

Boulmer Howick & Longhoughton



LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE VOLUNTEERS ARE RECOGNISED

The King's Award for Voluntary Service has been awarded to Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre to recognise the 144 volunteers who help to manage and support the Centre and its activities. This also includes the volunteers of the key partners of the Centre; the Longhoughton Rangers Football Club, Longhoughton Parish Council and the RAF Boulmer Beacon Centre. On average we have calculated that each volunteer puts in an amazing 123 hours per annum of volunteering time.

Without volunteers the Centre would be unable to operate, so the award is very appropriate to record our sincere thanks to the 144 plus volunteers who give their time freely, many taking on several volunteering tasks. Below are set out the groupings of tasks undertaken by volunteers who help and support the Community and Sports Centre and the Community:

Opening & closing the Centre, bookings, admin. & inspections	9
The Trustees of the Centre	5
Thursday Together volunteers	24
Community Lunch volunteers	11
Longhoughton Film Club Organisers	3
Emergency Centre volunteers in case of disasters	16
Community newsletter production and delivery volunteers	21
Indoor Bowling organisers & craft groups volunteers	5
Community Events Group organisers and volunteers	10
Summer Fete organisers and volunteers	62
Longhoughton Rangers FC committee and coaches	18
Community Orchard organisers and volunteers	33
Scouts, Brownies, Wellbeing walks, Heritage & WI volunteers	21
Longhoughton Parish Council & Sub-Group volunteers	23
Total volunteer tasks	261



CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR

Boulmer Ward

Adrian Hinchcliffe (Chair)
01665 572888

One vacancy

Howick Ward

Ian Knox 01665 572939
Mary Calam 07740 435069

Longhoughton Ward

Peter Bromley 01665 577071
(Vice Chair)
Carole Green 01665 572610
Hannah Horsley 07733 338487
Michael Nichols 07771611332
Laura Rowberry 03001 658427
Peter McEwen 01665 572735

RAF Liaison

Laura Rowberry 03001 658427

County Councillor

Wendy Pattison 07779983072
wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

Elizabeth Taylor 01665 830040
parishclerk@hotmail.com
Please contact the Clerk about the parish councillor vacancies.

Websites

northumberlandparishes.uk/longhoughton
www.longhoughtonndp.co.uk

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Newsworthy items for the next edition before the **deadline on 16 January**, 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

We celebrate and thank all the volunteers who carry out these tasks but at the same time recognise that there are other volunteers in Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick who are not included above, but deserve equal praise. The King's Award for Voluntary Service will be presented to the Chair of the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre at a ceremony on Tuesday 16 December 2025.

A celebratory brochure for the King's Award for Voluntary Service is being circulated with this newsletter.

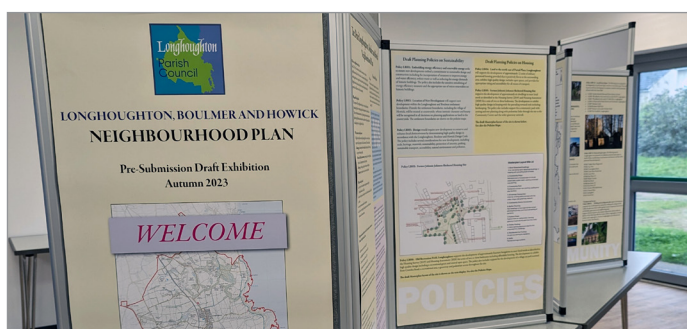
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN A REFERENDUM AT LAST!

After seven years in preparation the Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick Neighbourhood Plan will be put to a final vote of residents on Thursday 22 January 2026. All registered voters in the Parish of Longhoughton (covering the villages of Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick) will be able to vote on whether to approve the Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick Neighbourhood Plan. The polling stations in the villages will be open on Thursday 22 January 2026 from 7.00am to 10.00pm. Voters will receive official notification from the County Council on the voting arrangements. We started work on the Plan in 2018 and we have taken great care to build the evidence for the proposals and to consult with residents at every stage. We thank residents for the feedback that we have received from the consultations and the drop-in events. In many cases we have gone back and re-worked proposals taking note of the comments received.

In developing the Plan, the Parish Council and Steering Group have used the services of a professional planner and received help from Northumberland County Council. The Government also provided access to AECOM, a multinational infrastructure consulting firm. AECOM prepared papers on design, housing and other aspects of planning. Earlier this year the final plan was sent to an independent examiner who approved the plan and recommended that it should go to the final stage, that is the Referendum. The Neighbourhood Plan contains proposals that are entirely for our Parish, so it reflects

our circumstances, needs and includes new policies to deal with what we think is important. Once approved, all planning applications for proposals within the Parish will have to comply with the twelve policies within the Plan and it will be the requirement of the County Council Planning Department to ensure that this happens. The full Plan can be seen at www.longhoughtonndp.co.uk

The Plan will be in force until 2036 but it will be possible to review the plan if different circumstances arise.



NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR FOR HOWICK

Mary Calam of Little Mill was co-opted onto Longhoughton Parish Council at its meeting on 17 November 2025. Mary, who has considerable professional experience working in Government, is very pleased to be representing the Howick Ward and looks forward to meeting more Howick residents in the near future.

FINAL PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY FOR BOULMER IS STILL OPEN

Following the filling of all Parish Council positions for Longhoughton and Howick, there remains one vacancy for Boulmer. Applications for this vacancy are invited from anyone in the Parish who would like to be on the Parish Council. There is no requirement to live in Boulmer Ward.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two meetings of Longhoughton Parish Council will be held as follows:

Monday 19 January 2026 at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre starting at 7.30pm.

Monday 16 February 2026 at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre starting at 7.30pm.

The first 15 minutes is devoted to questions and statements from residents. Residents are welcome to sit through and listen at all meetings of the Parish Council but cannot take part in discussions after the first 15 minutes.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING BY COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Application for funding support for community organisations will be considered at the Parish Council meeting on 19 January 2026. Please forward your application to Liz Taylor, the Parish Clerk by email on parishclerk@hotmail.com. Some of the organisations have already made their requests.

NHS HEALTH CHECKS

The next free health checks for people aged 40 to 74 will take place on Tuesday 20 January 2026 in the Wellbeing Room at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre from 4.00pm and 7.00pm without any appointment. If you are concerned about any aspect of your health please take advantage of these checks.

WELLBEING WALKS

The walks take place every Wednesday starting from the car park of the Community and Sports Centre at 11.00am. Over the last year the number on each walk has averaged six and we do welcome more people. The walks are on hard surface around Longhoughton, led by experienced leaders and are for about one hour. We go at the speed of the slowest. It is a good way to start getting fit and fulfilling those New Year resolutions. No special footwear needed. Come give us a try!



PRESCRIPTION PICK-UP

Repeat prescriptions can be picked up at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre (Westfield Park) on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 1.00pm and 2.00pm. The service operates from the Wellbeing Room. Please take advantage of this service for it saves going to either Alnwick or Embleton. When ordering your repeat prescription please ask to be able to pick it up at Longhoughton.



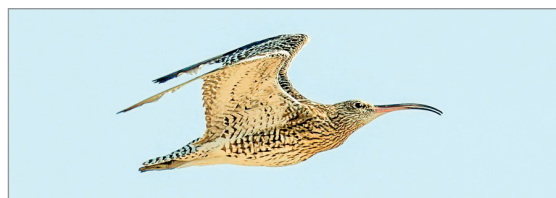
FLU AND COVID JABS

The recent arrangements for Longhoughton Parish residents to have Flu and COVID jabs at Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre, on 14 October 2025 did not work out well. Only 33 residents booked the service yet Alnwick Medical Group (AMG) could have managed up to 80. In view of this, AMG have given notice that they will not be repeating this service which was the only outreach service they offered in their area. Instead they have suggested that a similar service could possibly be made available by one of the local pharmacies. At its meeting on 17 November, Longhoughton Parish Council considered this possibility and are to conduct further investigations.



Let's take a moment to admire the magnificent curlew. In winter we see many more curlew on the coast than in the breeding season. This is because most overwintering birds have migrated here after spending the breeding season in Scandinavia and Northern Russia. This movement follows a general southward pattern as the weather gets colder and days get shorter; most curlew breeding in Northumberland migrate south to overwinter in Ireland and France.

In Northumberland we are fortunate that curlew are quite a regular sight, but sadly this paints a deceiving picture. In the UK, populations have declined by 48% since the 1990s, due to habitat loss from intensive agriculture. Please do what you can to help protect these special birds, giving them plenty of space when you see them feeding or resting on the coast. Let's make sure the magical curlew call continues to be heard for generations to come!



DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT OUR LOCAL HOSPITALS?

I'm a Public Governor for the Northumbria NHS Trust. Since my election in August, I have been attending formal meetings, induction and training which all helps in getting to grips with the complexity and scale of the NHS. I have also taken part in two patient-centred Department of Health inspections of Wansbeck and Cramlington hospitals.

One of the most useful things we do as Governors is have informal conversations with Trust leaders. Stories of people's experiences (both good and bad) with the Trust are a powerful means of conveying important messages to the Chair and CEO. And action is often taken as a result, to correct something that isn't working in the system. So if you have something to get off your chest, please do get in touch. Neilt1410@gmail.com Confidentiality is paramount and to reassure you, any stories I pass on will be fully anonymised. But they can make change happen.

Please get in touch: you can reach me by email at email: neilt1410@gmail.com

Thank you, Neil Thompson

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL TO INTRODUCE GLASS BINS

Northumberland County Council is to introduce an additional household bin which will be for glass recycling. This will happen at some point in 2026. Food waste will not be included at this stage but funding for it is being sought.

LONGHOUGHTON NEWS

LONGHOUGHTON QUARRY EXTENSION PLANNING APPLICATION

The planning application for the extension to Longhoughton Quarry has now been published – it is 25/04034/CCMEIA. Prior to going to press the Parish Council had asked the Agent for the applicants, for a presentation of the application to the Parish Council. It is the intention of the Parish Council to open up this presentation to all residents. The Parish Council is a statutory consultee and will respond to the County Council with its views on the application. Individual residents are also encouraged to send their views in to the County Council. **STOP**

PRESS: The Parish Council meeting which is open to the public will be held on **Thursday 4 December 2025 commencing at 7.00pm** at Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre. Representatives of the applicants will present the application.



FROM DARKNESS TO CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The memories of autumn are still vivid in our minds as we remember WI outings to Victoria Tunnel in Newcastle, where we were led in the darkness to learn of its history and importance in the city, followed by lunch at The Biscuit Factory.

Our meetings have been hugely varied: a talk given by Ginny Davis 'From the Pillory to the Prison Cell', a fascinating, thought-provoking evening and our December meeting saw us designing and making Christmas brooches. Our Walking Group explored Howick and Craster, returning back home along the Coastal Path. We enjoyed exploring Swarland together and look forward to walking around Alnwick to see the Christmas lights. Our coffee mornings together took us to Carnaby's, Shorelines and Nelson's, all with lively chat and laughter.

We supported community events: the annual Bulb Planting by the Longhoughton Community Gardeners and our Christmas Craft Fayre in the Centre.

December takes us to Newcastle again, meeting with the WIs from all over our huge region with a Carol Concert at St. Nicholas Cathedral. We share a Christmas Meal at the Dunstanburgh Castle Hotel and we look forward to our first meeting of 2026 in the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre at 2:00pm on the 6 of January with an afternoon of line-dancing, complete with buffet.

The WI membership is as varied as our activities, do consider joining us in 2026. Jayne Knight (07341 446665) will happily give you more details. We extend our warmest wishes to you all for the Festive Season and wish everyone a happy, peaceful and healthy New Year.





COMMUNITY GARDENERS

A big thank you to our volunteers who this autumn planted 6,500 spring bulbs costing £931.40, making a total of 16,000 spring bulbs planted over the last three years. We have

purchased sleepers and made three raised beds and bought two large picnic benches and two benches for the orchard, costing £1,190.40. We thank the Co-op, (please sign up), the Parish Council and the Tree Council for their continued support enabling us to buy these items, tools, plants, arch and a shed. The ten village planters are refreshed twice yearly with £20.00 of plants - £400 per annum. On 26 February, the Group will do a presentation at the Thursday Together event. Preparations are under way for the ORCHARD OPENING in April. Early next year, date to be confirmed, we will have 330 small trees to plant creating an edible hedge around the orchard. We will need lots of help. You can contact us on our fb page Longhoughton Community Gardeners or by email at longhoughtoncgc@gmail.com

LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE

COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

What's on at the Community and Sports Centre

Monday	AM Monday Matters - Liz Wood lizwood1950@btinternet.com PM Pins and Needles - Jenny Cant jennet.cant@gmail.com Evening. Film Club. Joanna Davies. Longhoughton Film Club Facebook
Tuesday	PM Prescription pick-up 1.00pm - 2.00pm. Evening. Dancercise Sophie Hastings fusionfitnessbysophie@gmail.com
Wednesday	AM Yoga Stretch. Deb Swift. info@debyoga.co.uk AM Wellbeing Walk (11.00am) adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com PM Community Lunch (last Wednesday in the month) PM Indoor Bowling. Sheila Abercrombie 2.00pm – 4.00pm. Evening. Scouts. Mike Keith.
Thursday	Thursday Together 11.30am to 1.00pm (From November) PM Prescription Pick-up 1.00pm to 2.00pm.
Friday	PM 11 to 16 Year Old Kick-about. 5.00pm to 6.00pm.

THURSDAY TOGETHER PROGRAMME

4 December: Shorebirds – A day in the life. Katherine Dunsford, Space for Shorebirds.

11 December: BOB and the GNAA. Who is BOB? And how did he become involved with the Air Ambulance and the making of a story. Peter McEwen.

18 December: Christmas Event with Longhoughton Primary School – nativity music and readings.

8 January 2026: St Kilda from the perspective of a speaker who was a National Trust Volunteer in 2011. Sharon Hanson-Cooper

15 January: Tax, Care and the New Guy. Mark Gillon. Silvertime Estate Planning Service.

22 January: New products from Seabanks, Buston Barnes Farm.

29 January: Winter Warmer advice. Chrissie Hill, Northumberland CAB.

Lunch is included with all the above at no charge.

FILM CLUB

The following films will be shown on Monday nights starting at 7.30pm. **Still only £3. All welcome:**

01.12.25	Charlotte Gray
08.12.25	Delicacy
15.12.25	Cave of Forgotten Dreams
22.12.25	Joyeux Noel

EVENT GROUP FIXTURES

28 November 2025

5 December

12 December

13 December

19 December

20 December

9 January 2026

23 January

Bingo

Cheese & Wine evening

Bingo (Bingo or Quiz)

Children's Christmas Party

Christmas Paint a Pic

Children's Christmas Movie (Provisional)

Bingo

Bingo

FUNDING SUPPORT FROM THE BALLINGER TRUST

The Community and Sports Centre has received funding from the Ballinger Charitable Trust to support the Thursday Together Programme and the 11 to 16 years of age kick-about on Friday nights. The Trustees of the Community and Sports Centre are very appreciative of this help.



COMMUNITY LUNCH

The Christmas lunch will be held on **Wednesday 17 December**. If you have not booked please contact **Pat Ellis on 01665 577973**. The lunch will again be sponsored by **Tynedale Roadstone – a member of the MGL Group**.

BOULMER NEWS

BOULMER MEMORIAL HALL

Hire the Memorial Hall for your celebrations. Booking or information from Nancy Robinson by email to toms mum@icloud.com or send a message via the Hall Facebook page.

BOULMER BEACH CAR PARK

The County Council has confirmed that they are still in the process of taking over the lease for the car park and that they will be responsible for the surface of the car park if it needs repairs. The Gazette recently reported that charges for parking in the car park commenced on 3 November 2025. This was an incorrect statement.



PROPOSED NEW CAR PARK NEXT TO THE MEMORIAL HALL

The County Council has stated that more work needs to be done on the planning application for it to be acceptable to the Planning Department. That work is now being undertaken by consultants. No timescale has been given.

LOOK OUT FOR A SCARY MONSTER ON THE BOULMER DUNES

The monster known locally as 'Scary Mary' has been on the loose since Halloween. She appears mysteriously out of the dark to scare unwitting walkers. The photo below was taken at a time when she was resting near the navigation pole. Beware if you go for a walk in the dark and especially in the twilight.





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. **Village Hall booking** Jane Doleman 01665 577801

Christmas Carol Singalong

There will also be a Christmas Carol singalong on Friday 19 December at 7pm

Howick Art Group: We welcome new members. We meet on Monday mornings in Howick Village Hall, 09.45 to approximately 13.15. Our annual subscription at present is £90 which includes rental of the hall, the running of two exhibitions per year (one in the spring, usually over the Early Spring Bank Holiday, and one over the August Bank Holiday), visiting tutors, workshops and refreshments. If you would like to join our group, please contact us via our website at: www.howickartgroupnorthumberland.com

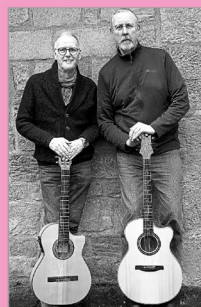


BRIDGE OVER STAMFORD BURN AT LITTLE MILL

Mary Calam, the new Parish Councillor for the Howick Ward, has drawn the Parish Council's attention to the dilapidated state of the footbridge over the Stamford Burn at Little Mill. This was also identified by Chris Thomas a couple of years ago but, despite reporting it to the County Council, nothing has happened. Now the bridge has further deteriorated and is a safety risk to anyone using it. The Parish Council is again to contact the County Council to see if they are responsible with a view to getting it replaced urgently.

LIVEMUSIC@HOWICKVILLAGE HALL, NE66 3LE

STRING THEORY & ZAC COILS MUSIC NIGHT



SATURDAY 17 JANUARY 2026

An evening of inspirational music in the intimate setting of the beautiful Howick Village Hall, not to be missed!

STRING THEORY is a brand-new collaboration between guitarists and songwriters Cliff Blakey and Paul Gee. Their music is an exciting eclectic mix of songs and instrumentals influenced by jazz, flamenco, folk, soft and progressive rock!

ZAC COILS is a singer-songwriter inspired by folk, blues and progressive rock. He plays a mix of covers and original songs, all chosen because they mean something to him. For Zac, music is about emotion, the best performances come from genuinely feeling what you play. Artists covered include Johnny Cash, Nick Cave, Ray Charles and George Ezra.

DOORS OPEN 7PM FOR 7.30 PM START

£10/head U16s £5

Limited to 50 places. Bring own drinks, glasses & nibbles

Entry strictly by pre-booking

Tickets at the Aln Gift Shop Alnmouth

or via John T: 07905696555

E: jrmusicana@gmail.com



The parish council and County Councillor
Wendy Pattison would like to wish you a very



Happy Christmas

and a

Healthy and Rewarding

New Year 2026

Below: Oil painting by Sian Smith
'Sunrise over Coquet Island.'

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS



TATIE POT COLLECTIVE

Pull up a seat by the fire and spend an evening embracing the arrival of winter with spine-tingling music and spell-binding wintery tales. Join the Cumbrian **Tatie Pot Collective** for a warming evening of stories and songs, celebrating winter in all its raw beauty.



Howick Village Hall NE66 3LE

Thu 11 December 7:30pm

Tickets: Adult £15 Concession £10

Phone 01665 577384 or

book online **www.highlightsnorth.co.uk**

highlights
rural touring scheme

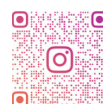


Cooperating with funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



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Search for Longhoughton Parish Council on Facebook,
and Longhoughton pc on Instagram.



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SUPPORTING
THOSE WHO
SERVE.**