

Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting 10th September, 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

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

Clerk S Doyle

5 members of the public in attendance (4)19.40 to 20.20 (1) 19.50 to 20.20

CO4/1 Apologies for Absence

CO4/2 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th July, 2025 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and duly signed.

CO4/3 Declaration of Interests for items on the Agenda
None tendered.

CO4/4 Date of Next Meeting(s) – It was agreed that the dates of the next Parish Council meetings will be 8th October and 12th November.

CO4/5 County Matters – County Cllr Sanderson was not present

CO4/6 Update on behalf of Northumbria Police – Members received and noted the Police Report dated 6th September 2025. The Clerk will email the rural Police team to advise that Warm space sessions are up and running again. It was agreed that the Clerk would email the Police team if there were any concerns in the Village.

CO4/7 Finance

7.1 **Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list for September 2025, totalling £14,755.54.

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 30th August 2025.

7.3 **Signatory**

A letter has been prepared to send to Barclays to amend the correspondence address to that of the current Clerk. The Clerk will contact CCLA to see if the changes have been made to the contact details.

CO4/8 Routine Items for Review

8.1a) Review of Planning Decisions –

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 **No Objection**

25/02402/DISCON|Discharge of Conditions 3 (Materials), 8 (Electric Vehicle Charging Details), 9 (Construction Method Statement), 11 (Package Treatment Details) and 13 (Details of Shallow Nest Site Investigations) on approved application 21/01561/FUL|Land East Of Westridges Longhorsley Northumberland **Partial Consent / Partial Refusal**

8.1b) Review of Planning Applications -

25/02402/DISCON|Discharge of Conditions 3 (Materials), 8 (Electric Vehicle Charging Details), 9 (Construction Method Statement), 11 (Package Treatment Details) and 13 (Details of Shallow Nest Site Investigations) on approved application 21/01561/FUL

Ref. No: 25/02766/VARYCO **Variation of Conditions 12 (contamination of land) and 14 (protective measures) on approved application 14/03839/OUT in order to remove as NCC's approach to gas protection has changed to a risk-based approach and is possible to remove gas conditions if supported by a risk assessment prepared following the CLAIRE Good Practice for Risk Assessment for Coal Mine Gas Emissions (2021) Discharge of Conditions 3 (Highways and Site Management Statement), 6 (Turning Area), 9 (Dust Management), 18 (Lighting), 20 (Boundary Treatment), 21 (Bird and Bat Boxes) and 22 (Landscape Planting and Maintenance).**

Land South East Of The Shoulder Of Mutton South Road Longhorsley Northumberland| Received: Wed 06 Aug 2025 | Validated: Wed 06 Aug 2025 | Status: Registered

Ref. No: 25/02763/DISCON **Discharge of Conditions 3 (Adoption and Maintenance of SuDS), 6 (Estate Street Phasing and Completion Plan), 7 (Details of proposed arrangements for future management and maintenance of the proposed streets), 9 (Surface Water Drainage), 10 (Refuse), 11 (Lighting), 12 (Bat and Bird boxes) and 13 (Landscape planting and maintenance) pursuant to planning permission 19/00790/REM.**

Land South East Of The Shoulder Of Mutton South Road Longhorsley
Northumberland | Received: Tue 05 Aug 2025 | Validated: Tue 05 Aug
2025 | Status: Registered

25/03072/FUL|Addition of porch to front elevation/entrance, creating inviting and cloest space |13 Wilding Place Longhorsley Morpeth Northumberland
NE65 8LB

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. The Moor Management Committee are awaiting quotations for the supply and install of fencing for test areas. In the absence of guidance Post and rail fencing will be installed.
- ii. The temporary fencing for the test areas will be in situ for 5 years.
- iii. No response received regarding fly tipping seen on the Moor Edge. Temporary fencing to be installed to eliminate the ease to fly tip for 5 years.
- iv. 25 sheep and 5 ponies were visible and healthy
- v. On a recent visit to the Moor small areas of Heather and Birch were seen.
- vi. The next Management Meeting is 1st October and Natural England will be invited to attend.

8pm - 8.20pm Adjournment for Parishioners

1. The development at East Road was discussed, mainly that the development seems to have halted and that the footpath that was noted in the plans has not been completed. The Parish Council confirmed that the failure of the completion of the development needs to be reported to the Planning Enforcement team. The Clerk will make contact with County Councillor Sanderson to advise him of the current state of the development and the missing footpath.
2. The Barrier at the common was deemed unnecessary by Parishioners. Parish Council explained the barrier was installed following travellers on the site some time ago. PC also confirmed that anybody could have access to the barrier as and when required. Discussion took place around removing the barrier.
3. Matting on the Common was discussed with some parishioners objecting on grounds of allowing parking on common land and inviting parking on the land by laying the matting. It was agreed that the Parish Council would seek legal advice to clarify all Village Green regulations, in the meantime the Council would halt work on

laying matting to the common, materials have to be paid for as they had been ordered but installation would be stopped.

4. The Oaklea property has recently installed the matting that was agreed by the Parish Council some months ago. The neighbouring homeowner was not aware that matting was being laid and that an area of wild daffodils would be dug up to allow access and parking. The minutes noted in March 25 , item 10.4, stated that the Council was minded not to object to matting for access to the property and that the clerk would email the residents to advise. The minute extraction was in fact regarding the Clerk emailing the homeowner of Oaklea to advise that the matting had been approved. Unfortunately the minute was typed ambiguously so it has been understood by many that the Clerk would be emailing the neighbouring properties advising of the matting which was not the case. The agreement from the Parish Council was to allow matting to be laid to allow ACCESS to the parking for the Oaklea property. The Parish Council will write to the homeowner to confirm the agreement and reasons for the matting.
5. A general discussion regarding allowing Village Green usage/changes took place. It was agreed the Parish Council would take advice from a Village Green Lawyer regarding changes made and would follow any legal advice as necessary.
6. An allotment holder made reference to one of the allotments that appeared to be unattended and an eyesore at the moment, the summer house looks visibly ruined, abandoned toys and rusty materials have been reported. It was made clear this was the general consensus from the majority of allotment holders. It was agreed that Written Termination would be sent to the allotment holder.
7. Dog excrement has become worse in the village and whilst parishioners understood the Parish Council have no authority to prosecute the Parish Council are proactive with providing CCTV images to the Prosecuting Authority (which is NCC) and in fact that prosecutions have taken place in the past. It was agreed the Parish Council would be proactive and find ways to encourage dog owners to pick up the mess.

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

- i. Quotations for the footpath have been sought, not all have supplied quotations so Mr Fish will approach other contractors and ask for quotes.
- ii. A Lonnen Working group to be arranged to carry out some works although there is an area of the land that is not registered so the owner is not known.
- iii. Bulbs have been ordered following receipt of funding from a successful grant application.

8.4 **Play Areas**

- i. The Rospa reports were given to Mr Wood and he will take note of what has been highlighted as issues and work through the issues.
- ii. A general discussion regarding play area items for older children took place, various options were discussed, ranging from larger equipment to an outdoor gym.

8.5 Allotments

- i. Cllr Boyle will draft a revised Tenancy Agreement, and present at the next meeting.
- ii. As discussed in the Public time slot there have been multiple complaints regarding the state of one of the allotments so a Termination of tenancy letter will be debt to the Allotment holder.

8.6 Village Maintenance Issues

- i. As discussed in the Public slot the work to the matting on the Common has been stopped. The matting has to be paid for as it was ordered especially for the job but the installation has been cancelled.
- ii. Cllr Boyle has received quotes in the region of £4000 to dig the trench to install the CCTV cable. It was agreed that this was expensive and that Cllr Boyle would speak to Kevin Woods to see if he would like the opportunity to quote.
- iii. The Clerk will make contact with County Councillor Sanderson to bring him up to speed with the development issues and the lack of footpath at the East Road development.
- iv. The Village Green area by the shop is being regularly cut by NCC but no strimming takes place. It was agreed that Kevin would regularly carry this out.
- v. Archies Pond verges across the pathway will be kept tidy and form part of Kevin's regular village work remit.
- vi. The footpath from Church View to Drummonds Close will also form part of the regular village work.
- vii. Further to the General Public session it was agreed that the Clerk would produce a letter and have it distributed with the Longhorsely Tree to remind all homeowners in the Village to pick up any dog mess. Alongside this, the Clerk will make contact with NCC to see if an extra bin can be supplied and added to the disposal route. This would give more options for disposal of dog mess whilst walking dogs. The Clerk will also order A4 signs advising pick up of dog mess and that fines can be imposed of up to £1,000.

8.7 Website

- i. The Clerk has enquired with NALC regarding training on the website platform to utilise the platform to its full capabilities.

8.8 Longhorsley Tree

The Clerk was asked to write articles covering dog fouling, signage to be installed and that it is a legal requirement to cut overhanging trees that hang over into NCC land.

8.9 Donation Requests: - none received.

8.10 Village Hall Committee –

- Social events - £3047 has been raised during the year, the group were thanked for their efforts as this was a significant improvement on the previous year. Future events include:

Coffee Morning 18 Oct

Pub Quiz 6 Nov

Wine Tasting 21 Nov

Wreath Making 29 Nov

- The Village Fete once again was very successful and raised £2,500. At the AGM in 2 weeks a decision will be made on who to donate the money to. The group were thanked and congratulated for organising the day. Next year's Fete is on 4 July.
- The Treasurer reported £22,730 in the bank. Lloyds informed the committee regarding the changes that they are introducing, regarding changing the account from a business account to a registered charity account this would incur additional bank charges. It was agreed to ask CAN for advice. The changes will come into force on the 13 Nov.

CO4/9 Items Carried Forward

9.1 Housing Developments and Planning Matters in the Village

The Street names consultation team informed the Parish Council that the options they chose could not be used due to rules in street naming and the choices made breaching the rules. The consultation period has now closed.

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 – 17 Church View and 46a Whitegates.

CO4/10 Other Agenda Items

10.1 Parishioner Emails, an email received from a Parishioner was discussed during the public slot and this referred to Village Green usage and the matting installation on the common. Parish Council will seek advice from the Lawyers with a specialist in Village Green areas.

CO4/11 Other Items for Information –

11.1

CO3/12 Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the agenda) –

12.1

The meeting closed at 10.36pm