

# LONGFRAMLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

**Meeting on:** 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018  
**Meeting at:** Longframlington Memorial Hall  
**Meeting time:** 7:00 pm  
**Present:** Cllrs: Gillian Apthorpe (GA) Graham Fremlin (GF) Chair, Diane Lakey DL), John Munro (JM), Gillian Nelles (GN) Malcolm Ness (MN), Dave Wellden (DW)  
**In attendance** Cllr Trevor Thorne, Clerk: Garth Rhodes.

The meeting opened at 7.00 p.m.

- 1) **Apologies for Absence** – None
- 2) **Table Urgent Business to be discussed** in 18 below –
  - a) **Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery – request for funding**
  - b) **Devolution for North of Tyne - Consultation**
- 3) **Declaration of Interests** - None
- 4) **Gifts & Hospitality** – None
- 5) **Community Police Report** – Clerk had emailed PC Brimble again and invited him to the meeting but no further response received. It was agreed to contact the area inspector to ask if there will be continued community police support and attendance at PC Meetings. **Action: Clerk**
- 6) **County Councillors Report.** Cllr Thorne was able to report on the full Council meeting which had taken place that day. Issues included:
  - a) NCC had brought in consultants with respect to car parking. Proposed that there would be local solutions and some towns and amenities e.g. Alnmouth Railway Station, may bring in charges. There would be an increase of 600 car parking spaces in Morpeth.
  - b) A £70 – 80m budget saving had been proposed. Possible Council Tax increase of 3%. The Administration had inherited a deficit of between £60 - £75m and closed down a number of large capital projects including the move of County Hall and developments at Kirkly Hall to address the shortfall. Refurbishment of the existing County Hall was likely to be £15-17m.
  - c) The police were investigating investment and mismanagement issues with respect to Arch Development.
  - d) Major investment in Special Needs Education and restoration of post-16 transport.
  - e) The setting up of a Planning Consultancy. Essex had done this, which brought in over 1m to the Council.
  - f) Review of Local Services. Currently, much of the provision e.g. playing fields, was provided free of charge in the South East of the County, whereas rural areas had to pay.
  - g) Recruitment strategy for key NCC posts, particularly for Heads of Service.
  - h) Great Exhibition of the North expected to attract 3m visitors to Newcastle and NCC planning to attract many of these people to visit Northumberland.
  - i) The Council is still working on the Core Strategy. Main thrust to reduce the numbers of houses for development. TT believes that Longframlington has done its share with respect to housing development.

Members of the PC raised their serious concerns on a number of local issues, regarding governance and implementation practice of NCC. They included:

- Lack of response from the Planning Department with respect to a request to a meeting to discuss the PC's planning concerns.
- Lack of response from the Planning Department to our letter with respect to the Environmental Impact Assessment Report 17/02004/FUL Land South Of Deneburn.
- Street lighting repairs – A697 at Fenwick Park/Embleton Hall which had been inoperable for some months
- A 697 road repairs.

TT agreed to:

- Go to the Planning Department on 4th January to discuss our planning concerns and ensure that the anticipated meeting goes ahead.
- Contact Highways about the street lighting repairs
- Remain at the meeting for item on the A697 road repairs.

- 7) **Minutes Of Previous Meeting** - The minutes of the meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 were reviewed, unanimously approved as a true record and signed as such.

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## Housekeeping Issues

### 8) Matters Arising Out Of Minutes

- a) A697 Road Repairs – A reply to Steve Bucknall’s letter had been drafted and circulated to members for comment. GF/JM had inspected the road and taken a total of 52 photos of the defects. It was agreed that the draft letter needed strengthening with a firmer but fair approach. The following amendments were adopted:
- Full details be requested on how the reported sum of £280.000 was spent
  - Sight of all of the documentation, without exception, be requested, including details of: survey; schedule of works; tender process; independent inspection
  - That Highways provide a timetable for providing the above. This must be available in advance of the next Parish Council meeting Wednesday 7th February 2018
  - Not to forward photographic evidence at this stage
- TT agreed to meet with Steve Bucknall Highways Delivery Manager on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to discuss these matters.

**Action: GF/TT/Clerk**

- b) Water leakage Rothbury Road opposite the Elms - The Clerk had not yet received a start date for this work. He has emailed NCC to ask when the work is to begin.
- c) Parish Website- No further personal profiles have been received. The Chairman urged those who had not provided their profiles to do this as soon as possible. **Action: DL, JM, MN, GN, DW**
- d) Electricity Bill and Meter Sports Court - British Gas Complaints Department have replied to say original billing April – Oct 2017 was correct and should not have been cancelled by them. The new credit notes they issued are incorrect and they are in the process of getting meter setup sorted. The Clerk has responded to say we expect further compensation for the inconvenience. They replied further saying they had tried linking into the meter remotely to reconfigure it back to single rate, however, there were issues with the connectivity. So an appointment has been booked for this coming Friday, 5/1/18 from 8-12 to go out to the meter to re-configure it. This is an inconvenient time and a new appointment will have to be made. It was agreed that this matter be resolved prior to any negotiation on a future energy plan with British Gas or other provider. **Action: Clerk**
- e) Play equipment – DL provided the meeting with information she had researched into alternatives to the existing mini-slide. It was agreed to replace this with a similar piece of equipment, preferably in recycled plastic. DL/GA were asked to obtain three quotes (min of 2) for the next meeting, for the purchase of new equipment, installation and removal of the old equipment, so that this could be purchased within the current financial year. **Action: GA, DL**

- 9) **Meetings to Attend / Attended** – None attended. GF was to attend the NCC Northern Area meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> January. He was also going to meet John Thompson on a site visit to mark out the area for the cemetery extension.

### 10) Finance

- a) **Notification of receipts in the month** - Approved

05/12/2017	Barclays Business A/C	Ac No. 30586455 Interest	1.07
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- b) **Approval of Clerk’s salary, expenses, PAYE & NI and Approval of Other Payments** - Approved

18/12/2017	GNAAS	Donation	50.00
03/01/2018	Garth Rhodes	Clerk's wages and expenses	358.19
03/01/2018	LPC	Recharge Clerk's wages to cemetery	-23.39
03/01/2018	HMRC	PAYE	89.00

- c) **Bank Reconciliation to 03 January 2018** - Approved

Balance per bank statements			£
22/12/2017	Community account		62557.76
22/12/2017	Business Saver (£1.07interest added)		6075.12
			68632.88
Less unrepresented cheques			
Cemetery			
		0.00	
Parish Council			
15/11/2017	101974 Sonia Beal	40.00	
06/12/2017	101976 HMRC	73.00	
03/01/2018	200062 G Rhodes	358.19	
03/01/2018	200063 HMRC	89.00	560.19
Uncredited Deposits - Cemetery			
			0.00
Parish Council			
			0.00
Balance per cash book 02/01/18			68072.69
Balance per cash book PC			49647.93

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Cemetery

18424.76

68072.69

- d) The members inspected the annual allocation of expenditure sheet for 2017/18 and agreed the budget for 2018-19.
- e) The precept for 2018/19 was agreed: £24,000.00. Clerk to sign and submit the Precept Requirement form to NCC on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**

**11) Village Activities – St Mary’s Church Burn’s Night Supper – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

**12) Allotments**

- a) Management – No issues
- b) Maintenance -Repairs and maintenance including, Alan Goddard’s metal, footpaths and hinge repairs to gates would be undertaken when there was an improvement in the weather **Action: JM**
- c) Letters to allotment holders re invoices for rents and arrangements for a meeting are yet to be issued. It was agreed to extend the date for payment of rents until Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018. The Allotment Holders meeting to take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in the Memorial Hall. **Action: Clerk**

**13) King George V Playing Field**

- a) Blue netting rope repairs – GF/DW to tighten the netting as soon as possible. **Action: DW/GF**
- b) Lighting on the sports court – GF had contacted the electrician who was to come out and re-angle and lower the lights during January.
- c) Insurance Claim - Accident on Tank Turn 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – The response to the further questions were now with the claimant’s solicitor. The tank turn had been recently inspected and some deterioration of the surface was noted and although this was not assessed as hazardous it was agreed that it would require some restoration in due course.

**14) Planning**

a)

Ref No	Description	NCC Status	Parish Council Position **
16/00762/VARYCO	Poultry Farm Atheys Moor Application for removal of condition 10 allowing future continued use of the operation of the microlight airfield beyond 29 September 2017 on a permanent basis.	GRANTED	See minutes from previous meetings for PC responses
17/03662/FUL	Land East Of Longframlington Gardens – Erection of two units of holiday accommodation and certified touring caravan site	Application Pending	See minutes from previous meetings for PC responses
17/04084/FUL	Land South East of Embleton Steads. New potable water booster pump station housed in roadside with associated parking area for maintenance	Application	<b>Whilst the Parish Council has no objection in principle we question the location of the water pump.</b> - Could the booster pump be better sited in a less obtrusive position? - Will the position of the pump cause a visual impediment to those using the junction of Alnwick Fords Road and Embleton Steads?
17/04529/PRUTPO	Preservation Order Hall Hill Farm Hall Hill Cottages Longframlington NE65 8AD	Application	<b>No objection provided that the tree preservation inspector has confirmed that because of its condition the tree needs felling</b>

- b) 16/00762/VARYCO -Atheys Moor - The Enforcement Officer (EO) had been informed that the airfield was being used for commercial usage for sightseeing and training. The EO had been informed by the owners that the airfield was just being used for storage. Commercial operations were taking place from another airfield. The airfield website has removed mention of training flights but increased information about commercial sightseeing operations. The EO stated that they needed hard evidence in order to take any action. It was agreed that GF would ask the EO what to what constitutes proof that the airfield is being used for commercial use and what is inhibiting her from taking action. **Action: GF**
- c) 17/04084/FUL - Land South East of Embleton Steads - Letter to Head of Planning was sent 14<sup>th</sup> December. No response received as yet.
- d) Planning Issues in the village and meeting representatives from the Planning Department – GF had asked TT to follow this up again. No response had been received from NCC. TT had agreed earlier in the meeting to speak to the Planning Department on 4<sup>th</sup> January. It was agreed that if no response had been received from Planning by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December then it would be necessary to approach the Leader and Chief Executive of NCC. **Action TT/GF**
- e) Street Naming. Ref.17/02785/SN Land South of Deneburn – The Clerk had informed NCC of PC’s proposed names agreed on 6<sup>th</sup> December: Deneburn Lane, Coquet View, and Deneburn Close. However, as there were already properties named Coquet View and Deneburn, NCC would likely not be able to use these suggestions. Also it was not

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permissible to use the name Deneburn twice. They had invited the PC to offer alternative names. The following were agreed: Valley View, Todd Lane and The Dene. **Action: Clerk**

## Main Issues

**15) Pharmacy Needs Assessment (PNA) Consultation.** This matter was brought forward from the last meeting. The view of the PC was that the consultation document lacked coherence and clear proposals. Clerk was asked to write to NCC to request a coherent executive summary outlining the consultation proposals. **Action: Clerk**

**16) Local Council of the Year** – The NALC County Committee has agreed to have their own award for the Local Council of the Year. Member Councils were asked to consider putting themselves forward. It was agreed that Longframlington PC would not put forward an entry for this year.

## 17) Action Plan – January 2018 (not addressed in other items)

a) Annual Insurance - Clerk had written to Zurich to enquire as whether our three year agreement for insurance comes to an end this year and to request a quotation for the forthcoming year(s). Clerk to report back at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

b) FramNews Survey – It was agreed the survey would gain the views of residents with respect to the work of the PC on the following:

- What had been done well last year (2017)
- What would they like to see the PC focus on this year (2018)

DL volunteered to compile the survey **Action: DL**

c) FramNews Report – DL volunteered to write the Fram News report which would include the survey **Action: DL**

## 18) Any Urgent Business

a) **Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery request for funding.** It was agreed to give a donation of £50 **Action: Clerk**

b) **Devolution for North of Tyne – Consultation** – The PC had been invited to give their views on the proposed devolution by 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Clerk was asked to send out the details to cllrs. **Action: Clerk**

c) **Old Bus shelter at corner Rothbury Road and A697.** It was agreed to obtain a quotation for clearing up the area behind the bus shelter and lay paving so that rubbish receptacles and storage trolleys for local shops could be stored. This would free up the bus shelter as a communal area for young people of the village and a dry waiting/sheltering area for visitors.

## 19) Agenda Items For, and Date Of Next Meeting

### Items from Action Plan for February for consideration at the meeting:

1. **Tree Review** – churchyard
2. **George V Playing Field** – review of assets
3. **Policy & Procedures** – review and update as appropriate (Code of Conduct; Standing Orders; FOI Document; Storage Procedure)

**Proposed date of the next meeting: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.00 p.m.**