

LONGFRAMLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting on:	4th October 2017
Meeting at:	Longframlington Memorial Hall
Meeting time:	7:00 pm
Present:	Cllrs Gillian Apthorpe, Graham Fremlin (GF) Chair, Diane Lakey (DL), John Munro (JM), Gillian Nelles (GN), Dave Wellden (DW)
In attendance	County Cllr Trevor Thorne (TT), Dale Rumney (DR) NCC Highways Programme Officer, John Hunter (JH) NCC Highways Project Officer, three members of the public, Clerk: Garth Rhodes (GR)

GF opened the meeting at 7.10p.m.

1) **Apologies for Absence** – Malcolm Ness (MN) – travelling back from North America

2) **Table Urgent Business to be discussed** - None

3) **Declaration of Interests** - None

4) **Gifts & Hospitality** – None

5) **A697 Road Repairs** – GF welcomed Dale Romney and John Hunter NCC Technical Services to the meeting. DR and JH outlined the details and arrangements during the roadworks. The closure of the A697 for three days were mainly due to Health & Safety matters. However footpaths would remain open during the whole period. As the work was to be undertaken in short stages, hopefully residents and businesses would only be directly affected for relatively short periods. Half-term week had been identified for this work as there would be less disruption for residents and children. On these days there would be assigned diversion via Rothbury. The work to be undertaken during these repairs were to be far more substantial than those undertaken in 2007. The work would start on 23rd October from the Rothbury Road Junction and completed in three daily sections northwards to 30 mph sign north of the village. The final section from the Rothbury Road Junction to the 30 mph sign south of the village could either be completed immediately after the completion of the northern section or this work could be delayed until the January 2018 depending upon the views of the Parish Council and residents.

At this point the Chairman suspended the meeting opened up the meeting to general discussion. He invited comment from members of the public.

Concerns were expressed that residents and local businesses should have been informed about the road repairs much earlier to give more time to put in place contingencies plans. Half-term was a time when local businesses enjoyed additional patronage from passing trade. Parking was an issue for some residents and particularly those from Fenwick Park on the day when egress to and from the estate would be affected. Cllr Thorne suggested that on those days perhaps residents from Fenwick Park could park on Knogley Way and Rimside View and walk through via the footpath. Bin collections would take place by 7.00 a.m. on affected days. It was noted that there were to be two weddings taking place during the period of the road works. The general consensus was it would be far better to complete the work in one operation rather than over two separate periods.

The Chair re-convened the meeting

It was agreed and recommended to the two NCC Highways officers that the work be undertaken in one operation starting the 23rd October. In this way (weather permitting) the vast majority of the road repairs would be undertaken within one week.

Explanatory letters are to be sent to all affected residents and businesses by Friday 6th October 2017.

It was also agreed that JH, the safety officer and GF would carry out a walk-around the village to identify any particular issues e.g. access and parking that NCC need to be made aware.

Action GF

GF thanked DR & JH for their engagement with the PC and the public and attendance at the meeting. DR & JH left the meeting.

6) **Community Police Report** – None

7) **County Councillors Report** – Cllr Thorne announced that the Appeal to the Secretary of State for 16/04426/FUL Land South of Deneburn Rothbury Road (39 houses) had been approved. The application had been originally refused on three issues: design; massing and profile. The Inspector had stated that he did not consider the proposal to be of high density and the issue of the massing of housing across the whole village had not been included in the report by the Planning Officers. The issue of Planning Officers not recording accurately the decision of the Planning Committee and the lack of a Core strategy to support planning decisions was discussed at some length. It was felt that Planning Officers are not providing nor using the relevant evidence to address planning applications. Members agreed that they should invite relevant representatives of the Planning Department to a separate meeting address their concerns and to address the question of how much more

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development can we expect in the village. Cllr Thorne was asked to set up the meeting. He also agreed to brief the officers on the issues to be discussed. **Action: TT**

Concern was expressed that work had already started on 17/01107/FUL Land North West of Lightpipe Farm without the agreed conditions having been met. TT said that the enforcement officers were aware of the situation and would be acting upon it.

Cllr Thorne was in full agreement of the work on the A697 being undertaken in one go, but he was not confident that the repairs to the water leak opposite the Elms would be easily fixed. He anticipated that this would require a major repair. Road improvements to improve safety at the cross-roads at Swarland School were to take place.

There was to be a village clean-up on Friday 13th October and members were invited to participate.

- 8) **Minutes Of Previous Meeting** - The minutes of the meeting of 6th September 2017 were reviewed, unanimously approved as a true record and signed as such.

Housekeeping Issues –

9) Matters Arising Out Of Minutes

- a) Longframlington Replacement Street Lighting – Contractor experiencing difficulties as subcontractor has gone into administration and in process of appointing new one but unlikely they will be in place before end of October 2017.
- b) Additional Grass Cuts – NCC have agreed to same costs as last year (£417.60) and been asked to proceed on this basis. Clerk was asked to request a quotation from NCC for additional grass cuts for 2018-19 prior to the setting of the Precept. **Action: Clerk**
- c) Seating in bus shelter opposite the church. – Bench has been ordered. Cost: £152.44 (before VAT) and £45 delivery.
- d) Land South Of Deneburn Environmental Impact Assessment Report – No response from Head of Planning
- e) Water leakage Rothbury Road opposite the Elms – Delay on repairs due to the team leader having to take some unexpected leave. Work to start Thursday 5th October. Residents adjacent to the work to be informed.
- f) Heavy Lorries Survey Results received from 4 Cllrs. Have acquired data collection sheet but this will need amending as it is only for Mon-Fri - 6.00a.m - 6.00 p.m. and currently in pdf format. Some of our data was collected outside of these times and at relatively quiet times on the road. Cllrs were asked to have a further attempt at carrying out the survey prior to the next meeting. **Action: All**
- g) Children playing on bikes and scooters on the road. Clerk has written to both Head of Middle School and Community Police. The head contacted the police who came and spoke to all the children in the school. Whilst children's activity on the roads seems to have reduced there are some children continuing to play on their bikes and scooters on the roads in the village. Noted some children attend Chantry Middle School. Clerk was asked to write to the head. **Action: Clerk**
Cllrs were asked to approach any children playing on the roads and ask them to calm their behaviour **Action: ALL**
- h) Bus Service information –. New bus timetables have been put up at bus stops but Clerk was not informed/included in this activity. However Kirsten Francis (KF) has been in contact to apologise for confusion/ delays. KF has arranged for two additional display boards, one for each of the principal bus stops in the village which will display bus timetables for the opposite direction of travel. When these are ready she will arrange for demonstration of the App and instruction for Clerk on posting information on the boards and provide a key.

10) Meetings to Attend / Attended

- a) No meetings attended
- b) Annual Town and Parish Council Conference, Thursday 5th October & North Northumberland Area Thursday 19th October. No councillors were available to attend these meetings. Cllr Thorne was asked to inform the appropriate officers at NCC that scheduling events and meetings to which parish councillors are invited in normal working hours are impractical for councillors who are working.

11) Finance

- c) Notification of receipts for September 2017

13/09/2016	NCC	Precept - second half	12000.00
18/09/2017	Weatherston	Allotments Water Rates First Half	26.33
20/09/2017	Wealleans	Allotments Water Rates First Half	13.16

- d) Approval of Clerk's salary, expenses, PAYE & NI and Approval of Other Payments

06/09/2017	BDO LLP	Review of Annual Return	240.00
06/09/2017	Gavin Christie	Grass cutting	220.00
06/09/2017	Gavin Christie	Grass cutting	-80.00
17/08/2017	British Gas	Electricity Sports Court	7.02
18/09/2017	Playsafety	RoSPA report	130.20
06/10/2017	Garth Rhodes	Clerk's wages and expenses	310.12
06/09/2017	LPC	Recharge Clerk's wages to cem/try (Sep)	-112.72
06/09/2017	HMRC	PAYE	76.00

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e) **Requests for donations** – none

f) **Bank Reconciliation to 3rd October 2017**

Balance per bank statements			£	
	Community account	64721.75		
	Business Saver	6074.05		
				70795.80
Less unrepresented cheques				
	Cemetery	0.00		
	Parish Council			
	101961 Playsafety	130.20		
	101962 Garth Rhodes	310.12		
	101963 HMRC	76.00		
				516.32
Uncredited Deposits:				
	Cemetery			
	Parish Council			
	Purves(Rutherford)	30.00		
	Weallans	13.16		
	Weatherston	26.33		
				69.49
Balance per cash book 30/09/2017				70348.97
	PC			51763.58
	Cemetery			18585.39
				70348.97

- 12) Village Activities**
- Village Clean-up Friday 13th October 2017
 - Fram News Ceilidh & History Society Open Day Event Saturday 7th October 2017
 - Pie & Pea Supper Saturday 21st October 2017

13) Allotments

- a) Management - none
- b) Maintenance – Repairs to gates will be undertaken within the next week
- c) Water rates – All first half payments now received. B. Weallans has received a letter to inform him that further delays in payment outside the 28 days regulation will result in the immediate termination of his tenancy. We still await water rates invoice from NWG for the second half of the year.

14) King George V Playing Field

- a) The blue rope on the climbing frame has been tightened, only now leaves plastic sleeves to be inserted. To completed on Thursday 5th October 2017 **Action: DW**
- b) A request from the men’s fitness club for a post to hang coats to be erected next to the fitness equipment was rejected. Members agreed there were sufficient places near the equipment to hang clothes whilst exercising.

TT left the meeting

15) Planning

- a) Planning issues since previous meeting:

Ref No	Description	NCC Status	Parish Council Position **
16/04426/FUL	Land South Of Deneburn Rothbury Road Longframlington (39 houses)	Appeal to Secretary of State GRANTED	See minutes from previous meetings for PC responses
17/02911/FUL	5 Wardle Terrace Longframlington	GRANTED	See minutes from previous meetings for PC responses
17/02536/FUL	8 The Causeway. Rear Extension	GRANTED	No request for consultee comments received.
17/03237/FUL	Otterstone, Rothbury Road –Retrospective: Removal tarmac and boundary wall to allow hard standing	Application	No objection as long as the development has no impact on nearby properties
17/01107/FUL	Land North West Of Lightpipe Farm– 10 dwellings	GRANTED	See minutes from previous meetings for PC responses
17/03400/REM	Land West of Vicarage – Reserved matters application	Application	No Objection**

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17/03503/VARYCO	Picklewood Cottage. Variation (9) on tenancy arrangements from holiday letting to long term tenancy	Application	No Objection**
16/00762/VARYCO	Poultry Farm Atheys Moor Application for removal of condition 10 so temporary permission is made permanent allowing future continued use of the operation of the microlight airfield beyond 29 September 2017 on a permanent basis.	Application	The applicant has not provided details of the increased usage and increase in aircraft movements during the 12 month temporary period. It is not clear whether there has been increased activity making it impossible to make a judgement on impact to the village. The Parish Council would recommend a further twelve month extension to the Temporary Approval in order that such data can be collected**
17/01564?SN	Land North of Cairn View	'Armstrong Grove' accepted & registered.	

**** Parish council position – this is the decision the councillors have come to that they wish to be communicated to NCC.**

Coloured areas show where something has changed from the previous PC meeting

- b) Developments at North End of Village (North End Farm, Land North West of Lightpipe and the granting of the Appeal for the Land North East of Dene House. Members discussed these issues at some length. It was identified that there were four important areas where action needed to be taken regarding perceived inaccuracies in reporting and procedure by the Planning Department. Concern was expressed that residents could have little confidence in the planning process where frequent irregularities such as these occurred. It was agreed that NCC officers should have the opportunity to explain these apparent inaccuracies. GF volunteered to produce a paper of the issues and DW offered to assist. These would then be presented at the meeting, which Cllr Thorne had been asked to arrange (see 7 above), with representatives of the Planning Department. **Action: GF/DW**
GF reported that he had contacted Highways to ask that we be kept informed of the proposed footpath and junction developments at the North End of the village and they had agreed to do this.

16) Action Plan October 2017

- a) General Service review and assessment. GF/Clerk had reviewed the asset register which is now up to date. Total assets = £56423,01
- b) Review community engagement – Members were generally happy with the current extent and level of engagement
- c) Check on provision and conditions of grit bins; bus shelters; waste bins – All OK. Bus shelter opposite St Mary’s Church paintwork needs monitoring as it will need attention in the not too distant future
- d) Grit Bins – Gavin Christie has been asked to top-up the grit bins over the winter and provide an estimate

Main Issues –

17) Growing a Rural Community Survey – Agreed that this should be completed and returned **Action: GF**

18) Parish Website – It was agreed that the following individual councillor detail would be included on the new PC website:

- Name
- Position
- Responsibilities
- Membership of outside bodies
- Short Biography
- Generic Telephone number and email to be used.

Action: Clerk to produce template. ALL to complete

19) Any Urgent Business - None

20) Agenda Items For, and Date Of Next Meeting

Items for Action Plan for November for consideration at the meeting:

- i. Review of internal policies & procedures – to check that the existing policies and procedures are fit for purpose and up to date. **Action: Clerk/GF**
- ii. Allotments - carry out inspections.
- iii. Play equipment – consider replacement of wooden mini-slide and multi-play equipment **Action: ALL**
- iv. Arrange Interim Internal Audit **Action: Clerk**
- v. FramNews Report – identify councillor to write it

Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 1st November 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Garth Rhodes

Clerk to Longframlington Parish Council.

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