

Community Newsletter Issue 6 December 2018

Boulmer, Howick & Longhoughton Villages

Why Save the Former SPAR?

The former SPAR or the old NAAFI as it's still affectionately known, isn't the prettiest building in Longhoughton but it is central to the village and is one of the few commercial sites we have, plus it has great potential benefit to the whole community.



When the building came on the market initially, a concerned group came together and with the support of our County Council and the Parish Council we succeeded in having the building listed as an Asset of Community Value.

The SPAR is a BIG building, far too big for just one function so we looked at what villagers said they wanted through the village survey and began to plan how we could deliver this. We are reasonably confident that we can attract a convenience store with Post Office counter together with maybe a better GP surgery, some public toilets and a small pub/bistro. The group putting the bid together is called Longhoughton Community Ventures Ltd, a not for profit organisation—this was needed as the Parish Council could not bid for funding itself.

We are confident that we can get funding but need your help to make it a reality. You might think you have none of the skills that we may need but please bear in mind that we are new to this also and are having to learn as we go too! If you have a view on what we could do with the former SPAR, you may have contacts that could be helpful or you just want to be involved in the most exciting project the village has undertaken for years, then please get in touch. Either email me at robert.wildsmith@me.com or call me on 07584 311886 and we can have a chat.

We need your input and help now. It takes a community to grow a village!

*Cllr Rob Wildsmith, Longhoughton Parish Council
& Chair, Longhoughton Community Ventures Ltd*

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR

Boulmer Ward

Adrian Hinchcliffe (V.Chair)
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Margaret Robinson
(07543 719 100)

1 current vacancy

Howick Ward

Jane Doleman
(01665 577801)

John Haughie
(01665 577020)

Longhoughton Ward

William Bell
(01665 577661)

Rob Wildsmith
(01665 572009)

Carole Green
(01665 572610)

Ellie Phillips (Chair)
(01665 577563)

Peter Bromley
(01665 577071)

County Councillor

Wendy Pattison
(01665 579137)

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Elizabeth Taylor
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**Deadline for articles for February
2019 edition is 23/1/19**



Howick & Boulmer

Howick's Stories to be Broadcast

During the October half term holiday a team from Community Arts Project North East were in Howick recording the dramatization of "Howick – a Journey through Time" – six little plays about Howick. Members of the community stepped up to the mikes, with a cast of 22 actors aged 4 to 80. Seen here are (l to r) Levi Haughie, Nerys Owen, Theo Dunn, Kathryn Ball and Hywell Owen.



Once the editing has been done and the sound effects added, CDs will be available and Hive Radio will be broadcasting the plays around the

world. Grants were generously donated to the Howick Heritage Group for this project by the Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust and the National Lottery Awards for All. *A. Meakin*

Boulmer Wildflower Meadow

The grass was cut at the end of October after a successful second year of the project to turn an area of rank grassland into a wildflower meadow. Many of the species that were sown in 2016 and 2017 have flowered over the spring and summer including poppies, ox-eye daisy, cornflower, pink campion, white deadnettle and yellow rattle. The project is greatly indebted to all the amazing Coast Care and local volunteers who gave up their time and participated enthusiastically in the recent grass collecting, seed spreading and many other tasks.

Boulmer Meadow booklet— <http://bit.ly/2QpuDB4>



Howick Village Hall Activities

We are delighted to announce that phase three of the Village Hall refurbishment has now been completed. The new toilet facilities are a much needed improvement with not only more toilets, which will mean no more queuing, but also with an accessible toilet and baby changing area resulting in good access for all.

- Craster Art Club Every Monday 7-9pm £2
- Film Club various dates contact John Roper johnroper1@btinternet.com
- Kneeler Project Monday 7 pm - 9 pm contact Avril Meakin 577597
- Howick Coastal Choir Tuesday 7 pm
- Craft Club. Thursday 7-9 pm - contact Audrey Jamieson 577797
- Howick WI meet 1st Wed in month - contact Jeanette Archbold 577384

Other events such as Bingo, Highlights live performances and musical events will be advertised as they occur so please come along and join us.

A warm welcome awaits!

Boulmer Memorial Hall Service

A service was held on 11th November 2018 at Boulmer Memorial Hall to remember those from Boulmer who lost their lives in World War 1 and World War 2. The service was led by Reverend Ian Mackarill and was well attended by villagers. The local ladies had produced a large number of poppies that decorated the stage. Afterwards a buffet supper was enjoyed by all.



Seaton Point Farm

Northumberland Estates are considering developing the redundant Seaton Point farm into a hotel and holiday complex.

Longhoughton Village Review

Thank you to the sixteen residents who took the opportunity to send in extra comments and views on the draft Action Plan. The Steering Committee met on 24 October to review the comments and update the draft Action Plan. The final stage of four consultations with residents took place on 15th November when a Public Meeting was held attended by 53 residents. The meeting was given a presentation of the proposed final Action Plan and the arrangements that are being made to take forward the actions. Those attending then had the opportunity to ask questions and make comments on the final proposals and all were positive and supportive. The proposed Action Plan then went to the Parish Council meeting on 19th of November where it was finally approved.

Many of the agreed actions need more work to be done to develop the proposals and select options. We envisage a number of **Working Groups of residents** to help do this work. The key projects are:

- ◆ The development of the old Recreation Field next to the school
- ◆ The Green Necklace (Green access around the village)
- ◆ The development of the ex Johnnie Johnston land
- ◆ The Drop-in Centre for Young People
- ◆ The Development of the Ex NAAFI Site
- ◆ Multiple Use Games Area (MUGA)
- ◆ Development of Footpaths and Rights of Way
- ◆ Access to Services
- ◆ Expanding Social Opportunities
- ◆ Conserving and Protecting the Environment
- ◆ Roads, Road safety and Pavements

Got a few hours to spare?

Please volunteer! To find out more about the projects and what they involve please contact Eleanor Phillips, Rob Wildsmith or Adrian Hinchcliffe – contact details on the front of this Newsletter.

Neighbourhood Plan to be Developed

The Parish Council has taken the decision for a Neighbourhood Development Plan to be put together for the Parish of Longhoughton. This has now been registered with Northumberland County Council. The task of putting together the plan is likely to take up to two years and will involve more consultation with residents to ensure that the plan reflects the views and desires of the community. Indeed, the final approval of the Plan will be a referendum in which all residents are able to vote via the ballot box.

The Plan is primarily about how the land in the Parish is to be used. So, we will be looking carefully at sites for future housing, the type and design of houses, their affordability and use, sites for commercial development and tourism, recreational and green spaces, the protection and conservation of the environment and special places, footpaths and rights of way and the settlement boundaries will need to be reviewed. Once approved, the Plan will set the policies and criteria that have to be met by any future planning application in the Parish. To undertake this important piece of work the Parish Council is to create a Steering Group. We want to involve organisations and individuals from the Community. So we will be asking the Village Halls and the Community Centres to see if they can each put forward a representative, also the Church, the business sector, youth and the RAF. In addition there will be four positions for residents.

We need your involvement or if you need more information, please get in touch with Adrian Hinchcliffe— contact details at the front of this newsletter.

Longhoughton Events

Saturday 8 December Christmas Family Prize Bingo

7pm eyes down at the Community Centre. Doors open from 6.30pm. No entry fee, £1 a game—6 games played. Bring your own tipples and snacks (we're licenced) and let's have some family fun!



Sun 9 December from 4.15pm Longhoughton Christmas Tree and Lights Festival— 4.15pm meet at church for service, and tree lighting, followed by nativity trail, lantern procession, and 5pm at the Community Centre for community carol singing, mulled wine and mince pies—prizes for the best dressed trees and houses in the village presented (judged on 8th December) so start dressing your home soon! Check out village posters for full details. Beautiful hand made twinkly Lanterns for the village procession from the church to the community centre will be on sale from 1 December 2.45-3.45pm outside the former Spar. Grab yours fast, they sold out in minutes last year, children loved them! £2 each or 3 for £5, all monies go towards the costs of the festival.



Sunday 15 December 1-4pm RAFA Santa Run!

In support of the story book wings appeal which aims to bring parents, who are deployed over the seasonal period, closer to home and their loved ones.

For £2 entry it will be a fun-run around the Community Centre sports fields, of course in fancy dress, there will be prizes for best dressed adult and child! Starting with a **warm up at 1pm** and then beginning the run /canter/ walk/toddle/wheel shortly after—it will be tailored to all abilities. Afterwards join us in the hall for festive music, hot drinks, cakes and a raffle up till 4pm.

Email: James Holyoake holyoakej875@mod.gov.uk

Sun 3 February 2019 6pm

Choral Evensong for Candlemas with the Rock Festival Choir in Longhoughton Parish Church.

Come and celebrate the last day of the Christmas season. Everybody will be very welcome, and mulled wine and mince pies will be served after the service.

LONGHOUGHTON & BOULMER W I

Members enjoyed the start of the festive season beginning with a workshop by Jen Brown of Floral Gifts, Alnwick, when naturally grown festive decorations, potpourri, table centres and wreaths were made at our November meeting. We look forward to our **Christmas Dinner outing** in each other's company and also the Centenary Celebrations organised by County Federation of WI's at St Nicholas Cathedral, Newcastle. Our WI has participated in organising a **"PROUD TO BE 100" exhibition at The Bailiffgate Museum, Alnwick**, featuring the history of seven North Northumberland WI's which opened 30th November to 9th December. Many past local Longhoughton and Boulmer events were featured. **Tuesday 4th December 7.30pm** is our next meeting at Longhoughton Community Centre. On 9th December we will join local folk at the lighting of the Christmas tree at St Peter & St Paul's Church followed by the seasonal event with mince pies etc at the Community Centre. We begin the new year's programme on **Tuesday 8th January, 7.30pm** with a knit and natter at the Longhoughton Community Centre by bringing along handmade craft items to admire and gain inspiration from.

A very warm welcome awaits!

***Wishing all Our Readers A Very Happy Christmas
and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year!***

*Longhoughton Parish Council
& County Councillor
Wendy Pattison*

