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 DECEMBER 2025 AT 7PM IN THE WILSON CENTRE

632.25

Present: Cllrs K Hissitt (Chairman), G Smith, G Attwood, A Woods, J Higgins, T Reed, L Sandbach, D Butler and the Clerk.

632.1 **Apologies** for absence none.

632.2 **The Minutes** of The Parish Council Meeting held on 11th November 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.

Meeting with Matt Vickers MP An informal meeting was held on 25th November between Cllrs and Matt Vickers MP to discuss the recent power cuts which have yet again affected the village and also SBC's proposals for the closure of the Play Area. Matt has been in discussions with Northern Powergrid who are to release a statement to be delivered to houses within the village to explain the situation. The decision to close the Long Newton Play area small as it is was greeted with dismay by residents, SBC have now agreed that it will close once it needs maintaining/replacing. Clerk has contacted SBC to request maintenance costs for the past 5 years before LNPC can discuss any possibility of eventually taking it over with the extra expenditure out of the precept.

632.3 **Matters Arising**

3.1 **Highways Speeding** Cllr G Smith and the Clerk met with SBC Gillian Spence and Phil Hardie on 28th November at SBC Offices to discuss improving the signage on Long Newton Lane to try to make drivers slow down on the approach to the junction with Darlington Road. SBC have come up with some suggestions one of which is to move the Give Way Sign further South which would give drivers more advance warning of the junction, also improved 30mph signs, and road markings. The replacement SID on Darlington Rd will be included in the scheme. A financial contribution may be requested from LNPC.which will be agreed once the final plans are confirmed. The draft proposals were presented to the Council, and all Councillors agreed to go ahead with this scheme. Clerk will inform SBC of this decision. The Speed Survey which was recently undertaken showed there was no significant problems and also did not identify excessive speeds. SBC are still awaiting the results of the West bound survey. **Quad Bikes** On 24th November late afternoon 3 quad bikes drove through the village causing damage to SBC grass verges and also driving irresponsibly. A resident informed the Police and the Clerk informed SBC of the damage. Civic Enforcement are also aware. If this happens again residents are requested to inform the Police immediately. Quad bikes have also been through Coatham Woods, Clerk has informed Forest England. **Street Lights** 2 street lights have been out for some time despite being reported to SBC by LNPC and residents. No 5 Manor Gate was fixed today although the Christmas decoration was on tonight the light was not. Clerk to inform SBC. The light outside no 2 Yew Walk has a supply fault and awaiting repair by Northern Powergrid. **Cycle Way** Cllr Smith reported that TVCA are going to be given funding to improve cycleways. SBC are preparing a scheme to include the proposed cycleway along Mill Lane.

3.2 **Village Environment Play Area** SBC Executive Scrutiny Committee decided on 18th November that The Play Area will not be retained by SBC once it requires repairs or needs to be replaced As requested by LNPC SBC will now consider a request for information on the maintenance costs for the past 5 years. **Footpath No 6** the playing field boundary stile needs repairing, Clerk has informed SBC. **Community Support National Highways.** Arrangements for a site visit 1st/2nd December were postponed due to the weather Will be rearranged. **Willow Chase** Today's storm has brought some branches down, Cllr Hissitt will inspect when weather improves.

3.3 **Bus Service** New funding is now available for 26/27. Cllr Smith is working on a proposal for a village bus service, either the X67 or X6 to be diverted through Long Newton. Councillors all agreed on this proposal.

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632.4 **Planning**

4.1 Lists circulated via email.
4.2 Millstone Cottage, West End Farm, Mill Lane A resident has informed the LNPC that there appears to be construction work being undertaken on this site. Clerk has contacted SBC and awaiting response.

632.5 **Accounts**

5.1 Cheque issued to Wilson Centre for hire fee November Meeting £18.00 1405
5.2 Cheque issued to Clerk on 25/11 for sal and exp November. 1403
5.3 Cheque issued to Autela Payroll Services on 28/11 for August to November £84.00 1404
5.4 Audit Report the internal Audit has been undertaken, there were no issues arising and the Audit Report was accepted.
5.5 Budget 26/27 The budget had been circulated and a recommendation of a precept of £16,500 was made by The Clerk. Councillors all agreed that a precept of £17,500 be requested with an additional £1000.00 for contingency funds to be included in the budget. Clerk will complete necessary forms when received from SBC.

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The above invoices were presented and approved by the Council.

632.6 **Correspondence** None

632.7 **Cllrs Items and items for next meeting** None

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.00PM

Signed…… K Hissitt Chairman