3 hours each month has been appointed, at a cost of £75 a month. The company is called Clean Plus, this would be reviewed in 6 months. This is being paid for by money raised at the Warm Space.

- iv. All the damaged chairs have now been repaired, Albany have advised stacking the chairs back to front.
- v. A contractor has been out with Fiona Knox, from NCEL to do a further survey of the Village Hall Roof to look at the cost and work required. A detailed breakdown has been received, the cost to strengthen the roof would total almost £40k. The Committee decided before spend that amount of money they would want a Building Assessment to be undertaken. The Chair will contact Jasper Kerr Consulting Engineers to do a structural survey and report back. The secretary will contact Glen Sanderson as he has offered to pay £1k to £2k towards the structural assessment. We decided to put a temporary hold on strengthening the roof until the building condition survey had been completed. It was agreed it needed to be done as a matter of urgency.
- vi. The Treasurer reported as of the 31 January we had £22915.00 in the bank account; this includes £1,227 in restricted funds for the boiler.

#### **CO9/9 Items Carried Forward**

- 9.1 **Housing Developments and Planning Matters in the Village**
  - a) South Road Development – Members met with Ascent Homes to have an opening discussion. They will provide us with information regarding timelines and the building activity over the coming months.
- 9.2 **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr. Parker is making good progress with work on-going and hopes to share with the Council in due course.
- 9.3 **Village Green** – on-going.
- 9.4 **Welcome Letters** - the Clerk issued a letter No. 4. South Lonning Head, South Road and was asked to issue letters to the following - Tudor House, East Road and 17 Church View.

#### **CO9/10 Other Agenda Items**

- 10.1 **The Common – Longhorsley Football Club**, nothing to report at this time.
- 10.2 **Revised dated for MP to meet Parish Council**, Clerk to email back with 9<sup>th</sup> April 25 and 10<sup>th</sup> September 25, both of these dates fall in the recess period.
- 10.3 **VE day 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary**, Cllr. Boyle to check with Scott Percy regarding the flying of the flag on 8<sup>th</sup> May 25 (VE Day) the flag needs to be up by 9am, the Parish Council will be lighting the Beacon at 9.30pm. The Clerk will source the unique VE Day Flag.
- 10.4 **Fallen tree at Westridges**, this appears to have been rectified by a parishioner.
- 10.5 **Kings garden party nominations**, Cllr. Boyle nominated Cllr. Alcock. Clerk to complete the nomination form.

10.6 **Donation Received from Longhorsley Ball**, Members would like to express their thanks to the Ball Committee for the generous donation. The money will be restricted for sole use at Church Wood.

**CO9/11 Other Items for Information** – nothing to report at this time.

**CO9/12 Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the agenda)** –

12.1 The Clerk will draft a letter for Cllr. Boyle to give to those residents who are affected by the upcoming tree works on the A697 on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February. It will outline the start and finish times of work and the dates the work will commence and finish.

12.2 There has been a request for some timber from the felling works that is taking place week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> February. Cllr. Boyle will liaise with the interested party.

12.3 Resident at Belmont has raised concerns of vehicular access and possible collisions from vehicles along the Bridle path adjacent to his property following the instalment of woodwork on the side his house. The Chair will respond to the resident.

12.4 A Parishioner has requested permission from the Parish Council to plant a tree at the front of her property. The land is owned by Northumberland County Council so the Parish Council are not in a position to respond to this request.

12.5 An issue of cars parking on pavements in East Road has been raised, the pavements are inaccessible to pedestrians due to this, the Parish Council confirmed that this can be reported on “Fixmystreet” and reported to the Police.

12.6 There has been a report of a car blocking access to the rear of the Village Hall. Cllr Boyle will locate the owner and speak with them regarding this. It has been suggested that it is communicated to residents living near the Village Hall that they can park in the Village Hall car park to eliminate any parking issues.

The meeting closed at 9.51 pm