

Boulmer Howick & Longhoughton

ROAD SAFETY ISSUES ARE MOVING FORWARD

At the parish council meeting held on 20 July 2020 approval was given to several changes that will improve road safety in Longhoughton. The council wants to implement changes so that residents see the benefits as quickly as possible. Other issues need more work to identify the best outcomes.

The following was agreed:

- **Bridge over the Howick Burn:** Howick Estates has agreed for the bridge to be re-built. The parish council is looking for materials and funding to do this along with skilled volunteers.
- **Traffic speed measurement:** It was agreed that the speed monitoring unit offered by Councillor Wendy Pattison should be installed on South End.
- **Safer roads campaign:** The parish council is to launch a safe roads charter, asking all the main businesses and hauliers in the area to sign up to the charter.
- **Improve off-road routes:** The public rights of way and permissive routes will be improved by better signposting.
- **Speed:** Boost the current arrangements for more speed watch checks and improve restriction signs in some locations.
- **Develop proposals:** For a new network of green routes around Longhoughton to improve the safety of residents when moving around the village.

Longhoughton is going to be the subject of a major traffic review involving the parish council, NCC Highways Department and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty managers. The focus will



be on road safety and finding the best ways to control vehicle speed throughout the village through design. The review is to be funded through Councillor Wendy Pattison. The review will take in many other issues including the review of traffic priorities

on Beach Road, which has been the focus of comment from many residents to the parish council, and other bottlenecks such as the ongoing parking issue in parts of the village.

Residents will be kept informed of progress through the parish council website and this newsletter. The parish council welcomes the involvement of residents with these developments.

A THANK-YOU TO RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS

The parish council would like to thank all responsible dog owners for keeping their dogs under control and picking up after them. There has been a noticeable improvement recently in the amount of dog poo left by dog owners. But there are still a small number



CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR

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01665 572888

2 Vacancies

Howick Ward

John Haughie 01665 577020
1 Vacancy

Longhoughton Ward

Jacqueline Barras 01665 577824
Peter Bromley 01665 577071
Kris Cochrane 01665 572923
Carole Green 01665 572610
Ellie Phillips 01665 577563
(Chair)

County Councillor

Wendy Pattison 01665 579137

Parish Clerk

Elizabeth Taylor 01665 830040
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[Please contact the Clerk about the parish councillor vacancies.](#)

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Please let us have your newsworthy items for the next edition before the next **deadline on 21 September**.
Thank you.

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Parish Council News

of people who think it is fine not to pick up and some who think it is quite acceptable for their dog to poo in the long grass and be left there. This is quite wrong. It is illegal for a dog to poo in the open air and for it not to be removed by the owner. See the County Council Dog Control Order below. **Dog owners who do not pick up after their dogs are risking a fine of up to £1,000.**

Northumberland County Council Dog Control Order (The fouling of land by dogs)

Northumberland County Council has made a Public Spaces Protection Order (known as a 'Dog Control Order') to deal with various issues including dog fouling.

These provisions affect any land in the County of Northumberland which is open to the air (or which is covered but is open to the air on at least one side) and to which the public has access.

If a dog fouls such land it must be removed from the land forthwith.

Failure to comply with this requirement is an offence for which the dog owner may be prosecuted and fined up to £1,000.

Being unaware that the dog has fouled, or not having a bag to remove the fouling, is not a reasonable excuse for failing to comply.

The full text of the Order (which includes further dog control provisions affecting designated parts of the County, and for which you may see other signage) may be inspected at the offices of the Northumberland County Council or by visiting our website at www.northumberland.gov.uk

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear People of Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick,
It has been my pleasure and joy to have been your Vicar for the past 8 years but from the end of August I shall be retiring from full-time Ministry. When I applied to the post I never really thought I would be lucky enough to work in such a beautiful part of the country. You have all made Claire and me very welcome and, although we had some acquaintance with the landscape and people of Northumberland from family holidays, we have grown to love it even more. So much so in fact that we are not moving very far and we shall be living in High Hauxley and thus we will become people of the Coquet rather than the Aln!

In grateful thanks for your kindness and with every blessing for your future, with love, Ian & Claire MacKarill



LONGHOUGHTON & BOULMER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

As we all begin to emerge from the COVID-19 lockdown we look forward to re-establishing future meetings and re-arranging our new programme by moving as many of the cancelled meetings, speakers and events forward to future dates. While bearing in mind government, WI National and Federation guidelines, as well as prioritising our members' health, safety and wellbeing, our members have endeavoured to stay connected. They are currently being surveyed for their feedback and feelings on restarting meetings when we can enjoy gathering together again and welcoming new members to our first Tuesday of the month meetings at the Longhoughton Community & Sports Centre.

Longhoughton News

RE-OPENING PLANS FOR LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE (@WESTFIELD PARK)

The Centre is safe to open for bookings following a thorough risk assessment in line with government guidelines. A maximum of 30 users are allowed in the building at one time although that number may be smaller depending on the ability to socially-distance. Football training on the Astro-turf pitch has already begun and the Thursday Zumba class has been enjoying the sunshine while it exercises outdoors over the last few weeks.

Hand gel and sprays are available in all rooms. Guidelines on hand washing and hand sanitising are clearly displayed along with advice on social distancing. A special Covid-ready first aid box is prepared with PPE and sanitising equipment. Should someone begin to show symptoms, a room has been set aside exclusively to deal with that person before they leave the building. A deep clean of the whole building will take place before the first event begins on 11 August along with a rigorous cleaning regime. Training of volunteers who have regular contact with users is already in place. Extra guidance will be given to everyone making a booking.

So we are good to go! Come and support us and make use of this fabulous resource on your doorstep.

If you want to set up a new club or group, share new skills and need somewhere to meet then please contact us. Very attractive reduced rates are given to start-up groups in the first month to help support their establishment.

To book the sports facility or hire any of the rooms please contact 01665 572315 or check out our online booking system www.longhoughtoncommunitycentre.org/booking-calendar

Unfortunately the children's play area cannot be used until further guidance and an inspection of the site by ROSPA is completed by mid/late-August. It is currently taped off. As soon as we have further updates we will post these on our Facebook page.

Howick & Boulmer News

BEACH CLEAN UP AT HOWICK

A team from British Divers Marine Rescue and Sea Shepherd UK including residents Amanda Fall and Jane Hardy have removed approximately 350kg of swept-up fishing gear, mainly ropes, from the beach near Howick. It was a splendid effort, so thank you to all involved.

WILDFLOWER SURVEY AT BOULMER

A team of Coast Care volunteers braved the rain on a wet Wednesday morning in July to survey Boulmer wildflower meadow. They were delighted to see so many plant species growing, especially since so many volunteers put in so much work to help the parish council to create and maintain the site. While carrying out the survey the team found a poorly young hedgehog which was very vulnerable to dogs and the bad weather. Thankfully, a Northumbria Wildlife Trust representative called Sophie, knew just what to do as she has fostered hedgehogs before. The hedgehog was named Little Boulmer and spent a night getting warm and fed at her house before being delivered to a local rescue centre.

It was also very pleasing to see many baby hares in the Boulmer area along with the return of the barn owl.



CAR PARKING AT BOULMER

Since the end of the coronavirus lockdown the parking situation at Boulmer has rapidly deteriorated as more locals and visitors come to the small village for recreation and outdoor pursuits. The village is being overrun by motorists who are parking in every conceivable location, sometimes with complete disregard for residents and common sense road safety. Vehicle numbers visiting Boulmer are the highest in living memory and on weekends and some weekdays the car park and the village street are full from end to end. There can be well over ninety parked cars in Boulmer at peak times bringing in a number of people that is more than three times the normal population. Residents are

exasperated by this situation. The present situation is not sustainable and something has to change. Representatives of the Parish Council have taken this up with county council officials and key councillors including Councillor Wendy Pattison. There are to be more discussions about the possibility of introducing parking restrictions in some places in the village as soon as possible and it has been confirmed that the previous commitment, approved by residents, to install double yellow lines at either side of the bridge will be commenced soon.

RAGWORT

It is that time of year again. The poisonous plant (to horses) ragwort is fully in bloom. Thank you to the volunteers who have cleared it from the Boulmer meadow and village green. Northumberland Estates are currently removing ragwort in the dunes from the south of Boulmer car park and meadow, southwards to Seaton Point Caravan Park.



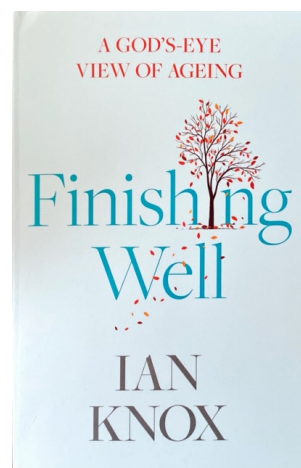
NORTHUMBRIA POLICE NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Officers from Alnwick Neighbourhood Team will be in the following locations on **Friday 21 August 2020** with our community engagement van and welcome anyone who would like to call in and speak with them:

BOULMER in the main car park from 12.45 to 13.45 and
LONGHOUGHTON at the community centre car park from 15.15 to 14.15

FINISHING WELL by Ian Knox

Did you know we have an author in the parish?! Ian Knox lives in Longhoughton. I've just grabbed a copy of 'Finishing Well'. It's a good read! I called Ian, who told me his book is to encourage us to see our getting older through the positive lens of a God's-eye view. He wrote it to inspire people of all ages to see that God has a better view of older people than society seems to have. Ian gives good advice on what to do in retirement, or as he writes it reirement, how to find and keep faith and how to grow old well. Chapters on dementia and care are really helpful too. I can recommend it!



Bubble Trouble by Julie Sheldon

I am a single granny
With daughter, and a son
I've got a newish lover
And he's a lot of fun!

Now I can make a 'bubble'
But which house do I choose?
Someone will be offended
No matter what I do

Do I go to my daughter's?
And help wipe snotty noses
Or do I see my lover?
For candlelight and roses

Do I go to my son's house?
And risk an ear bashing
Or shall I go to lover boy's?
And have some nights of passion

And then, there's my friend Maureen
Who has nobody else
So shall I spend some time with her?
And not think of myself

Am I a granny dutiful?
On whom they can depend
Am I a selfish lover?
Or a dedicated friend?

This really is a problem
That I could do without
In fact, it was much simpler
When I could NOT go out

Oh Boris! Why've you caused me
Such a lot of trouble
I really don't know what to do
With this flippin' 'social bubble'