LONG NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs M Whitehead, 8 The Yew Walk, Long Newton Stockton on Tees, TS21 1PA

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 9TH SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7PM IN THE WILSON CENTRE

629.25

Present: Cllrs K Hissitt Chairman), G Smith, G Attwood, L Sandbach, D Butler, A Woods, SBC Cllr D Clarke and the Clerk.

629.1 **Apologies** received from Cllrs J Higgins and T Reed.

629.2 **The Minutes** of The Parish Council Meeting held on 8th July 2025 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. There were no declarations of gifts/hospitality/interests or changes to the register of interests.

629.3 **Matters Arising**

3.1 **Highways 20mph speed limit** Clerk has sent any email to SBC requesting either up to date data or a speed survey for the current situation. As yet no reply, reminder sent. The ongoing issue of speeding on the village roads, plus the increased volume of traffic on Darlington Rd and Long Newton Lane, possibly due to the new estates in Eaglescliffe was discussed. It was agreed to request the 30mph speed limit on Long Newton Lane be moved to the south of the New Barns to give traffic more awareness to slow down before the junction, and also for SBC to look at the junction to ascertain if any further measures can be taken. Road markings before the 30mph limit warning of the approaching change in speed limit will also be suggested. Cllr D Clarke took this suggestion on board and will put it to SBC, Clerk will also send email and also request trees on Long Newton Lane be trimmed back as 30mph signs are obscured. Clerk will also request SBC look at implementing a 20mph speed limit for the length of Darlington road from the village entrances. **Cycleway Mill Lane** The proposed cycle path to connect the village to the Durham County border cannot go ahead as third party land would be required to deliver a route that meets the latest guidance, but there was a negative response from one landowner, therefore SBC state no further action on this route can be taken at this time. Cllr Smith will contact Jonathan Kibble to see if any more can be done in the future. **Footpaths/Road** The internal footpath on Woodland Way has cracks appearing in the repaired surface. The Roundabout to the A66 flyover has a wide crack in the road where the tarmac joins. Mill Lane from the roundabout to the cycle refuge needs the bushes trimming back, one is overhanging the road hindering the grass cutting team and causing pedestrians to walk on the road. Clerk to contact SBC.

3.2 **Village Environment Manor Gate Wall** When the wall was cleared of ivy, it was noticed that some of the mortar was loose, Cllr Smith has inspected the wall and it appears to be structurally sound, he will inspect during the winter weather when the rain and frost may deteriorate the mortar. **2 The Willow Chase** This house has now been sold. The bungalow on Darlington Rd which has been empty for a few years is starting to look as though it is deteriorating, Cllr Smith to contact SBC empty homes. **Trees on SBC land** The horse chestnut trees on Manor Gate Green highways land need to be inspected as the large branches are getting lower. The tree on highways land to the side of The Baliol/Whitehouse Croft on Darlington Rd is overhanging the footpath and needs pruning. The owner of Glenmarlen has requested SBC prune the tree on highways land at the entrance to his property as it is blocking light into his garden. Clerk to contact SBC. The oak tree on The Stray Green at the entrance has some rot at the base, Cllr K Hissitt will contact Mark Nozedar SBC for advice, Cllr K Hissitt will also ascertain if SBC can still undertake the work on LNPC trees on Village Greens when the leaves drop.

3.3 **Bus Service** It has been suggested by a resident that while the A66 is 40mph due the road works until March next year, the bus company could do a trial run to ascertain if it would be viable to provide a service through the village permanently. Cllr Smith has contacted TVCA who stated that X67 run by Arriva is not a supported service, it is commercial, but they will pass on LNPC's proposal. The next round of funding for bus services for 26/27 is due and it was agreed that LNPC would support a request for funding for the X67 to provide a service to the village.

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629.4 **Planning**

4.1 Lists circulated via email.

629.5 **Accounts**

5.1 Cheque to be issued to Wilson Centre for hire fee July Meeting £12.00.	1386
5.2 Cheque to be issued to Cutting Edge for grass cutting August £700.90	1385
5.3 Cheque to be issued to Clerk sal and exp July and August	1381&1384
5.4 Cheque issued to Autella Payroll Services 1/4 to 31/7 £84.00	1383
5.5 Cheque issued to Cutting Edge for grass cutting July £700.90	1382
5.6 Cheque to be issued to Clerk reimburse purchase of gift voucher internal audit £60	1388
5.7 Cheque to be issued to Clerk reimburse purchase of computer/monitor £471.34	1389
5.8 Receipt of £239.16 from SBC Community Fund for plants acknowledged	

The above invoices were presented and approved by the Council.

629.6 **Correspondence**

6.1 Email from Dr M Shaw regarding speeding, Clerk has replied to Dr Shaw outlining the correspondence LNPC are currently having with SBC to address this matter.

6.2 Email from Mr G Carter requesting LNPC purchase a flag pole and Union Flag for the village. Mr Carter has requested that LNPC fund a flag pole and Union Flag to be erected within the centre of the village probably around the Wilson Centre. The LNPC considered the proposal and unanimously agreed to reject it on the grounds that the LNPC budget could not support the installation cost, the guidance for flag display cannot be administered and also LNPC have no control over the land around the Wilson Centre. LNPC cannot support this request. Clerk to email Mr Carter.

6.3 Email from Mrs A Deacon requesting information on buffer zone Whitehouse Croft. Clerk has replied to Mrs Deacon. As far as the LNPC are aware the land in question was left as part of the planning approval for the addition housing on Whitehouse Croft, and is a zone between the two fenced boundaries. It was planted with trees at the time. LNPC do not know who owns the land or what measures were put in place for maintenance, if any. Clerk advised Mrs Deacon to contact SBC who may be able to help in the matter.

6.4 Email from Mr G Niven, Glenmarlen re questing tree at entrance to his property be pruned by SBC as it is blocking light into his property. Clerk has replied to Mr Niven and the tree will be included in LNPC's request to inspect numerous trees on their land see 3.2

6.5 Email from Mr L Ayres thanking LNPC for work undertaken to resolve the situation with 2 Willow Chase, acknowledged. The LNPC also thanked Cllr Smith for all the work he undertook to get SBC to take action regarding this property

629.7 **Cllrs Items and items for next meeting**

7.1 Cllr Smith requested a review of information held regarding various bodies. .

7.2 Cllr G Attwood, destruction of saplings Woodland Way Green. After school is out there are a number of children playing on the green, and although there are adults with them they do not appear to be supervised. Bark has been stripped from trees and branches torn off. A large number of branches have been removed by Cllr K Hissitt as they were also causing problems for the grass cutters. Cllr Hissitt will contact St Mary's School to request they bring this to the attention of parents/guardians to request children be supervised whilst playing to protect the trees and stop anyone getting injured.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.45PM

Signed…… K Hissitt Chairman