

Boulmer Howick & Longhoughton

LONGHOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL RE-ESTABLISHED

Following the elections in May Longhoughton Parish Council has been re-established with the addition of four new members. This has boosted its capability of taking on a huge agenda over the next four years. The new members are Caroline Bradshaw, David Hindson, Katie Middlemist and Bryan Ellis who have joined Adrian Hinchcliffe, Peter Bromley, John Haughie, Carole Green and Jaqueline Barras to form the new council. Contact details for each councillor are on the right hand side of this page. It still leaves a single vacancy for the Howick Ward and the council would welcome having full representation for the residents of Howick.

All parish councillors are volunteers and take on the role to help their community. Training is available for new recruits. The council meets once each month apart from August and December.

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

At the June and July parish council meetings some time was devoted to what the parish council would like to achieve over the next four years. The main priority is to identify and deliver the needs and issues of the community, but to achieve this we must work with other key partners such as the County Council, the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and the landowners. Some of the key projects that the parish council are involved in are listed below with a short progress report

COMMUNICATIONS AND OPENNESS

Good open communications with residents is absolutely essential. The parish council wishes to engage with residents far more than it has done in the past. It will be introducing improved communications including the use of social media. This will include Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The council would also like to listen to young people and what they think about living in the parish. The council welcomes people to their monthly meeting to ask questions or raise issues. The next meeting is on Monday 20 September 2021 commencing at 7.30pm at Howick Village Hall.

Some of the projects that are in progress

- Neighbourhood Plan.
- Longhoughton Traffic Review
- Beach Road and Low Steads traffic and parking issues.
- Longhoughton to Lesbury Greenway
- Greenways around Longhoughton – the green necklace.
- Rebuilding the bridge over the Howick burn
- Off-road car parking at Boulmer and Longhoughton
- Access to superfast broadband
- Issues relating to the taxation of second homes and holiday lets
- Facilities for young people
- Climate change
- People, Planting and Paths



CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR

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Howick Ward

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1 Vacancy

Longhoughton Ward

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Peter Bromley 01665 577071

(Vice Chair)

Bryan Ellis 01665 577973

Carole Green 01665 572610

David Hindson 01665 577829

Katie Middlemist 07739 706754

County Councillor

Wendy Pattison 01665 579137

Parish Clerk

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Please contact the Clerk about the parish councillor vacancy.

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Newsworthy items for the next

edition, before the

deadline on 21 September 2021,

please.

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Parish News (contd)

- Community-led housing
- Increasing the number of allotments
- Litter picking, beach cleaning and other similar activities

REPORTS ON KEY PROJECTS

BEACH ROAD AND LOW STEADS TRAFFIC AND PARKING ISSUES

It is unsustainable for large volumes of vehicles to use the road and park on the dunes and headland. This is a special place which is being damaged and measures are needed to restrict the volume of vehicles using the road and parking there. A number of organisations, including the landowner and the Forsyth family who farm at Low Steads, have been working together to find a solution. The parish council is committed to finding a solution that is acceptable to all the parties that restricts the number of vehicles using Beach Road and to have a limit on parking on the dunes. The investigation into finding a solution to this issue is ongoing and once the final proposals are put together they will be put to the community before implementation.

LONGHOUGHTON TRAFFIC REVIEW

This review is looking at the traffic and speed issues throughout Longhoughton. The parish council, county council, and the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty are involved. It should report soon with recommendations for making Longhoughton's roads much safer.

REBUILDING THE BRIDGE OVER THE HOWICK BURN

This project is to rebuild the bridge over the Howick burn to enable the permissive footpath to be used to the burn mouth. Permission has been obtained from the landowner to rebuild the bridge. The parish council is seeking quotations. Potential contractors have found the task to be too difficult, including the insurance requirements, and have withdrawn. If any resident knows of a reputable organisation that is prepared to provide a quotation please contact Peter Bromley on 01 665 577071.

GREENWAYS

We are seeking to establish a greenway from Longhoughton to Lesbury with a link to the railway station at Hipsburn. We are also planning a greenway around Longhoughton which will enable residents to move around the village without going on the B1339.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Thank you to residents for the responses received to the recent consultation. The supplement that is being delivered with this newsletter includes the outcome of the consultation and answers to numerous points raised.

Longhoughton News

ALNCOM TO BUILD FULL FIBRE NETWORK IN LONGHOUGHTON

Alnwick-based fibre network provider, Alncom, are about to start work building a full fibre broadband network into Longhoughton. This will bring a gigabit-capable broadband supply direct to your property and is being partly funded by Project Gigabit, the Government's Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme.

The key benefits are:

- Ultrafast broadband connection to future-proof your property and provide some of the fastest speeds in the UK
- Very attractive monthly rental from £25.00 incl VAT for 85Mbps
- Unlimited data download
- No telephone/landline needed (so great savings to be had)
- 12-month minimum contract but prices held for at least 60 months
- Reduced-term rolling contracts for RAF married quarters
- Free fibre router and wi-fi mesh extender

If residents wish to register their interest go to www.alncom.co.uk

The Alncom team will be hosting a roadshow based near the Co-op on Saturday 31 July 2021 from 1000hrs to 1500hrs.



Note from the Editors: We do not usually publish commercial information through this newsletter. This is included because it may be of benefit to the community. It is essential that residents shop around before entering into any agreement.

Longhoughton News

BOULMER AND LONGHOUGHTON WI VISIT TO LOW STEADS FARM

Our members enjoyed an informative farm visit and talk hosted by James Forsyth, the owner, with daughter Isabelle. This highlighted some of the issues faced by mixed farming on a small scale in present times, as well as an appreciation of the 'behind the scenes' work happening on a farm of this type, providing the rural landscape that allows us as local residents to enjoy our walks down to the beach.

With safety the first priority, our Branch President Janet volunteered to operate the JCB forklift, and after being shown how to use it, gave a very capable demonstration. I am sure this will be a first for a WI member! The evening was finished with hospitality provided by Louise Forsyth, including the usual raffle. Due to the poor weather we had all forgotten to bring our pictures for the competition bar Mary who was declared the winner!

There is no meeting in August but we have a garden party August 17, open to our WI members. Meetings will resume again in the Community Centre, Tuesday 7.30 pm Sept 7, with a guest speaker covering the subject of Gardens in Northumberland. If you are not a member and wish to attend or join please contact Alison Anderson, Secretary, on 07837271882.

VANDALISM: PLEASE HELP TO PREVENT IT

Some vandalism occurred at the brand-new Tedder Place play area recently which was very much regretted and came at a time when lots of time and effort and money had gone into providing a state-of-the-art facility. The police were involved and Sergeant Paul Sykes has made the following comments. "Thankfully Longhoughton does not see lots of incidents like this. However, when it does occur it is soul destroying for those who use and look after the play areas. Northumbria Police will increase their patrols in the area and would ask for quality local intelligence from people in the area to identify any persons responsible for acts of vandalism so that the Force can speak to the culprits at their family home." If you see any acts of vandalism please phone 101 and report the situation.



EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT THE LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE SEATED EXERCISE TO MUSIC - 8-WEEK PROGRAMME

Shake off those Covid blues and come join us for some fun moving to music – seated! Run by Age UK, classes start on Wednesday 8 September 11.30 -12.30 at Longhoughton Community & Sports Centre. £3 charge. Pay at the door. Call Ellie Phillips on 01665 572315 for more details.

DOORSTEP THEATRE COMES TO LONGHOUGHTON 8 AUGUST

November Club Theatre Company are performing outdoors (weather permitting) at Longhoughton Community & Sports Centre on Sunday 8 August at 6.15pm and 7.30pm. Fancy a 30-minute doorstep performance for you and your neighbours? Please book your slot @ www.novemberclub.org.uk. It's a fun, contemporary retelling of the myths that make up the bones of Northumberland and it's free!

LONGHOUGHTON SUMMER CLUB FOR 8-12 YEARS

Nine days of summer activities have been organised for children to help parents with child care over the summer break, keep the children active and engaged and make new friends – and it's all provided free, including breakfast and lunch!

Plans for an Autumn Club in the October break will be advertised on social media and noticeboards in September.

FAREWELL TOM - THANK YOU AND ALL THE BEST!

After twenty years Tom Spence is leaving Longhoughton and going back to Edinburgh to live near his daughter. Tom has been very much involved in the Longhoughton community and has been part of its social fabric. He has served as Chair of Longhoughton Parish Council and for many years has been on the parochial church council and at various times as Treasurer and Church Warden. Tom's late wife Margaret was the church organist and both Margaret and Tom were members of the Alnwick Music Society. He has also served on the Board of the Aln Valley Railway. Tom, we will all really miss you but we hope that the move to Edinburgh goes well.

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Longhoughton News (contd)

As a way of thanks to Tom, Longhoughton Church has announced a coffee morning to celebrate Tom's time in Longhoughton. **It will be held on Saturday 14 August 2021 at Tom's home – 17A North End, Longhoughton.** All are welcome. Tom is going to take advantage by putting up for sale some of his books that he will not have room for at his new home.

Boulmer News

Boulmer car park was repaired and re-surfaced recently by KW Purvis Ltd of Longhoughton Quarry. The entrance track was full of pot holes and in need of re-surfacing and one corner of the car park seemed to have sunk and was holding water during wet periods. The whole operation took just over five hours involving heavy plant and machinery and during that period the car park had to be closed. Two lorry loads of crushed stone were brought down from the quarry to help with the resurfacing after the whole car park had been levelled by the machines.

David Purvis, owner of KW Purvis Ltd said that he was delighted to be able to carry out this work to make the car park easier to use for residents and visitors and, as a benefit to the local community, his business was doing this work free of charge.

Adrian Hinchcliffe, Chair of Longhoughton Parish Council, thanked David Purvis for carrying out this work free of charge, as a gesture of goodwill for the community.



BOULMER MEADOW

We are now coming to the end of the fifth growing season. Much progress has been achieved and visitors and locals remark how the range and quality of wildflowers is improving with prolific displays from early season to the end of July. The grass cover has definitely improved with the use of Yellow Rattle but close to Beach View there is still a large amount of thick tall grass. A recent species count by experts showed that we have forty three species of wild flowers including corncockle which is an endangered species. However we are still suffering from invasive weeds such as Hogweed, Ragwort and ground Elder and we are doing our best to stop them from seeding. Howick Estates will again be helping with the harvesting in September and we are extremely grateful to them. This year we planted new trees on the southern border and they are progressing quite well.



The programme for next year is much of the same. We will spread more seed in the autumn especially Yellow Rattle and we will try to take out the roots of some of the invasive species – which is hard going, but every bit helps. **We welcome more residents getting involved with the development of the meadow. It is a community project for the residents and visitors to enjoy. Contact Adrian Hinchcliffe or Caroline Bradshaw.**

BOULMER SPEED SURVEY RESULTS

The speed surveys took place between 09.04.21 and 26.04.21

SURVEY 1. Location – on Beach View 20metres north of the Bowmere turn.

Southbound towards Lesbury. An average of 276 vehicles each day.

Average Speed - 28mph. At the 85th percentile 34mph. Highest speed was between 40 to 45 mph.

Northbound into Boulmer. An average of 316 vehicles each day.

Average speed – 26mph. At the 85th percentile 33mph. Highest speed was between 40 to 45 mph.

SURVEY 2. Location – On the road to Longhoughton within the 30mph zone before Church Corner. Westbound towards Longhoughton –The results show an average of 383 vehicles each day.

Average speed – 24mph. At the 85th percentile 29mph. Highest speed was between 30 to 35mph.

Eastbound into Boulmer – The results show an average of 368 each day.

Average speed – 25mph. At the 85th percentile 30mph. Highest speed was between 35 and 40mph.