

Boulmer Howick & Longhoughton

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATIONS : CHANGES

Following the reporting of good support for the proposed policies in December's newsletter, the Steering Group and Parish Council have now approved changes to the plan to reflect the concerns that were expressed, in the hope this will result in greater support for the Plan. These changes are outlined below:



The allocation of housing to the north-east of Portal Place

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This policy is to be removed from the Plan. It will remain as Protected Open Space and if there is a need for military housing in the future, it will require a planning application.

Housing on the former Johnnie Johnson site

This will be restricted to the boundary of the former Johnnie Johnson site. All proposals for a plaza outside the Co-operative store and an extension onto the Westfield Park site will be withdrawn.

The old recreation ground

The masterplan will be re-drawn so that there is a greater proportion of land used for informal recreation. The car park area will be better defined and the housing of 14 properties will be a mix of single and two storey properties of two or three bedrooms.

Boulmer South

The Masterplan will be changed so that there are 15 proposed properties on this site with a central green area.

Boulmer: requirement for permanent occupation

Independent confirmation will be sought to back up the statistics showing the need for this policy.

Next steps

The changes outlined above will be made to the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Plan will be submitted to Northumberland County Council (NCC) who will do a further assessment and consultation.

NCC will appoint an independent assessor who will carry out an assessment.

The Plan will be updated for any changes.

The Plan will be subject to a referendum.

The full report on the Consultation results and the changes to be made to the Neighbourhood Plan can be accessed on the website www.longhoughtonndp.co.uk

Longhoughton Parish Council

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One vacancy

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Please contact the Clerk about the parish councillor vacancy.

Websites

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www.longhoughtonndp.co.uk

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Newsworthy items for the next edition, before the

deadline on 14 March, 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 COUNCIL NEWS

COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Parish Council recently voted in favour of awarding the following grants:

Longhoughton Church: for grass cutting in the graveyard:	£950
Great North Air Ambulance:	£100
Northumberland Citizens Advice Bureau:	£100
Hospice Care Northumberland:	£100
Longhoughton Heritage Group: for further work on the heritage of the area	£200
Longhoughton Community Gardeners: for planting schemes in the village	£300
Howick Art Group: for the refurbishment of their presentation screens	£200

LONGHOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL: PRECEPT FOR 2024/25

Longhoughton Parish Council is to increase its Precept for 2024/25 to £26,798 from £23,582 in the current year. This increase reflects the need to implement a number of projects that are coming to completion and the acceptance of a higher standard of grass cutting by Northumberland County Council. Residents will start to pay the higher level from 01.04.24.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

You may have seen members of the Community Speedwatch team focusing their speed camera on your vehicle and taking your speed and, if you are speeding, taking your registration number. These exercises are being carried out in the 20 and 30mph zones in Longhoughton and Boulmer. So, beware, for anyone speeding will be reported to the Police and action will be taken. So far, 49 vehicles have been reported for speeding. More information about the scheme follows:

What is Community Speedwatch?

Community Speedwatch is a Northumbria Police initiative to improve road safety.

What does Community Speedwatch aim to do?

Reduce speed to prevent collisions.

Improve the quality of life for people in the area.

Raise public awareness of inappropriate speed.

Who are Community Speedwatch Volunteers?

They are local volunteers who are recruited, vetted, trained and supervised by Northumbria Police. They operate speed detection equipment in accordance with relevant legislation, procedures and guidelines. Volunteers accurately record and document information collected as part of a Speedwatch and report speeding vehicles to Northumbria Police for action. All information gathered is treated as personal data ensuring compliance with the Data Protection Act. The Police will also identify untaxed, untested and uninsured vehicles.



CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION GROUP

What can we do as a community to help cope with the ravages of climate change? Over the last two months we have experienced fearful storms which are all attributed to global warming. There is no doubt that this is happening. Those of us who were born in the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s can remember the colder winters and much more snow. There are things that we can do as a community which will benefit us and our children who are going to have to cope with this worsening situation. Let's come together as a community to see what we can do locally. If you are up for this please contact Parish Councillor Hannah Horsley by email on

hannahjmorgan.25@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Longhoughton Parish Council will meet on the following dates:

Monday 19 February 2024: Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre at 7.30pm.

Monday 18 March 2024: Howick Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Monday 15 April 2024: Boulmer Village Hall at 7.30pm. Residents are welcome to observe the meetings. The first 15 minutes is reserved for questions from residents.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

LACEY STREET CONGESTION

Considerable traffic congestion took place in Lacey Street particularly in December and over New Year. Parked traffic spread onto North End and caused further congestion and potential accidents. There is to be a public meeting for Lacey Street residents to discuss what can be done to lessen the impact on them. County Council representatives will be invited to attend the meeting. The longer term solution is to create a car park on the south end of the former Recreation field but that may take some time to obtain the planning approvals and find the funding.

LONGHOUGHTON BEACH CAR PARKING SCHEME

Parking charges at Longhoughton Beach Car Park were introduced by Howick Trustees Ltd from 11 January 2024. If you wish to learn more about the scheme, go to the Howick Trustees website at www.longhoughtonbeach.co.uk where you can read the frequently asked questions and answers. You can send your views to the Trustees by using their 'contact us' facility. Longhoughton Parish Council has asked the County Council about classifying the lane to Longhoughton Beach Car Park as a 'Quiet Lane' which would make it much better for walkers and cyclists. We await their response.



Boulmer is one of the most important places in Northumberland for shorebirds. As a group, shorebirds can be very tricky birds to identify, but because of the number of different species found there, Boulmer beach is a great place to go to start looking at the differences between the birds.

We run Shorebirds for Beginners events at Boulmer, as well as at other locations along the coast, to help give tips on what to look for when identifying the different species. Optics are provided and no prior knowledge is required to attend these free events as we start right at the beginning of bird ID.

As well as the incredible shorebirds, you never know what might show up during the sessions! If you are interested in attending head over to our website for full details and to book your place.

www.spaceforshorebirds.co.uk/event-listings

ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO USE BIKES AND WALKING

The Parish Council is very keen to encourage residents to use bikes and to enjoy walking. Both are very good for health and are recommended by health professionals. However, the Parish Council recognises that people want to walk and ride in a safe environment. For cycling, the ideal is to have a traffic free route and for walking there needs to be a good network of walking routes which are interesting and appealing. The development of greenways, which is proposed by the Parish Council, does provide cyclists and walkers with traffic-free routes, and for walkers the completion of the Howick Burn bridge will provide a wonderful three mile circuit from Longhoughton, talking in the coast.



Grey Plover at Boulmer



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

BRIDGE OVER HOWICK BURN

In the December newsletter we reported that the bridge would be complete by the end of November. Bad weather caused this prediction to be untrue, so we do apologize to those people who walked down there expecting to use the new bridge. Anyway, good news, the bridge is now in place, and almost complete, but not yet ready to open for public use. There are still stiles and kissing gates to install further up the permissive path, and the track from the bridge to the burn mouth is deep in mud. Once the bridge is complete this will be an absolutely splendid circular walk from Longhoughton.



COME AND ENJOY A

Northumbrian Evening with Ernie Coe & Friends

At HOWICK VILLAGE HALL
On SATURDAY 23RD MARCH 2024
7pm for 7.30pm start

Tickets £10

From John Roper 07905 696555 or

Sally Brewis on 07876 636856

Or email howickvillagehall@outlook.com



Bring your drinks and snacks
for a fun filled evening with
comedy and music



ASTRO-TURF PITCH NEEDS REPLACING

The Astro-turf pitch at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre is coming to the end of its useful life having been in use since it was installed in 2009. The Centre has a quote of just over £140,000 for a new pitch. The Centre has a fund of £70,000 accumulated from hire fees, but this still leaves a gap of £70,000. Applications for funding are being made to several potential funding organisations and so far £10,000 has been offered.

The floodlit pitch is used every night of the week and at weekends by teams from Longhoughton Rangers Football Club. Several other groups including a 'walking football team' use it. The pitch is certified for matches to be played on the surface until 2026.



LONGHOUGHTON NEWS

Residents opening the party bags provided by MGL Group

RESIDENTS ENJOY CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Twenty-nine residents of Longhoughton and Boulmer enjoyed a Community Christmas Lunch on 20 December 2023 at the Longhoughton Community Centre. On this occasion the lunch was paid for by a donation from the MGL Group who run Longhoughton Quarry as part of their North



East operations. The lunch is prepared by a team of nine volunteers from the community who also received a small gift for the volunteer services they provide.

The community lunch takes place on the last Wednesday of each month at the Community Centre starting at 12 noon and is priced at £5 for a two-course meal with tea or coffee. It is open to all residents to attend irrespective of age. Come along and join us! All welcome.

Residents' Christmas lunch provided by the MGL Group



SIXTY TREES TO BE PLANTED AT WESTFIELD PARK

Sixty free tree saplings that have been provided free by the County Council are to be planted at Westfield Park, the home of the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre. The trees will be planted around the periphery of the site and it is hoped that this will take place late in January or early February and will be a community event. The Trustees of the Centre see this as an important but small step towards combatting climate change as well as improving the background to the football pitches and the Centre.

LONGHOUGHTON AND BOULMER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We have started the new year by welcoming several new members which is great as we want to remain a welcoming and dynamic WI. Apart from our monthly meetings held on the first Tuesday in the month at 7.30pm at The RAF Beacon Community Centre, we meet monthly for coffee and once a month for a walk organised by Winnie and Christine respectively. Our February meeting is a talk on the Japanese Experience, and in March we are having a demonstration and then participating in making a spring flower arrangement. We are in the process of deciding along with all WIs about what our campaign will be this year. The choices are as follows:

- Dental health matters
- Impact of poor housing conditions
- Say no to gambling advertising
- Improving outcomes for women in the criminal justice system

If anyone is interested in joining us come along to one of our meetings or contact Alison Anderson on 07837 271882 for more information.

LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE

Thursday Together Every Thursday from 11.30am to 1.30pm at the Community Centre. Come and chat to friends and neighbours in a friendly atmosphere. There are refreshments and a light lunch, provided free of charge. If you need transport to get to the Centre contact Adrian Hinchcliffe on 01665 572888. We are planning a number of talks and presentations that you may be interested in.

Health and Wellbeing Clinic/Talks. We have now had four of the talks with two to go. They are:

15.02.24 Internal and external triggers to food choices. 11.30am at the Community Centre.

21.03.24 Eating out and alcohol. 11.30am at the Community Centre.

Both talks will be delivered by experts Kirsty Yellowlees and Liam Sanderson. They will also do weight and blood pressure checks if required. All free refreshments and a light lunch included.

ALL WELCOME.

Longhoughton Film Club Every Monday night starting at 7.30pm at the Community Centre.

Regular Activities at the Community Centre

Monday AM: Matting Group

Monday PM: Pins and Needles

Monday Evening: Longhoughton Film Club

Tuesday PM: Pilates, we are looking for a tutor!

Wednesday AM: Yoga Stretch

Wednesday Noon: Community Lunch on the last Wednesday in the month

Wednesday PM: Indoor Bowling Group

Wednesday Evening: Scouts

Thursday 11.30am to 1.30pm. Thursday Together and the Health and Wellbeing Clinic

New Events Group: The Centre now has an Events Group made up of Trustees and other people. They are planning some exciting events. Some that are coming up are:

Valentines Quiz night: Friday 16 February

Children's Easter egg hunt: Sunday 31 March

Easter Quiz: Friday 5 April.

Book the Community Centre: Visit our on-line booking facility at

www.longhoughtoncommunitycentre.org

Volunteers Sought: There are a number of ways in which you can get involved in the activities at the Community Centre. The Trustees very much welcome and value any offers of help. There are lots of opportunities. Contact Jeremy Pickard on email j.pickard@hljs.co.uk or Adrian Hinchcliffe on email adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com

BOULMER NEWS

BOULMER MEMORIAL HALL

Saturday 24 February 7.30pm Quiz night at the hall. See the Facebook page for more details or contact Nancy Robinson at tomsmum@icloud.com.

Sunday 24 March 11 until 3 Easter Craft Fair and Pop up cafe.

For future events give the Boulmer Memorial Hall a follow on Facebook or to hire our beautiful small hall contact Nancy Robinson at tomsmum@icloud.com.

CAR PARKS AT BOULMER

Natural England has again objected to building the car park on the field next to the Memorial Hall due to the presence of endangered species of birds. However, County Councillor John Riddle has asked for a site visit with a representative of Natural England with the Parish Council and Councillor Pattison in attendance. No date has been set yet. In the meantime, things are progressing slowly with the handover of the Boulmer Beach car park to the County Council.



HOWICK NEWS

THE COPLEY HALL (Howick Village Hall)

Film Club: Please email John Roper johnroper1@btinternet.com to join the club mailing list and find out which films are showing and when. Donations only are suggested at £5.00.

Craft Club: For details call Audrey Jamieson on 01665 577797.

Howick WI: Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Contact Jeanette Archbold on 01665 577384

Howick Art Group welcomes new members. We meet on Monday mornings in Howick Village Hall, 09.45 to 12.25pm.

Copley Hall booking: Jane Doleman 01665 577801

HOWICK GARDENS AND ARBORETUM

Howick Hall Gardens and Arboretum opens for the new season and a feast of snowdrops on 10 February.

HOWICK ART GROUP

Howick Art Group would like to thank Longhoughton Parish Council for its generous grant of £200 towards the refurbishment of the group's exhibition screens. This is very much appreciated and will further enhance the look of its exhibitions. The first show of 2024 will be held over the early May Bank Holiday.



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