

Longhorsley Parish Council Annual Meeting 14th May, 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Present

Cllrs:

K Bell
P Boyle
J Parker
A Peat

Clerk S Doyle

2 Police representatives were present (7.00 to 7.20 pm)

CO1/1 Election of Chairman for 2024/25

Cllr Boyle asked for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr Peat 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, before the Clerk, Samantha Doyle the following day.

CO1/3 Election of Vice-Chairman

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

CO1/4 Apologies for Absence – Cllrs N Douglas, S Alcock, T Potts and County Cllr Sanderson.

Agenda Order changed due to Police representatives present

CO1/9 Update on behalf of Northumbria Police

Members noted and received the report of PC Sutcliffe dated 8th May 2025. Sgt Les Robson was present at the meeting along with new recruit PCSO David Welsh. PCSO Welsh is currently in training and will soon become a regular face in the village. The members requested that more data was in the monthly Police reports, very difficult due to GDPR but Sgt. Robson agreed he would add more data where possible. The police asked members to make contact if they are made aware of situations within the locality. Following this, members discussed the demise of Neighbourhood watch Scheme, a new platform is being introduced which will replace the scheme. Concern was raised

regarding some parishioners not having internet access or the knowledge to access such a platform. Members requested a demo from the Police in due course.

Police representatives left at 7.20pm.

CO1/5 Minutes of the meeting held on 9th April, 2025 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and signed.

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.

CO1/7 Date of Next Meeting(s) – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council meetings would be: 11th June and 9th July, 2025, with the Annual Parish Assembly on 28th May.

CO1/8 County Matters – County Councillor Sanderson was not in attendance.

CO1/10 Finance

10.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for May 2025, totalling £1,629.47.

10.2 **Review of Standing Orders**
Members reviewed and endorsed the Standing Orders as dated 14th May 2025.

10.3 **Review of Financial Regulations**
Members reviewed and endorsed the Financial Regulations as dated 14th May 2025.

10.4 **Review of the Insurance Policy**
Members considered the Insurance Policy Renewal document as provided by Hiscox and made alterations to the business address, increase in identity fraud to £10k, increase of playground equipment to £65k all as from 1st June 2025.

10.5 **Bank Signatories**
The Clerk confirmed the current signatories as Cllrs Alcock, Bell and Douglas.

CO1/11 Routine Items for Review

11.1a) **Planning Decisions** –

- **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 **PARTIAL CONSENT/PARTIAL REFUSAL**

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

- Ref. No: 25/01538/FUL Construction of new substation to serve approved development of 55no. units, approved under applications 14/03839/OUT and 19/00790/REM
Land South East Of The Shoulder Of Mutton South Road Longhorsley
Northumberland – No Objections
- Ref. No: 25/01462/DISCON Discharge of Conditions 3 (Material Samples), 8 (Electric Vehicle Charging), 11 (Package Treatment Plant) & 13 (Swallow Nest Site Mitigation) of approved application 21/01561/FUL Land East of Westridges
Longhorsley, Northumberland – No Objections
- Ref. No: 25/00863/FUL Extension, alteration and subdivision of 2no residential properties (house and attached bungalow/cottage) to create 3no dwellings with associated parking/garaging facilities and external amenity areas. Low Hedley Farm Longhorsley, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 8RE – No Objections

11.1c) The following applications are to be kept on the Agenda in order to ensure that they are not forgotten - **None at this time**

11.2 **Moor Management Committee**

- i. Cllr Potts reported seeing 21 sheep on 14th May and 5 ponies on 11th May.
- iii. Next Moor meeting is June 4th.

11.3 **The Old Church Wood –Cllr Alcock was not in attendance**

- i. nothing to note at this time

11.4 **Play Areas**

- i. Members considered and noted the report supplied by Mr Paterson.
- ii. Archies Pond path requires a full inspection. Cllr Boyle will speak with Kevin Woods to arrange this.

11.5 **Allotments**

- i. The outstanding rental income has been received.
- ii. Members were minded to agree to the request for a 2nd tap at the allotments.
- iii. Cllr Boyle to undertake a review of the tenancy agreements and report to the next meeting with a revised draft agreement.

11.6 **Village Maintenance Issues**

- i. Car Parking on Common – Application has been submitted to Wingates for the June meeting for the matting at the entrance of the common.
- ii. Members confirmed that the land at the rear of Elmwood, Church view is not Parish Council land, therefore there is no obligation for any tree cutting/trimming.

- iii. Meeting to be arranged with the Shoulder of Mutton pub to confirm the land ownership and maintenance responsibilities.
- iv. Haining gate has been looked at with a view to a new gate design to assist those accessing the footpath with mobility issues to allow easier access.

11.7 **Website** – nothing required at this time.

11.8 **Longhorsley Tree**

The Clerk was asked to write articles informing parishioners of unopposed councillors starting new 4 year tenure, a New PCSO who will be working in the Village and the annual raising of a VE day flag.

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

11.10 **Village Hall Committee** – next meeting to be held in June. Cllr Peat informed members that an extraordinary meeting was held on the 29th April to open discussion regarding the longevity of the current Village Hall building.

CO1/12 Items Carried Forward

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

- a) South Road Development
 - i. Knotweed alerted by a parishioner has been passed to the developer who confirms that action will be taken before any work is undertaken.
 - ii. Public forum date of 30th May confirmed with Ascent Homes
 - iii. Parish Council members and Developer met early May to develop relationships and open communication channels.

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:

- Beacon Lighting to be added to Cllr Potts
- Beacon Lighting support to be added to Cllr Alcock
- Friends of Longhorsley Green Spaces to be added to Cllr Alcock
- Archies Pond to move to Cllr Alcock
- Friends of Longhorsley Green Spaces support to be added to Cllr Potts
- Website Support to move from Cllr Bell to Cllr Parker
- Planning Support to be added to Cllr Parker

- Village Hall Support to be added to Cllr Parker
- Flying the Flag support to be added to Cllr Parker
- Litter Picking to be added to Cllr Peat

Cllr Boyle to share the Flag Flying dates with Cllr Parker.

- 13.2 **VE Day Commemorations** – Members agreed to fly the VE flag annually for 5 days, a new VE day flag to be sourced.
- 13.3 **Neighbourhood Alerts** – Members discussed the demise of the alerts with the Police, see **CO1/9** for further details.

CO1/14 Other Items for Information -

- 14.1 None at this time.

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

- 15.1 Query raised with public footpath completion on East Road development, members confirmed that the approved planning application did include an adopted pathway extending across the front of Stonehaven.
- 15.2 One of the Speed signs entering the village is not working correctly, the Clerk is to source a new battery.
- 15.3 The Clerk to obtain a status update on the Old Church Road junction.
- 15.4 The Parish Council have been made aware of a public right of way with an obstruction located at the bottom of the Haining. The clerk to write to Northumberland County Council.
- 15.5 The Cemetery Grass has become overgrown and the Parish Council have received verbal complaints. The clerk to write to the Church and advise them of the complaints and request a grass cut.
- 15.6 The South Road developers have agreed to cover legal costs for Easement Works and they have also agreed to planting a mixture of fruit trees along with wildflower seeding and hedge planting. The Parish Council would become responsible for hedge trimming. In principle members agreed with this but questions raised are; will there be sufficient access for tractor to allow hedge trimming. Cllr Boyle to liaise with the developer and report back.

The meeting closed at 10.44 pm.