

Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting 11th June, 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

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

Clerk S Doyle

CO2/1 **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr S Alcock, Cllr J Parker and K Woods.

CO2/2 **Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th May, 2025 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and duly signed.

CO2/3 **Declaration of Interests for items on the Agenda**
None tendered.

CO2/4 **Date of Next Meeting(s)** – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council meetings will be 9th July and 10th September.

CO2/5 **County Matters** – County Cllr Sanderson gave the following updates:

- i. Assisting the Parish Council with locating the information for the out of order speed sign at the North End of the village to enable it to be fixed.
- ii. Hopeful of the return of the speed camera to the village.
- iii. Work being done on next year's budget.

CO2/6 **Update on behalf of Northumbria Police** – Members received and noted the Police Report dated 9th June 2025.

CO2/7 **Finance**

7.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for June 2025, totalling £7,098.98.

7.2 **Budget Monitoring** - Members approved the monitoring statements to the end of March, together with the account transactions for the year, petty cash documents and bank reconciliation to 31st March, 2026.

7.3 **CCTV Upgrade.**

Cllr Boyle informed members that work is planned to commence week commencing 16th June.

7.4 Final Accounts 2024/25 Internal Auditors report.

Mr Kennedy had supplied members with a copy of his report on the audit of accounts. Members, received, considered and endorsed his report and noted page 3 of the AGAR.

7.5 Final Accounts 2024/25 Accounting Statements Section 2 (previously circulated) – Members received, considered and approved Page 5 of the AGAR.

7.6 Final Accounts 2024/25 Supporting Documents – Members received, considered and approved the Bank Reconciliation to 31st March 2025, Explanation of Variances, Explanation of High Reserves and the dates proposed for the Exercise of Public Rights.

CO2/8 Routine Items for Review

8.1a) Review of Planning Decisions –

- Construction of new dormer windows to front of dwelling|Lyndhurst South Road Longhorsley Northumberland NE65 8UW
Ref. No: 25/01163/FUL | Received: | Validated:
| **Status: Permitted**

8.1b) Review of Planning Applications –

- Ref. No: 25/01826/ADE | Advertisement Consent: Erection of illuminated and non-illuminated signs to the exterior of the building SIGN A - FOUR X NEW SETS OF SIGNWRITING SIGN B - THREE X NEW A4 ILLUMINATED MENU CASES SIGN C - TWO X NEW LARGE FEATURE LANTERNS SIGN D - FIVE X NEW UP/DOWN LIGHTS SIGN E - TWO X NEW HANGING LANTERNS UNDERNEATH ENTRANCE APEX SHELTERS SIGN F - ONE X REFURBISHED STANDING SIGN, REPIANTED WITH NEW VINYL DETAILING AND TROUGH ILLUMINATION SIGN G - RETAIN EXISTING FLOODLIGHTS – LPC has no objections
- 25/01641/NONMAT Non-material amendment (to allow minor design revisions) on approved application 20/01490/VARYCO Eastgate And Westgate East Road Longhorsley Northumberland NE65 8SY – LPC has no objections
- 25/01944/TREECA|Trees in a Conservation Area T5, T9, T12 & T13 Common Lime remove epicormic growth by pruning all within 2m of ground level right back to main stem, T10 Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea' (Copper Beech) selectively prune, trim fine branching to lower south side of crown to give 1m clearance, T11 Common Lime remove epicormic growth by pruning all within 2m of ground level right back to main stem, remove deadwood >30mm diameter in crown.| St Thomas Martyrs Presbytery West Road Longhorsley Northumberland NE65 8UY – 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**

- i. Meeting held on site 4th June; 3 sites identified for the test areas.
- ii. 4th site to be requested for the Management committee to monitor for ongoing management
- iii. 4th June all ponies counted and present but no full count of sheep.
- iv. Fly tipping identified on edge of Moor land on the opposite side of the road, clerk to write to the owner of the property adjacent the fly tipping.
- v. Temporary fencing to be installed to eliminate the ease to fly tip.

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

- i. It is planned to hold a working group sometime in July and hold a 2nd Friends of Longhorsley Green Spaces meeting.
- ii. The draft constitution to be sent to the Clerk for the Parish Council.
- iii. Acceptance to be sent to Wingates for the Bulb money that was awarded.
- iv. Quotes to be sought to carry out pathway works for pedestrian access to the Old Church Wood.

8.4 **Play Areas**

- i. Members considered and noted the report supplied by Mr Paterson
- ii. Cllr. Boyle to discuss with Mr Paterson the completion of Ad Hoc work for the Parish.

8.5 **Allotments**

- i. Members were minded to agree to a 3rd tap request by the allotment holders; Cllr Boyle will obtain a quote for this.
- ii. Rental increase discussion ongoing, Cllr Boyle will draft a revised Tenancy Agreement.

8.6 **Village Maintenance Issues**

- i. The application to the Windfarm was partially successful, not of all the funding was agreed, however, the Parish Council will pay the balance to the cost. Cllr Boyle to contact the successful contractor to book the job.
- ii. Date of the meeting still to be arranged between representatives of the Parish Council and the tenant of the Shoulder of Mutton to discuss the land outside the pub.
- iii. The Clerk has requested further information from Northumberland County Council regarding the speed sign on the North End of the Village on the A697.
- iv. Temporary repair works have been carried out to the Haining Gate to make it useable; a wheel will be put on the gate and a small gully in the ground will be dug to allow the wheel to move easily.

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

8.8 **Longhorsley Tree**

The Clerk was asked to write articles covering, The Friends of Longhorsley Green Spaces. The Annual Accounts year end 24/25 Internal Audit and AGAR being approved and a reminder to use Fix My Street.

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

8.10 **Village Hall Committee** – Cllr Peat gave the following update from the last Committee meeting held on 4th June 2025

- Update on social events, so far this year £3,047 has been raised. The recent Bingo event raised £145 and was well attended. There are no events planned over the summer. Future events include: Coffee Morning 20 September, Wine Tasting 21 November, Wreath Making 29 November and a Pub Quiz will be arranged later in the year.
- The Treasure reported the balance at the end of May, £22,491 with £2,491 in reserve funds.
- Longhorsley Village Fete will take place on 5 July, the information had been included in The Tree. Banners would be put up around the village.
- It was reported that the Toddler Group may not go ahead next year as there was no one willing to run it.
- It was reported that the Fire Safety Officer and Personal Alarm Service are due to visit the Warm Space in the next few weeks and the Digital Champion would also be visiting again.
- The Cocoa Club is still going well with approximately 10 children attending.

CO2/9 Items Carried Forward

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

South Road Development – Historic Causeway Stones have been uncovered during the initial works to the development. They could be used for a possible restoration of causeway to allow access to the Old Church Wood.

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** – none at this time.

CO2/10 Other Agenda Items

- 10.1 **The Common – Longhorsley Football Club**, nothing to report at this time.
- 10.2 **Use of the common for a Chairty Football Match** – Members were minded to accept the request to use the common for a Charity Football match organised by a local company. The Clerk to respond sharing a Memorandum of Understanding and to ask the company to liaise with the Football Club to make sure there are no clashes of games.
- 10.3 **Old church Junction** - The detailed design has been sent to the Road Safety Auditors. Once this is returned with any amendment's the costing can go ahead and The Parish Council will be contacted to discuss the viability of the project.

CO2/11 Other Items for Information –

- 11.1 A successful application was made to Wingates Windfarm Community Benefit Fund for the funding to replace the fencing. 100% of the quote amount was granted, being, £6,766. Discussions around landownership took place and Cllr Boyle will correspond with one of the Trustees.
- 11.2 Members agreed that planters would be placed at the entrance to the Village Hall. Cllr Boyle will speak with Kevin Woods to arrange this.

CO2/12 Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the agenda) –

- 12.1 At the recent Wingates fund meeting, funding for multiple projects, including partial funding to the matting at the Common Entrance was agreed. The Parish Council will fund the rest of the Matting Project cost. Items granted:

This year's payment of £45,334 had arrived into the account. The applications put forward to the committee were:

- Longhorsley Village fete - £1000 – agreed but this is a one off start up grant as ongoing running costs cannot be supported in the future.
- Longhorsley PC, matting for the entrance to the Common - £4056 – awarded half the amount, £2025 as the PC has had a lot of funding and is relatively well off compared to other applicants and has not provided evidence of seeking matched funding elsewhere or contributed to capital costs.
- Cambo Community Orchard - £900 – approved in full for interpretation board and handrails.
- Longhorsley Parish Council, new fencing at Adamson Park - £6766 – approved in full as this project was more urgent due to H & S concerns.
- Living Woods CIC, Tods Place Community Tree Nursery - £5000 – approved to install a large shed and this grant will help in matched funding from elsewhere to further develop the site eg by bringing in a water supply.

- 12.2 Email received asking the Parish council for assistance with Conservation and Planning questions, the Clerk will respond advising the member of public to make contact with the County Council and advising that the Parish council cannot advise on any planning or Conservation issues.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm