

Longhirst Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in Longhirst Village Hall, on Thursday, 3rd July 2025

Present	Cllr Glen Fahy (Chair)	Cllr Andrew Robson (Vice Chair)	Cllr Bill Climson
	Cllr Janet Quinn	Cllr Richard Tordoff	Barry Flux (Clerk)
In Attendance	Four members of the public	County Councillor Ed Dungait	

Public questions / speaking

Members of the public raised comments on the progress of speeding concerns raised with Northumberland County Council. The petition is yet to be addressed by the County Council. Speed survey results were mentioned.

A member of the public complained about the lack of an event at the Village Hall to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day. It was explained that the Parish Council had provided funds for an event at Longhirst Colliery.

The upkeep of the red telephone box in the village was raised as a concern.

Cllr Ed Dungait presented his report. It was mentioned that the resurfacing works for the A197 may be a significant number of months from completion and frustration was expressed about this delay.

Agenda Item

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Cllr Julie Murray

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes from the meeting of 8th May 2025 were approved as a true record.

4. CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

It was agreed to co-opt David Jordon to the remaining place on the council. The clerk confirmed that he could take up his position officially at the next meeting on signing a declaration of office form.

5. APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL BANK SIGNATORY

It was agreed to add Cllr Robson as an additional bank signatory. The clerk would provide forms for this .

6. CLERK'S REPORT

Internal Audit 2024/2025 (Minute AD1)

Signed

Date:

It was agreed to accept the Annual Internal Audit Report, governance and accounting statement.

Payments – Full Financial Report

Financial reports with references AC001 and AC002, were presented to the meeting. It was also noted that the Community Account held £4,929.83 in funds and the Instant Access Account held £14,884.19.

7. PLANNING

- Remove faulty cementitious render to gable end wall and replace with a lime based render 8 Stable Close Longhirst Northumberland NE61 3BE

Ref. No: 25/01651/FUL Received: Fri 09 May 2025

It was agreed to support this application.

- Notification of Prior Approval for change of use from agricultural building to residential. Land At North Of Middle Moor Farm Middle Moor Farm Drive Longhirst Northumberland

Ref. No: 25/02252/AGTRES Received: Wed 25 Jun 2025

Additionally discussed alongside this 25/02146/OUT

Development of a self-build residential dwelling house; all matters reserved other than access.

Location Middle Moor Farm Middle Moor Farm Drive Longhirst

With the proviso of members visiting the site it was agreed to submit the following:

'Longhirst Parish Council fully object to this application

This is quite simply building a residential property in open countryside of Longhirst Parish, which has always been repeatedly refused by the county council with objection from the parish council, with recent applications from others nearby in Longhirst Parish being refused also.'

8. GENERAL ITEMS

Church Yard maintenance

Discussion took place concerning correspondence received about the maintenance of the church yards. It was made clear that this is not within the remit of the Parish Council and was for the church themselves to resolve.

Signed

Date:

Discussion took place in respect of donations made to groups such as the church in Longhirst. It was agreed to maintain existing arrangements

Litter bin Longhirst Colliery bus stop

It was agreed to purchase a bin of similar / the same dimensions as the existing bin at the bus stop rather than order a bigger or different bin. The bin would be ordered by the clerk and delivered to the chairman's address.

Speeding

As the matter was extensively discussed during the public question section, no further discussion took place

Maintenance of public rights of way

Estimates had been received in respect of cutting back of blocked rights of way behind Longhirst Colliery. Permission was being sought from Northumberland County Council to cut back, but this had yet to be received.

AOB

No other business raised

9. ITEMS FOR THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

It was agreed to message the clerk with any items for the next meeting.

10. NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 4th September 2025

Signed

Date: