

# Brinkburn and Hesleyhurst Parish Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

**Meeting on:** 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
**Meeting at:** Longframlington Memorial Hall  
**Meeting Time:** 7.30 p.m.  
**Present:** Cllrs: Steven Bray (SB), David Owen- Chair (DO), Mark Fenwick (MF), Jamie Whicker (JW).  
**In attendance:** Clerk: Garth Rhodes.

The meeting opened at 7.34 p.m.

**Death of Vicky Knox.** On behalf of the Council, DO expressed his sadness on the death of Vicky. She had been a valuable member of the Parish having contributed greatly in so many ways including as a Parish Councillor and School Governor. She would be a great loss to the community.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Lesley Hall (LH), Vincent Milburn (VM), Jackie Scarpa (JS)
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** - The minutes of the meetings held Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were reviewed, unanimously approved as a true record and signed as such.
3. **Matters arising out of Minutes.** To receive updates on the following matters not appearing elsewhere on the agenda.
  - a. Repairs to telephone/defibrillator booth. DO/JW to arrange gift for Mike French for all his hard work. **Action: DO/JW**
  - b. Rothbury Woodland Creation. The BHPC's response to this proposal had been submitted. It had taken into consideration several comments from residents. Most were against the proposal with one suggestion that the impact of the forestry could be ameliorated by careful planting to leave significant areas of open moorland.
4. **Correspondence** – All major items of correspondence were dealt within the Agenda – See also Correspondence List
5. **Finance**
  - a. Notification of receipts since the last meeting. Approved.

26/05/2022	Longfram PC	Transfer Fee Longfram Cemetery	1.00
02/09/2022	NCC 63843/5044806	Precept second half	2545.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2546.00</b>

- b. Approval of Clerk's salary, expenses, PAYE & NI and approval of Other Payments since the last meeting. Approved.

09/06/2022	Julie Ayre	Mowing playing field x 5 April & May	200.00
16/06/2022	Cynthia Turvey	Food for Defib Training Event	106.88
16/06/2022	Longfram Memorial Hall fees 20-22	Hall fees 20-22	154.00
19/06/2022	Longfram Memorial Hall fees 20-22	Hall fees 22-23	64.00
30/06/2022	Garth Rhodes	Salary & Expenses (Apr-Jun)	437.45
30/06/2022	HMRC	PAYE (Apr-Jun)	105.40
08/08/2022	Colliedog Computers	Mailbox annual fee	39.00
08/08/2022	Julie Ayre	Mowing playing field x 6 June /July	240.00
31/08/2022	Trustees of the 10th Duke	Rent playing field	50.00
26/09/2022	NCC 018647/248206	PC Insurance	168.56
26/09/2022	Garth Rhodes	Salary & Expenses (Jul-Sept)	437.25
26/09/2022	HMRC	PAYE (Jul-Sept)	105.60
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2108.14</b>

- c. Bank Reconciliation to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Approved.

				£
Balance per bank statements at 1st September 2022				2780.42
Less unpresented cheques	26/09/2022	NCC 018647/248206	168.56	
	26/09/2022	Garth Rhodes	437.25	
	26/09/2022	HMRC	105.60	-711.41
Uncredited Deposits -	02/09/2022	NCC 63843/5044806	2545.00	2545.00
Balance				4614.01
Balance per cash book				4614.01

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- d. Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/22 & new 5- year external auditor period. As BHPC had claimed exemption there would be no review to be performed and consequently no auditor certificate, report, or any other closure documentation, to be issued for this reporting year.  
The new 5- year external auditor period would commence this year. All smaller authorities were opted into the central SAAA procurement of external auditors by default. Agreed to remain within this arrangement.
- e. Donations: to discuss BHPC's position on donations and consider any donation requests.
- i. Council's position to giving donations. At the 15<sup>th</sup> March meeting there was a lively discussion on this. No donations were agreed at that time and the matter was deferred to the September meeting when it was hoped all members would be in attendance. As this was not the case it was agreed to defer this matter to the January 2023 meeting.
  - ii. Donation Requests:
    1. Longframlington Memorial Hall for a contribution for the purchase of a screen and trolley (cost £800 -£1000). £100 agreed.
    2. Great North Area Ambulance Service (GNAAS). £100 agreed.
    3. Northumberland Theatre Company (NTC). £100 agreed.
    4. St Oswald's Hospice. £100 agreed.
- f. Room rental arrangements Longframlington Memorial Hall. The backdated invoice for 2020 -22 period and for the current financial year had been paid. The Hall had now gone onto an automatic on-line booking and invoicing system, so hopefully invoicing would no longer be an issue.
6. **Planning** – To note and discuss any planning issues since previous meeting.

Reference	Address	Status	PC Comments
22/00834/FUL	Land West Of Wardhill Farm House Longframlington	Application Registered	See previous minutes for comments.
21/03166/FUL	Building North East Of Wardhill Farm House	Permitted	See previous minutes for comments.
22/01568/LBC	Cockshot Farmhouse	Registered	See previous minutes for comments.
22/03097/FUL	Brinkburn High House. Installation of two sets of photovoltaic panels on steel frames on land adjacent	Registered	No objection to this application as it is a small- scale development with no significant visual impact

## 7. Highways

- a. Highways and Footpaths Report – No report available
  - b. Report on any issues raised/ to raise with Highways Department.
    - i. Traffic calming at Todstead/Villa Lane. LH had reported that she had no further feedback from Councillor Thorne regarding the speed bumps at Todstead which he had suggested on his last site visit. She would continue to raise this matter with him and report back any information.
    - ii. Other Issues It was agreed to write to thank NCC Highways for the excellent work undertaken to greatly improve the road from the Lee Siding to the Garleigh Moor junction. However, there were several other issues to draw to their attention requiring a speedy response:
      1. The condition of the road between the Lee Siding and Embleton Terrace junction and beyond towards Longhorsley was a very serious concern. It was treacherous and deteriorating badly and there were many potholes with the road becoming dangerous and difficult to drive upon and potentially damaging vehicles.
      2. There had been several road works signs left at the Embleton Terrace junction and bollards near to the Lee Siding.
      3. On the B6334 at Map ref 117993, a car had come off the road and demolished the style and footpath signage.
      4. We had recently reported the need for the trees and bushes at the underpass on the B6334/A697 at Weldon Bridge to be cut back. Whilst grateful for this work having been done, the area needed to be tidied up. **Action: Clerk**
  - c. Review of the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way: Proposal to add a public bridleway 120 metres south west of Craghead to U4038 road. Footpath was on private land but a popular route for walkers. It was suggested that rather than making this a public bridleway, the adjacent stretch of the St Oswald Way could be recognised as the definitive route. The PC were not being asked to approve or disapprove the proposal at this stage but only asked for observations. It was agreed that DO ask JS to investigate the proposal in more depth. Agreed he take Chair's action on the final comment to NCC. **Action: DO/JS**
  - d. VAS Children Playing Signs, Embleton Terrace. Agreed to write to Highways to thank them for the installation of the traffic calming signage on Embleton Terrace. Members decided that they would spend the next 12 months measuring the impact of these measures before agreeing any further action. **Action: Clerk**
8. **Wingates Wind Farm Community Fund**
- a. The defibrillator report was still outstanding as the Stephen Carey 'donation' had yet to be paid. These actions to be implemented as soon as possible. **Action: JW/DO/Clerk**
  - b. BHPC representative. SB had agreed to take over from MF. MF/SB to jointly attend the next meeting before MF stands down. **Action: SB/MF**

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## 9. Coquetdale Cluster Meeting

- a. Items for next Cluster Meeting Agenda. Agenda for the next meeting had already been set. Jackie Scarpa was unable to attend. Clerk to send email to members asking if anyone could attend in her place. **Action: Clerk**

## 10. Cemetery & Joint Burial Committee Reports

- a. Longframlington Cemetery. Progress for the transfer of land from NCC to Longframlington PC is nearer to completion, although DO was required by the Land Registry to have both his BHPC status and identity verified by a solicitor. **Action: DO/Clerk**
- b. Rothbury JBC. Clerk to contact VM to ask if there were any important issues to be circulated to members as the next BHPC wasn't until January. **Action: Clerk/VM**

## 11. Police Update. No recent report received.

## 12. Emergency Resilience Planning including:

- a. Recruitment of Volunteers. *DO to report*
- b. Northern Powergrid - Early Applications for Energy Resilience Grant Funding. NP had established a charitable foundation to administer £7.5m of grant funding for our region, with a particular focus on improving energy resilience during emergency events. Ahead of the formal launch of the Northern Powergrid Foundation they were seeking early application enquiries via MPs, local authorities and Local Resilience Forums in the areas worst affected by the storms last year who are aware of projects already underway in their area that would be suitable. Grants of £1,000 to £20,000 to be made available to organisations through the Foundation, with a focus on supporting energy resilience during emergency events. LPC and the Longframlington Memorial Hall were planning to make an application for funding for an emergency power supply (probably Solar) for the Hall and LPC also for a 'Grab Bag' of emergency provision. BHPC agreed to support the bids. Whitton & Tosson were to propose that the Coquetdale Councils consider making a bid for any necessary equipment needed in the valley.
- c. Longframlington Emergency Action Plan. The Plan was well underway and it's draft had been approved by the NCC Climate Change Team (CCT). The Plan had been further revised and included how BHPC would be supported/communicated with during an emergency. Agreed that BHPC members would act as volunteers and take their direction from Longframlington PC. A further revised version to be considered by LPC at its next meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> October, after which it would be submitted to the CCT team who would then work with LPC and the LEAP group to carry out a walkthrough of the Plan.
- d. Rothbury Emergency Action Plan. A similar approach was being taken in Rothbury where JW was representing BHPC. There was to be a planned training weekend led by the CCT and JW was attending. He would keep members informed. **Action: JW**

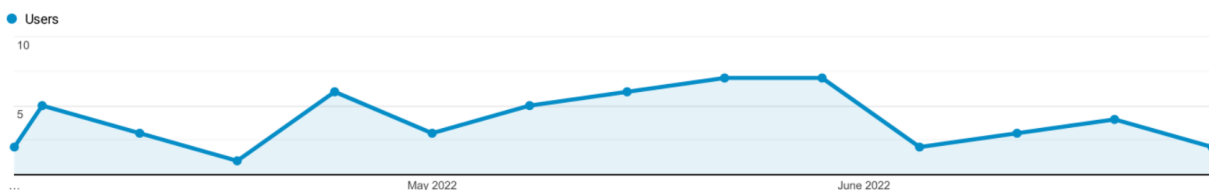
## 13. Northumberland Town and Parish Council Climate Change Toolkit and Parish Climate Change Action Plan. NCC had adopted a county-wide Climate Change Action Plan in 2021 (<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Climate-Change/Climate-Change.aspx>). They had now developed a toolkit to help town and parish councils develop and implement their own climate change action plans. This matter was to be raised at the next Cluster Group where Whitton and Tosson PC would be suggesting that perhaps a Cluster Climate Change Action plan may be the best way forward for the smaller parishes in the valley. It was agreed to wait to hear the outcome of this discussion.

## 14. Northumberland (NALC) Member Council Update

- a. Graeme Popay had now started as the new NALC Chief Officer taking over from Stephen Ricketts. It was agreed to send Graeme a welcome email and invite him to attend a future meeting. **Action: Clerk**
- b. The Association's AGM was to be held on Saturday 8 October 2022 starting at 10.15 AM in The Village Hall, Felton.
- c. The Association's Annual Report for 2021/2022 was available at: [https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bddd9b3a/files/742c2be8-b760-6cd2-cef2-8404b6f95e50/Annual\\_Report\\_2021\\_2022\\_Final.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bddd9b3a/files/742c2be8-b760-6cd2-cef2-8404b6f95e50/Annual_Report_2021_2022_Final.pdf)

## 15. Stakeholder Consultation - Forest Management. In October 2022 an assessment of forest management in England by Forestry England would take place. The deadline for comment had passed.

## 16. Brinkburn Parish Council Website Quarterly Report



JW agreed to circulate information, via social media, to residents regarding access to and content of the Parish webpage. **Action: JW**

## 17. NCC Tree Giveaway. The NCC Climate Change Team had launched the free tree giveaway and asked the Council to promote this through their toolkit. It was giving away 10,000 trees with eight different species and Parish Councils were eligible to apply. JW agreed to inform residents via social media. **Action: JW**

## 18. Any Other Business

- a. Playing field. JW agreed to ask the contractor to undertake hedgecutting around the playing field. **Action: JW**  
The wildflower area was doing extremely well. The members expressed thanks to Des and Wendy Barker for their hard work and expertise.

## 19. Items for Next Meeting.

- a. BHPC's position on donations
- b. Fencing & Hedging around the playing field

## 20. Date of and Venue for Next Meeting.

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30 p.m. in the Longframlington Memorial Hall

Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Garth Rhodes, Clerk, 5 Wardle Terrace, Longframlington, NE65 8AB, Tel: 01665 570347, Email: Clerk@Brinkburn.net