

Boulmer Howick & Longhoughton



PROPOSAL FOR A NEW CAR PARK AND GREEN TRANSPORT HUB AT LONGHOUGHTON

The Parish Council has launched a proposal for a new car park and green transport hub for Longhoughton, to be located in the southern end of the old recreation field on Beach Road. This site is also being considered as the overflow car park for the Longhoughton Beach car park.

Other than the ten-place car park at School Green, Longhoughton does not have a car park and the opening of the Running Fox and the camping site on Boulmer Road will lead to increased vehicles coming into the village. Some areas of the village already suffer from parking congestion. It is proposed that the car park will also be a green transport hub where walkers and cyclists can park and walk or cycle from there. It is envisaged that the car park will link to the wider green routes network.

The proposal is the start of discussions with the County Council and other key organisations, and progress will be reported through this newsletter and the Parish Council minutes. Once the proposals are reasonably firm there will be a full consultation.

BEACH ROAD AND LONGHOUGHTON BEACH WORKING GROUP FORMED



A working group consisting of representatives from Howick Trustees, the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Forsyth Farmers and Longhoughton Parish Council has been formed to put together proposals to reduce the traffic volume down

Beach Road and resolve the parking problems at Longhoughton Beach.

The number of vehicles parking on the dunes is causing damage to the delicate biodiversity of the special and protected area including a site of special scientific interest. Many residents have complained that there are too many vehicles on Beach Road and it is unsafe for pedestrians, especially those with children and animals and cyclists. Also, Low Steads Farm are finding it increasingly difficult to operate as a farm when the traffic volume is high.

The Working Group's aim is to come up with proposals that overcome these issues. It is hoped that the proposals will be available for public consultation before the end of the year.

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR

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1 Vacancy

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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 November 2021, please.

Disclaimer: The Boulmer, Howick and Longhoughton Community Newsletter is published by Longhoughton Parish Council. The views expressed represent the understanding of the editors or of any named person contributing to the newsletter.

Parish News

SCHOOL GREEN REFURBISHMENT

Walkers and visitors to the churchyard will be particularly pleased to see that the broken bench in front of the sculpture has been replaced by the Parish Council with a stylish new six-foot bench made from 100% recycled material. The chains normally attached to the cast iron posts around the sculpture are currently away being repainted. The posts themselves will be painted onsite. The final part of the refurbishment is to repaint the sculpture's base and to replace the worn planters. The refurbishment will be completed in good time for the Poppy Cascade which will be draped over the sculpture as part of Remembrance Day.



PARISH EXPENDITURE – WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

The Parish Council receives its income (known as the Precept) from Council tax payers in the Parish. This year (2021/22) the precept was set at £21,000. This works out at £34.80 per household at the Band D level. Residents in nearby parishes pay the following by comparison – Lesbury £33.93; Alnmouth £49.28; Alnwick £116.40; Craster £67.13; Warkworth £76.90; Amble £120.55. By comparison residents are paying £1,638.43 to the County Council for the services received from them at the Band D level.

The Longhoughton Parish Council budget for the current year is as follows:

Clerks Employment costs	£5,500	26.2%
Maintenance and renewals	£3,300	15.7%
Boulmer toilets winter opening	£2,000	9.5%
Grants	£1,750	8.3%
Village Hall Support	£1,685	8.2%
Grass and hedge cutting	£1,600	7.6%
Neighbourhood Plan & other projects	£1,500	7.1%
Newsletter and Website	£1,490	7.1%
Subscriptions	£450	2.1%
Rent, Audit, Miscellaneous	£1,725	8.2%
TOTAL	£21,000	100%



In addition to the above, there will be expenditure on the Neighbourhood Plan that is covered by grants received. All Parish Councillors are volunteers and receive no payments.

HELP FOR COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS IN THE PARISH

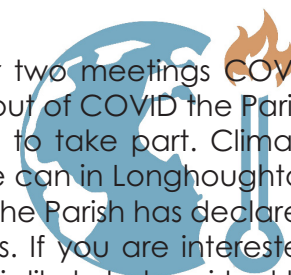
Many community organisation or groupings of residents in the Longhoughton Parish may well be struggling to get restarted after COVID. Most will not have received any Government assistance. The Parish Council considers that such organisations are very important to the social fabric of the community. If you are part of such an organisation or grouping and are short of funding to get restarted, the Parish Council welcomes applications for assistance and may be able to help. Please write a short note explaining the circumstances and send it to Elizabeth Taylor at email parishclerk@hotmail.com

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two Parish Council meetings will be held on Monday 18 October and Monday 15 November 2021. Both will start at 7.30pm. In view of the continuing level of COVID infection, both meetings are likely to be held by ZOOM. The Parish Council welcomes anyone who would like to ask questions or make a representation during the first 15 minutes of the meeting. If so please email the Clerk to obtain the link to ZOOM.

CLIMATE CHANGE: AN INVITATION TO RESIDENTS

The Parish Council started off a Climate Change Group in 2019 but after two meetings COVID struck and the meetings had to be abandoned. Now that we are coming out of COVID the Parish Council wishes to restart the group and is inviting anyone from the Parish to take part. Climate change is the most serious issue of all. We ought to be doing as much as we can in Longhoughton Parish to mitigate against global warming. The County Council has asked if the Parish has declared a global emergency and this will be the first thing for the group to discuss. If you are interested please contact adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com. The restart meeting is likely to be virtual by ZOOM which the Parish Council will organise.



Longhoughton News

LONGHOUGHTON PARISH FOOTPATHS GROUP NEWS

For over two years now, our parish footpaths group has been working to do a number of things in response to the Parish Council's 2018 Consultation. They have been looking at the possibilities for much needed linking footpaths that might open up routes through Longhoughton village, once called the green necklace (See Newsletter, June 2019 & August 2019). They have also been working to identify, maintain and improve a network from our existing public rights of way across the parish, which offer routes to and from the surrounding facilities and villages, in the interests of everyone's mobility, health and happiness.

The possibility for linking a greenway between Lesbury and Longhoughton (Newsletter, December 2020), which also caters for biking, is now on the agenda too. The thinking on all these areas is passed to the Parish Council for their consideration in due course. Chris Thomas co-ordinates this work, including working with Coast Care and our local NCC Countryside Officers, to help monitor, maintain and develop the network.

The group decided early on that there was little point in developing all the public rights of way in the parish, since not all fit our criteria of leading to a populated location, against a background of very limited resources. They hope to publicise the network and its points of interest to the community and its visitors in the fullness of time.

The group is currently working on publishing a leaflet which aims to inform visitors about walks that take in points of interest around and out of Longhoughton, starting from the new Running Fox Café. Not surprisingly, the group has maintained links, through Chris, with other initiatives with similar interests, such as The Saints Trails based around Durham, the Slow Ways national campaign, and The Ramblers' Don't Lose Your Way campaign (Newsletter February 2021). So far, The Saints Trails have reached Amble from the south, with one called The Way of the Sea, but it has not formally entered our parish, despite the fact that we have St Oswald's Way running through it.

The Slow Ways campaign, which seeks to 'create a network of walking routes that connect all of Great Britain's towns and cities' is unlikely to touch our parish because it does not lie on a line between two towns or cities. The Ramblers' Don't Lose Your way campaign map currently shows lost paths in the parish, but it is the group's view that these are unlikely to be of interest to us for the same reasons as given above, that they will not be useful as parts of a network, linking populated centres around us, and they may conflict with established land use practice, which they would want to avoid.

Where The Ramblers intend to reclaim a path, they have to establish evidence for its past use through detailed research, before applying to the County Council for its restoration. A recent article in the Northumberland Gazette (James Harrison 11.08.21) highlighted specific examples elsewhere in Northumberland and the issues involved. It is available online if you search 'Don't Lose Your Way' on Northumberland Gazette's website.

For further information about any of the above, or if you'd like to join the group, please contact Chris Thomas by email at chrismerylthomas@gmail.com

LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY LUNCH

It is proposed to reinstate the Longhoughton Community Lunch at the Community and Sports Centre after Covid, provided the infection rates do not increase. The proposed dates for the lunch are as follows:

Wednesday 27 October, 24 November and 15 December . All starting at noon.

The cost of the lunch will be £5 per head for two courses and tea/coffee.

If you intend coming please telephone Pat Ellis on 01665 577973. If numbers are too high priority will be given to previous regular attendees and a waiting list established.

WILD HENS

For the last two years six wild hens (including one cockerel) have been roaming in the gardens behind Beach View. The cockerel seemed to have its time-switch set wrong and started crowing at 2.00am each morning waking up the neighbourhood. The cockerel and hens were also prolific breeders. The situation was unsustainable so in August the RSPCA were called in. The result is that some of the hens were caught and moved to new homes. BUT, there are still three running wild. WATCH THIS SPACE!

LATERAL FLOW TESTS are available at the Beacon

Longhoughton News (contd)

LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE: REGULAR PROGRAMME

DAY	DAYTIME	EVENING
Monday	Monday Matters rag matting & crafts 9.30-12noon contact Liz Wood 07715 313 989. Loose Needles crafts group 1.30-4.30pm – contact Ann Brixey 07761 940 324	1st Longhoughton Brownies 6.00-7.30pm contact Laura Tollervey 07469 871 758
Tuesday	Available for hire	Zumba Pound and Pilates 6-8pm Contact Sophie Hastings 07825 002 702
Wednesday	Yoga 09.30-10.30 – contact Deb Swift 07958593636 Seated Exercise to Music 11.30-12.30 – contact Sophie Hastings 07825 002 702 Longhoughton Indoor Bowls Club 2.00-4.00pm Contact Sheila Abercrombie 01665 577340	Mindfulness in a Changing World 8 week programme from 13 October only £10 for full programme Contact Ellie Phillips 01665 572315
Thursday	Available for hire	Zumba Pound and Pilates 6-8pm Contact Sophie Hastings 07825 002 702
Friday	Available for hire	Regular Private Event
Saturday	Reserved for private functions and community events	Reserved for private functions and community events
Sunday	Available for hire	Singing Workshop for Women 1-3pm from 26 Sept for 4 weeks Contact Caro Fentiman 07932 746 326

LONGHOUGHTON AND BOULMER WI

August Garden Party and September Talk. We enjoyed good weather at the garden party hosted by Joan Shirley Ford and her granddaughter Sarah in her lovely garden. Tea, homemade scones and cakes provided by everyone attending were enjoyed. The event proved to be a successful fundraiser for our group. Supper was not needed that day! The September meeting was held at The Beacon, which is the new venue for our monthly meetings. This was well received by our members, as we now have the added facility of an extra room to socialise and enjoy tea and biscuits after the main talk. This talk covered some of the main gardens in Northumberland including a slideshow of these during the different seasons.

We are very much looking forward to our next talk on October 5, 7.30pm, welcoming back the dynamic Adrian Janetta to talk about Astronomy and the intriguing subject of Searching for Earth 2.0. If you are not a member and wish to attend or join please contact Alison Anderson, Secretary, on 07837271882. As our new venue is The Beacon we would like extend this invitation in particular to any ladies that have any connections to the RAF.

THANK YOU TO THE NEWSLETTER DELIVERY TEAM

Delivered to 796 homes by Angie Embleton; Andrew Willmott; Ayshea Lewis; Adrian Hinchcliffe; Carole Green; Chris Thomas; Colin & Rosemary Gray; Colin and Rose Lesser; Hazel Johnson; Ian & Alison Anderson; Jackie Hogg; John Haughie; Karen Marshall; Liz & John Whittle; Richard Carlson; Vicki Kelly and family; Wendy Hinchcliffe.

Boulmer News

OFF-STREET PARKING CONSULTATION

The County Council have announced the results of the consultation on the possible options for the provision and management of off-street parking arrangements in Boulmer. The results were:

- 81% of households responded
- 67% of those responding were in favour of developing a new car park adjacent to the village hall.
- 13% stated that they did not wish to see any changes made to parking provision.

In the light of these results it is proposed that further work is undertaken to progress new car parking adjacent to the village hall. NCC also intend to begin discussions with Longhoughton Parish Council over the future management of the existing Beach car park with a view to the County Council managing all on and off-street parking to ensure consistency of approach.

