

Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting 12th March, 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

CO10/1 Apologies for Absence – Cllr S Alcock, Cllr A Peat, Cllr Parker and K Woods.

CO10/2 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th February, 2025 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and duly signed.

CO10/3 Declaration of Interests for items on the Agenda
None tendered.

CO10/4 Date of Next Meeting(s) – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council meetings will be 9th April 2025 and 14th May followed by the Annual Parish Assembly on 28th May 2025

CO10/5 County Matters – County Cllr Sanderson gave the following updates:

- i. Work to bus stop railing is complete
- ii. The Grit Bin by the shop will be replaced.
- iii. Drainage work near Stanton has been carried out.
- iv. Landslip Issues across Northumberland are being dealt with, Cllr. Bell reported an issue of landslip at Weldon Bridge to County Cllr Sanderson at the meeting.
- v. The Ashington rail line is now open and circa ,110,000 journeys have been taken since the end of September 25.
- vi. Work will start in July to the QTS data centre, this will bring employment opportunities to the region.
- vii. The mobile library is increasing its service by adding a new mobile library to the existing fleet.
- viii. Brinkburn is a new ward within Longhorsley and County Cllr Sanderson will not be in attendance at the next meeting as the election campaign will be underway.
- ix. Plans have been received with regards to the Old church Yard Road junction.
- x. Advance funding has been given now which means Ascent will be commencing the development in the village.

County Councillor Sanderson thanked the members of the Parish Council and the members thanked in return for services to the Parish and the County.

County Cllr Sanderson left at 7.10pm

CO10/6 **Update on behalf of Northumbria Police** – Members received and noted the Police Report dated 3rd March.

CO10/7 **Finance**

7.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for March 2025, totalling £14,533.74.

7.2 **Budget Monitoring** - Members approved the monitoring statements to the end of February, together with the account transactions for the year, petty cash documents and bank reconciliation to 28th February, 2025.

7.3 **CCTV Upgrade.**

Cllr Boyle informed members that the Cabling has been ordered and will be delivered within the week, once the cabling has been delivered ducting work can begin.

7.4 **Final Accounts 2024/2025** - Members considered and approved the following documents for the 24/25 financial year

i. Asset Register.

Members agreed that the Clerk would liaise with the Internal Auditor with regards to depreciation and asset value on the asset register.

CO10/8 **Routine Items for Review**

8.1a) **Review of Planning Decisions** – None at this time

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

- Ref. No: 25/00644/NONMAT - Non-material amendment pursuant to planning permission 19/00790/REM to allow for the provision of visitor parking bays within the development – Land South East of the Shoulder of Mutton, South road, Longhorsley, Northumberland – LPC had no objections
- Ref. No: 25/00484/DISCON Discharge of Conditions 8a (Contamination of Land), 9 (Verification Report), 10 (Method Statement) and 11 (Landscaping) on approved application 24/01080/FUL Land South West Of Field Head House 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. The planned Management Plan meeting took place with Natural England, Councillors and George Dodds. Harriet, the representative from Natural England is going to amend the Management Plan and a follow up meeting will be held in March, before the 1st Moor Meeting in April to discuss the amendments to the Plan. Harriet confirmed she will be in attendance at the 1st Moor Meeting.
 - ii. On 11th March 25 sheep plus the interloper sheep were counted along with 5 ponies. All looking healthy.
 - iii. Moles are now appearing along the verge side of the Moor.

- 8.3 **The Old Church Wood – report by Cllr Alcock**
- i. A reminder that 5th April is the date of the meeting for parishioners to obtain more information in relation to forming the “Friends of....” group.
 - ii. Moles have been removed from site and to date no new moles have appeared. Members agreed that the Parish Council would fund the mole removal this time. Any future mole clearance will be discussed with St Helens.
 - iii. Cllr. Boyle will inform Bob that the “No access” sign has arrived and is ready for installation.
 - iv. Neighbourhood Services for Litter Picking was discussed, lots of ideas to generate manpower, finances, the bill welfare facilities were discussed. More information to follow.

- 8.4 **Play Areas**
- i. Members considered and noted the report supplied by Mr Paterson
 - ii. Town and Country have provided a quotation for tree works, members approved the quotation and the Clerk will email the go ahead to Town and Country to book the work in to avoid birds nesting.

- 8.5 **Allotments**
- i. Rents and Water bill payments have been received, 1 allotment holder is yet to pay. The Clerk will write to the holder.

- 8.6 **Village Maintenance Issues**
- i. The application to the Windfarm to ask for funding for matting on Village Green for car parking will be submitted during May. Cllr. Boyle will source another quotation for comparisons and ask the current quote to requote with up to date prices. If no funding available then then this project will be deferred until funding is available.
 - ii. Town and County have submitted a quotation which members have agreed with and we are waiting for a start date for the work to commence to the overhanging tree branches in the Muga.
 - iii. Mr Woods has been sent the programme of works for maintenance and grass cutting. The Council are waiting for his prices to be returned to them for consideration and possible appointment into post.

- 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” for reporting Fly Tipping, a reminder for the meeting on the 5th April, alert that CCTV extension work will commence soon around the village and a reminder for the Parish Assembly in May.
- 8.9 **Donation Requests:** - none received.
- 8.10 **Village Hall Committee – report by Cllr Peat**
No meetings have been held since the last update.

CO10/9 Items Carried Forward

- 9.1 **Housing Developments and Planning Matters in the Village**
South Road Development – Chair and Vice Chair are due to meet a representative of Ascent homes on site, dates are to be confirmed. A request for a public meeting will be made at that meeting.
- 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 letters to Tudor House, East Road and 17 Church View.

CO10/10 Other Agenda Items

- 10.1 **The Common – Longhorsley Football Club**, The MOU contents were agreed and the document has been signed.
- 10.2 **Revised dated for MP to meet Parish Council**, We are waiting for a response back from the MP with confirmation that he can attend one of the 2 date options (9th April 25 and 10th September 25) we gave for attending a Parish Council Meeting whilst Parliament are in the recess period.
- 10.3 **VE day 80th anniversary**, A new VE Day Flag has been ordered along with an Armed Forces Flag.
- 10.4 **Oaklea Parking area**, Members are minded not to object to the proposal and the Clerk will email the residents to advise of this.
- 10.5 **Old Church Junction**, All Members are happy with the plans as presented. There appears to be a Typo with the road number. The Clerk will email to confirm the agreement from Members and advise that the road number is incorrect.

CO10/11 Other Items for Information –

- 11.1 Wingates Windfarm Community Benefits Fund met to discuss some recent funding applications.
- a) Wingates Village Hall requested funding to cover the short fall in having Solar Panels installed.
 - b) St Giles, Netherwitton requested funding to replace the church gate and railings
 - c) Embelton Residents Association requested funding to have the access road resurfaced. The WWCBF sought clarification from Nadarra and following that a small claim was approved, not the full amount.

The next meeting of the Fund is 2nd June.

CO10/12 Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the agenda) –

- 12.1 A car has been parking near to the Village Hall but blocking footpath access, Councillor Boyle will meet with the vehicle owner and ask her not to park there and offer parking in the Village Hall car park.
- 12.2 A request came in via email whilst at the Parish Council Meeting for a new bin as littered dog waste bags were found at the top of Paxton Dene Lane leading to East Road. The Clerk will make contact with Northumberland County Council to ensure an extra collection can be added to the route.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm