The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held this evening at 7.30pm at Lesbury Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Norris (JN) (Chair), Humphrys (Vice Chair) (JH), Church (MC), Knowles (DK), Hall (JuH), Hodgson (AH), Tulip (PT) and County Cllr Martin Swinbank (MS).

In attendance: Elizabeth Taylor (Clerk) (ET) and 2 members of the public.

Monthly Parish Council Meeting Minutes		ACTION
Pub	lic Questions: There were no public questions.	
1.	Apologies: Cllr Martin (AM) & County Cllr Gordon Castle (GC)	
4.	Minutes: 27 February 2024 minutes were signed as a true record.	
5.	Declarations of Interest: none	
6.	 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes Coal Yard Closure: MS had contacted NCC Strategic Transport Officer to enquire if the land could be used as a car park. No response to date. NCC Grass Cutting: MS had flagged to NCC their grass cutters had damaged the finger post on the Hipsburn roundabout and flagpole on Hipsburn Green. ET confirmed NCC were aware of the request not to cut the grass on Hipsburn roundabout in May on the understanding that this will have to be reassessed if it poses a health and safety risk as sightlines must be maintained at all times for road users. NCC flagged when eventually cut, there will be a lot of mulch. Lesbury Tennis Club: MC confirmed no update. NCC Service Level Agreement: JN had liaised with Chairs of Longhoughton and Alnmouth PC and a request submitted to Cllr Isabel Hunter, Chair of the Town & Parish Council Meeting but with no response to date. JN to progress. Cyclepath to Alnmouth: AM not in attendance - to be postponed to April. Faulty VMS Sign on South View: The engineer had visited and parts had now been ordered and is due for repair on 31/3/24. Approximate cost £1,200. Curly Lane Parking: MS confirmed NCC Officers were gathering evidence following feedback from Lesbury PC, Alnmouth PC, GC and MS and would produce a report on parking in and around the station now it's been a few 	MS MC JN ET
7.	 months since the new parking charges had been implemented on the Network Rail car park. MS to advise when the report is available. Matters Arising a) 18/04528/OUT – Land North of Alnmouth Station Jenny Ludman, planning consultant had drafted the PC's objection statement to defend the PC's NDP against the planning application. The PC agreed with the draft (to inc reference to the Ombudsman) and had no amendments. It was agreed Jenny Ludman to submit the letter on behalf of the PC to NCC and to also represent the PC at the Planning Committee when called. Proposed JuH, 2nd PT. All agreed. JH to contact Jenny Ludman to instruct her accordingly. b) Coach Inn: JN reported she had received complaints about parking, light pollution of lighting in the car park serving food to both pub guests and passing trade. AH also flagged concern about the noise pollution from the food van generator and flagged that there was also the intention to offer overnight parking for motorhomes. It was noted that no reference had been made about either a food van or motorhome parking when Chris Greives attended the PC meeting. MS confirmed he had also received complaints and the advice from NCC was a street permit licence was required and possibly also planning permission to operate a food van from the car park. NCC Environmental Health would also be able assist with any noise/light/smell pollution issues. 	JH

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

	Tuesday	26 March 2024
	MC queried whether the PC should get involved. AH advised that the pub was	
	located in a residential area and residents were unhappy with the noise, light	
	and smell pollution and so it was right the PC, as representatives of the	
	residents, should be concerned about the issues being caused. MS suggested	
	a log be kept of all incidents to assist NCC with any enforcement required. The	
	PC and residents wished it to be noted that they were very happy that the pub	
	had re-opened and was doing well and wished it every success but hoped that	
	the new Tenant would be mindful and respectful of the local community and	
	neighbouring residents and that the issues can be resolved amicably between	
	residents and Tenant. It was noted that Planning Enforcement, Licensing and	
	Environmental Health are all aware of the complaints and issues regarding use	
	of the pub car park and surrounding disruption to residents and are	
	investigating. It was left for residents to make their own position known to NCC	
	at this stage. MS also advised a local resident had requested via GC for	
	residents parking on Lesbury Main Street as parking was now becoming a	
	problem. MS advised NCC Highways had investigated and as there are	
	currently no restrictions in place NCC were unable to enforce the location. NCC	
	also no longer implements 'residents only' type restrictions i.e. permit holders	
	only, as part of its permit parking policy. Only 'shared use' schemes are	
	considered, so visitors to the area are still able to park for at least a time limited	
	period. As a result, NCC would not be looking to introduce or amend any	
	parking restrictions at this time on Lesbury Main Street. The PC noted this	
	information and would not take the matter forward at this time unless a	MS/GC
	substantial majority of residents came forward strongly in favour when the	
	request could be revisited. MS to ask GC to advise the resident accordingly.	
	MS did confirm that the 20mph zone through Lesbury Village was to be	
	implemented as part of the 2024/25 LTP at the request of the PC.	
	c) Parish Newsletter: JH advised Rosalind was stepping down as Editor	
	and thanks were extended to Rosalind for the excellent newsletters she had	JH
	written. Lesley Moss has expressed an interest to step in and take over as	
	Editor. JH to meet with Lesley to go through the processes and detail.	
8.	County Councillors Gordon Castle and Martin Swinbank – NCC Update	
	Steppey Lane Footbridge: MS advised Paul Jones, Director of Environment &	
	Transport confirmed the start of construction would be September 2024.	
	North N'land Local Area Committee: MS flagged this meeting was due to be	
	held on 28/3/24 at 6pm at Lindisfarne, Alnwick.	
	Closure of Alnwick Banks : MS advised that Cash Access UK were to create	
	a banking hub in Alnwick following news of the latest closures of the remaining	
	banks in Alnwick. Exact location to be confirmed. Halifax, Lloyds and Barclays	
	to be represented and each bank will be represented in the hub 1 day a week.	МС
	More details to follow. JuH flagged that the Community Shop had applied to	MS
	have a cash machine but had been rejected as there are cash facilities at	
	Longhoughton and Alnmouth. JuH advised the shop would not be progressing with a Post Office facility due to lack of space and also cost (circa £17k). JH	
	advised it was also cost prohibitive to offer a parcel service it will sell stamps.	
	AONB Dark Skies : MS distributed a leaflet about dark skies and advised that	
	AONB Dark Skies: MS distributed a learlet about dark skies and advised that AONB/National Park can visit the parish to talk about dark skies opportunities.	JH
	JH to take a leaflet to investigate a talk opportunity in Lesbury Village Hall.	JII
9.	Planning:	
5.	 • 24/ 00703/VARYCO – Variation of conditions 3 (materials); 6 (cycle parking); 	

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

	7 (construction method statement); 11 (landscaping) on approved application 20/01630/FUL Hazel Cottage, Steppey Lane, NE66 3PU – no objections	
10.	 Correspondence Received Alnmouth & Lesbury Cricket Club – Patio Project Update – The Club had advised that there was a £2,500 shortfall with the grant from ECB but that the Club were to fund the shortfall from other sources. ET had confirmed on behalf of the PC that the PC would be happy to continue to provide a £1,500 grant on the understanding that the Club are successful funding from other sources the shortfall to cover the whole cost of the patio project. NCC Thriving Together March 2024 - noted NALC – ENews March 2024 - noted Beadnell PC – Double Tax for 2nd Homes – the petition had been circulated for PC to complete to request NCC ensures any extra monies is kept within the communities that are most affected by 2nd homes. Martin Swinbank – Proposed Alnwick Banks Closure - see item 8 above. Cynthia Harmieson – Unemptied Waste Bins, Curly Lane – ET confirmed this had been reported to NCC and promptly emptied. Rebecca Noble – Lamping at Lesbury/Snares – MS/AH had assisted with this complaint and N'land Estate's gamekeeping team have confirmed there are no snares used next to any residential properties. Further pest control activities may take place after harvest, and local residents can have their names added to a WhatsApp group to be given advance notice. N'land Estates have also confirmed any pest or predator control carried out by the Estate complies with legal requirements and best practice. Hospice Care – Grant Thank You - noted Bailiffgate Museum – Grant Request – it was proposed to award a grant of £100 DK proposed, AH 2nd and all agreed. NCC North N'land Local Area Committee - 28/3/24, 6pm, Alnwick - noted. 	ALL
11.	 Parish Financial Matters a) Zurich (Parish Council Annual Insurance) - £721.61 - agreed b) N'land Estates (Annual Rent Car Park, Lesbury Post Office) - £25 - agreed c) Clerk (Feb Wages) - £418.03 - agreed d) HMRC (Feb PAYE) - £97.00 - agreed e) Lesbury In Bloom (Plants) - £81.00 - agreed f) Annual Grant - St Mary's Church - £500 – agreed It was agreed before Lloyds Bank in Alnwick closes, the PC changes to online banking. JH/DK and PT as bank signatories to progress. PT flagged she would step down as signatory so a new 3rd signatory is required. 	JH
12.	Pond Field Play Area MC confirmed the Playdale Engineer was due to inspect the Pond Field Play Area and make recommendations. The cost of this would be £150 + VAT, which had been previously agreed by the PC. ET confirmed the VAT could be reclaimed. A VAT invoice would be required made out to Lesbury Parish Council. MC to investigate if payment by cheque was acceptable.	AM/MC
13.	 Any Other Matters for Discussion MS advised 4 mayoral candidates for the NE Mayoral Elections would be in attendance at a meeting on 3/4/24 at 7.30pm at St James Church, Alnwick JuH confirmed the Community Shop had organised for NCC to move the rubbish bin from outside the Post Office to next to the grit bin by the Post Office Car Park. ET advised NCC had been in touch to advise the dog bin 	

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

	 located there would now be removed as it was broken and the litter bin could now be used for both litter/dog waste instead. JuH advised the Community Shoop had held it's AGM on 20/3/24. The minutes would be publicly available soon but the shop was going well and had made a small surplus. The PC thanked everyone involved for their hard work and efforts in re-instating this important facility for the community. AH reported the water leak outside Lealands Garden had now been fixed. 	
14.	NEXT MEETING: 7.30pm – Tuesday 23 April 2024 – Lesbury Village Hall	ALL

The meeting concluded at 8.36pm.