

Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting – 14.7.10. – Church Room – 7.00pm

Present Cllrs Elliott (Chairman), Savage, Pringle, Hughes, Sanderson, the Clerk and six parishioners.

1. Apologies for Absence Cllrs Truscott, Walker and Lowrie

2. Minutes of the meeting from the 16.6.10. had been circulated and were approved and signed.

3. Declaration of Interest – None

4. Date of Next Meeting(s) – Wed 8th Sept; Wed 13th Oct

5. County Matters – Cllr Sanderson thanked cllrs Walker, Elliott and the clerk for attending the latest NCC scrutiny committee meeting (21.6.10) where the post office representative, Jane Briginshaw, gave an update on the recent performance of the outreach service. Whilst Cllr Sanderson has been advised by Jane that the issues are now sorted, the situation will continue to be monitored. In addition, the response from the latest PC letter to the Post Office, which was copied into Alan Beith MP, is awaited.

Cllr Sanderson and Cllr Elliott have had a site visit to discuss ideas for possible road/pavement enhancements around the village – see section 9.7

6. Accounts

6.1 Monthly Accounts– The monthly accounts summary provided was discussed and approved in addition to all subsequent entries. Specific entries were as follows:

Expenditure:

22.6.10	Coulson Construction Ltd re tarmacng Haining	£3,141.95
30.6.10	NALC Annual Subscription	£230.93
4.7.10	PCC July Mtg	£10.00
4.7.10	Stuartia Horticultural Services re Adamson Park (June)	£125.70
4.7.10	npower re haining (est) 26.3-25.6	£65.69
4.7.10	npower re xmas tree 8.3-9.6	£35.79
4.7.10	L.Douds re Telephone/Internet claim June	£15.00
4.7.10	L.Douds Mileage claim 7.6.10-4.7.10	£78.00
4.7.10	L.Douds Salary 7.6.10-4.7.10	£333.02
14.7.10	J P Garden Services	£120.00
14.7.10	D. Pringle re flowers for village	£57.94

Income:

7.7.10	Barclays Interest 8.3-6.6	£0.43
15.7.10	BOI - Capital Interest	£8.61
15.7.10	BOI- Contingency Interest	£2.56

Petty Cash Balance as at 12.5.10

£34.86

6.2 Budget Position To Date - Budget position as at 14.7.10 was circulated and reviewed. No Issues.

7. Routine Items for Review

7.1 Review of Planning Applications Considered. – Moor Registration - The Land Registry has confirmed to register any land a first registration application must be completed and they recommend legal advice is sought prior to this. However further investigations have revealed that it may not be possible to register moor land as it is common land – NCC advice is to be sought prior to any actions been taken.

7.2 Northumberland Area Partnerships - Cllr Hughes has attended the North Area Committee mtg (5th July) and provided the meeting with an update. Topics that were discussed included Arriva bus routes/ services and the smell from fertilizers being used around the Embleton area.

The clerk advised that the next joint meeting between NCC and PCs for the north area would be on Mon 11th Oct (6pm County Hall).

7.3 Moor Management Scheme Update – Cllr Pringle advised that a meeting is due with the moor committee to discuss the end of year claim. Comment has been made about the amount of water available on the moor which is surprising positive given the warm weather although there are concerns as to how easily the livestock can access this. To be discussed at meeting.

7.4 Wind Farm Proposals – Paul Phare from Energy4All (not-for-profit social enterprise) has confirmed that the public meeting originally due at the end of July, has been delayed as more environmental work has been requested by NCC.

7.5 Post Office Service Provision– See section 5 above.

7.6 Donation Requests – No requests received this month.

8. Items Carried Forward

8.1 Church View Play Area – a) Drainage – A report has been received from the NCC solicitor Stephen Rickitt, which confirms that no one individual or party is solely responsible for the areas drainage and there are likely to be a number of interested parties. He recommends that a site visit is made by the NCCs land drainage officers to ascertain whether modest works might reduce the risk of any future flooding of the area/houses. Cllr Pringle agreed to meet the officers on site b) Spring on gate – Cllr Pringle confirmed that this has now been fixed.

8.2 Garden for Playgroup. Cllrs confirmed that they had seen the children at the garden and it was good to note that everyone was having a fantastic time. Everyone agreed it had been a very worthwhile project. All councillors extended their thanks and appreciation for all those involved in the scheme including the playgroup children. More dog fouling signs have been put up in the area.

8.3 Pot Holes – Cllr Elliott confirmed that the tarmacing work down the lane to the old post office and the filling of the larger pot holes had been completed by Debmatt.

8.4 Burgham Horse Festival – Colin Long, Health and Safety Manager, gave a presentation on the latest position. Summarised as follows:

- The build will start on Sunday 18th July although the majority of the associated works traffic will be from Monday 19th onwards.
- The traffic management plan has been agreed by the police, NCC, Network A1 and premier traffic management. In addition there will be 2 Police traffic cars in and around the area over the weekend.
- Traffic in the village will be managed by a manned 4 way traffic light system which will start on Friday 23rd July. Traffic going to the festival is expected to peak at 11am and leaving to peak at between 4-5pm although the site does not finish until 8pm.
- There will be maintained “blue routes” which will be closed roads to everyone except residents to ensure an access for emergency vehicles.
- Colin confirmed no feedback had been received from residents on the east road in relation to the letters about the parking and the traffic prohibition order that will be in force. Cllr Savage had concerns about this as he felt residents had not understood that the police would move them on if they parked on the road outside their house.
- Colin stressed that residents of the village would be issued with permits in an effort to help with queues at the traffic lights and also a telephone number which they should ring over the weekend if any problems occur.
- Comments – Cllr Hughes felt that whilst it looked very well organised, there was a huge feeling of disappointment that the PC had not been involved in the original planning and consultation process. Colin offered a personal apology for this. Cllr Savage asked whether it would be an annual event and also if there were plans for a roundabout on the A1. Colin confirmed that future plans would depend on the outcome of the event and there would be a full debrief. Cllr Savage asked that the PC be involved in this debrief process and Cllr Sanderson supported this request and confirmed he would write to the NCC regeneration department to ensure this happens.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.00pm to allow parishioners to speak. The meeting was resumed at 8.10 pm. Points raised included:

Pots Holes – A parishioner thanked the parish council for the filling of pot holes down the lane to the old post office.

Tarmacing – A parishioner thanked the parish council for the excellent work completed at the all weather pitch.

8.5 Water Pipe at Blackpool Farm – Cllr Elliott confirmed, that following a site visit, the installation of the new water pipe and meter would be supervised by Northumbria Water and given the PC land in question was “scrub land” a letter had been issued providing permission to put the pipe under the land.

8.6 Haining Maintenance Contract Review – the clerk advised that contact is still awaited from NCC re possible new suppliers but a supplier from Selby had been identified who would also be contacted for a quotation.

8.7 Review of Standing Orders, Financial Standing Orders and Risk Assessment – the clerk confirmed that reviewing of the NALC master documents is ongoing, although a summarised document for use by smaller councils has recently been compiled by NALC which will also be considered. To be carried forward.

8.8 Land Registry Enquiry – Proposed changes to Title NO 146033 – Cllr Elliott explained, that following a letter from the land registry challenging a piece of land that has been registered to the PC, investigations have revealed that a discrepancy may have been made by the PC. The PC used maps from the 1970s but a parishioner has discovered title deeds to a piece of land dating back to 1926. The land registry have confirmed that this title deed provides a stronger title than the 1970s map so unless the PC can prove otherwise the title shall pass back to the parishioner. All agreed this would seem the right course of action following the situation as described.

8.9 Plants and Flowers in the Village – Kevin Woods presented a plan for planters and flower beds in and around the village. All agreed this was an excellent idea and plan, although there were 2 main considerations:

- a) the initial capital cost of creating, buying and stocking the beds and planters.
- b) the ongoing maintenance throughout the year (who would be responsible and at what cost)

All agreed to look into the associated costs and feasibility of such an ongoing project and it was agreed that the clerk would discuss the matter further with Kevin prior to obtaining costs etc. All councillors thanked Kevin for the work he had done to date. Councillors approved the cost of flowers/plants for the current 8-9 planters in the village at a cost of £57.94

8.10 – Trees near Johnnie Johnson Homes – quotations from 2 tree surgeons are currently being sought. A holding letter is to be sent to the manager of the homes advising of progress. Cllr Pringle questioned whether any progress has been made in relation to the cutting back of the cherry trees near The Croft – the clerk is to look back over previous mins.

9. Other Agenda Items

9.1 Committees – The clerk confirmed that advice has been sought from NALC on the operational management of the existing committees and it was agreed that a review of all committees needs to be undertaken.

9.2 Proposed Alterations to Public Rights of Way Network (Lonnen) – As Cllr Lowrie is currently reviewing this proposal and he was absent from the meeting, this item has been marked forward to the Sept meeting and an extension to the proposal period will be requested from NCC.

9.3 Heatherlands – The letter from the Parish Council solicitor re access rights has been reviewed and all necessary documentation has been signed by Cllr Elliott and returned.

9.4 Local Bus Services – Local Involvement – A letter from NCC has been received asking for local support in the publishing of bus timetables etc. The clerk is to ask Cllr Lowrie to approach Martin Chisholm who volunteered to act as the transport rep for the village some time ago to ascertain if he would be willing to continue in this role.

9.5 Village Seats and Benches – Cllr Savage confirmed that Mrs Knott has purchased the seat and it will be in place in due course.

9.6 NCC Capital Project Ideas – Following a village “walk-about”, Cllr Lowrie & Elliott have identified two possible “highways” projects that could be appropriate for the NCC capital budget. Cllr Elliott explained both projects:

a) Further tarmacing down the lane to the old post-office

b) Tarmacing an area near the village shop to effectively create a small lay-by where cars visiting the shop could pull over safely. It is likely that some of the village green would have to be taken up.

It was agreed by all, that whilst there were pros and con’s to option b) and giving up the village green would not be done lightly, this option presented as a good safety measure and would also support the local shop. It was therefore agreed that whilst both options would be preferred, option b) would be the priority. Cllr Elliott is to discuss option b) with the NCC solicitor to ensure all legal aspects are understood.

9.8 Quarterly Freedom of Information Review - Reviewed and confirmed as correct and up to date. No requests to date.

10. Other Items for Information

10.1 Glass Recycling in Village Hall Car Park – NCC are looking to expand the current facility and are in discussions with the village hall committee.

10.2 Grass Cutting and Tree Pruning - NCC have confirmed that the trees and bushes that were referred to them will be cut back as requested. In addition the bushes near the properties “Lyndhurst” and “Hillside” were reported as overgrown– to be referred to NCC as within 1 metre of highway.

10.3 CAN Newsletters – issued to all present councillors

11. Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on agenda)

11.1 Opening Hours at the All Weather Pitch - Cllr Elliott updated the meeting that the environmental health officer from NCC had been in touch following a complaint from a resident in relation to noise nuisance. Claims have been made that children are still playing there until 11pm at night. A new poster, stating the opening times, has been put up and all cllrs were asked to spread the word and to ensure users of the facility were aware and were adhering to the opening times. Cllr Savage also confirmed that the community police officer had also been in touch in relation to the same matter. All agreed that the last resort would be to lock the area but this would be practically difficult to manage and enforce and it was felt this would simply move the problem elsewhere.

11.2 Direction Sign to Village Hall – It was reported that a large direction sign has been erected on Drummonds Close without the consent of the PC and it was agreed that a letter should be written to the village hall committee asking them to remove this.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Items for the next agenda to the Clerk by 5pm Sunday 29th August