

# Newsletter

Welcome to Lanchester Parish Council's newsletter. This newsletter is produced quarterly to provide the community with information on the services and activities that the Council provides.

## Christmas Lights



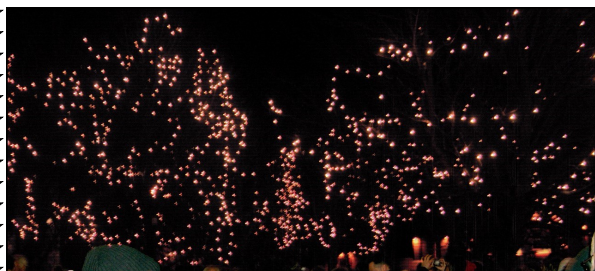
On Saturday 30 November a large crowd gathered on the Village Green for the annual Christmas Light Switch On.

This year the lights on six large trees on the Green had been replaced with new energy efficient LED lights. The old lights were approx 12 years old and it was necessary to replace them to continue what is a well loved Christmas display in the village. The lights on the green are always commented on by the community and those passing in their cars. The cost of replacing the lights was substantial and it is with many thanks to our County Councillors Ossie Johnson and Richard Young and through funding from their Neighbourhood Budget that the replacement lights were possible.

To celebrate the new lights the Parish Council wished to hold a celebration event for the community. The event included an excellent selection of Christmas Carols from Lanchester Brass Band and Lanchester Choral & Operatic Society. In addition volunteers manned a gazebo and gave away mulled wine, mince pies and cakes for the adults and juice, sweets and a lucky dip prize for the children. Many thanks to the volunteers who kindly gave up their time to help out at the event.

The lights were formally switched on by Councillors Ossie Johnson and Richard Young accompanied by Thomas Barnaby and Cristal Cheng from Lanchester EP Primary School and Eva Caden-Lambert and Johnathan Bunting from Lanchester All Saints Primary School.

The Christmas Lights are provided and maintained by Lanchester Parish Council and the lights in the trees on the Village Green always look wonderful on the dark winter nights.



### Precept

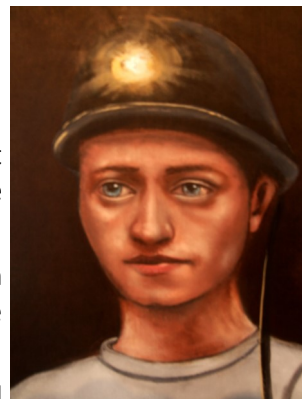
The Parish Council considered its precept requirement at a recent Council meeting and set the precept for 2014 / 15 at £51,636.00 an increase of 2% on last year. The result of the increase will mean that a property in band D will see an increase of 77p in 2014 / 15. This equates to less than 1½ pence per week.

The Council will continue to work hard to realise efficiencies and to develop projects for the community.



### Lanchester Miners' Banner Group

The Fenhall Drift Banner project is moving forward at a pace. The conservation works to the original banner are almost completed following which the banner will be displayed in the Parish Church. The replica banner is completed and is a fabulous representation of the original. It is hoped that the banner will be used over the coming years for community events.



The schools are currently enjoying art banner workshops and traditional dance workshops. A community banner workshop is planned for Saturday 17 May at the community centre when families and members of the community can enjoy participating in an artist led session. Come along and join in. More information on this community workshop will be available over the next few months.

Work continues on the information packs for the schools and a community leaflet which will provide information on the banner and the Fenhall Drift Mine. Information packs will be distributed early in the summer.

All this activity will culminate in a celebration event which will take place on Friday 27 June in the afternoon. The event will involve children from all four schools marching with the banner along Front Street. There will then be demonstrations of rapper, clog and maypole dancing as well as singing and music. Please look out for more information on this event later in the year.

### North Durham Community Engagement Project

Durham Community Action are looking to involve members of the community in a project which will allow them to be involved and stay informed about health decisions in the North Durham Area. Patients, carers and members of the public can be involved in this project. The National Health Service need to involve local people in planning and providing its services, in consulting over changes in service and any decisions that affect the services provided. If you would like to become involved or would like further information please contact Louise Harlanderson on 01207 529621.

### Centenary Poppy Campaign



To commemorate 100 years since the start of World War 1, the Parish Council has purchased a supply of Flanders poppy seeds with a donation going to the Royal British Legion. The Parish Council will sow some of these on the Village Green and in its parks. If you would like a small supply to sow in your own garden please contact Sally on 01207 521957. This is a Royal British Legion campaign which hopes to see the UK awash with poppies throughout 2014 and beyond.



### Lanchester Parish Councillors

Ossie Johnson	Stella House, Durham Road,	521937	<b>CHAIR</b>
Colin Burton	15 Deanery View,	520840	<b>VICE CHAIR</b>
Elizabeth Cook	46 Manor Grange,	529334	
Bob Glass	2 The Paddock	03000 268711	
Bill Gray	27 Foxhills Crescent,	520656	
Margaret Gray	27 Foxhills Crescent,	520656	
Keith Harrison	Colepike Home Farm,	529522	
Paul Jackson	Stonebeck, Front Street,	521208	
Kevin Leary	60 Deanery View,	521627	
Alasdair Nairn	1 St Bedes Court,	529384	
Stuart Walker	2 St Bedes Court,	520790	
Mike Wardle	8 Ornsby Hill,	521622	
Julie Richardson	Linden Lodge, Cadger Bank	521741	
Peter Richardson	Linden Lodge, Cadger Bank	521741	
Philip Richardson	Linden Lodge, Cadger Bank	521741	



QUALITY PARISH COUNCIL



<b>Staff</b>	Lead Officer / Clerk	Sally Laverick	521957 /
529415	Handyperson	David Maddox	

### Need to speak to your Councillor?

Lanchester Parish Council has introduced open sessions to allow time for residents to speak to their councillors about issues that concern or affect them. The next session will be at Park House on:

**Tues 11 March  
10.00am - 11.00am  
(coffee morning)**

**Tues 13 May  
6.30 - 7.00pm**