

Lanchester Parish Council

Newsletter

February 2015

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

This year the lights on the Christmas Tree had been renewed, completing a two year project to replace all the lights on the Village Green with new energy efficient LED lights. The project was made possible through funding from our County Councillors Neighbourhood Budget and a contribution from the Parish Council.



The switch on 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 Mrs Judith Lund (MBE, Deputy Lieutenant) accompanied by Luke Young and Georgia-Kate Brunton from Lanchester EP Primary School and Joseph Purdom and Olivia Tones 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 2015 / 16 at £53,185.00. The result of the increase will mean that a property in band D will see an increase of 65p or 1.78% in 2015 / 16. This equates to 1¼ pence per week.

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



Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan

Lanchester Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan which will be a community-led framework for guiding development, regeneration and conservation over future years. The plan will set out the views of the local community in terms of planning issues such as how much and what type of new housing may be required, and whether there is a need for new shops, offices, workshops and leisure facilities etc. It can also look at things like green open spaces, play facilities, surgeries, schools and parking – as well as measures to address the heritage assets in the Parish.



Once adopted the Neighbourhood Plan will be very influential in shaping the way Lanchester and the Parish might look in the future.

During January a questionnaire was distributed in the community. This questionnaire asked some general questions about your likes, dislikes, ideas and concerns about living or working in the Parish. This early community engagement aims to identify key themes and issues that can be further investigated to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. Completed questionnaires were received which represented views from 450 members of the community. The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group will be analysing the questionnaire returns in February. Following this additional more in depth work will be undertaken to develop policies for the Neighbourhood Plan. The community will be informed and involved as the next stages of the plan take place.

Grants

Lanchester Parish Council is able to make small grants to community groups and charities. If your group wishes to be considered for a grant, an application form must be completed and returned before the end of February. Application forms and guidance notes can be obtained from the Clerk on 01207 520146. The Council considers all requests at its meeting in March.

Poppy Campaign

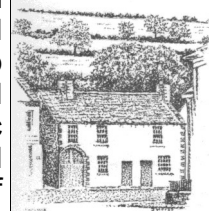
Last year the Parish Council purchased a supply of Flanders poppy seeds to commemorate 100 years since the start of World War 1 with a donation going to the Royal British Legion. There are still some packs of seeds available. If you would like a small supply to sow in your own garden please contact Sally on 01207 520146. This is a Royal British Legion campaign which hopes to see the UK awash with poppies.



DIAL Document

The third edition of the DIAL (Directory of Information About Lanchester) document has been produced and will be distributed at the end of February. This document produced by Lanchester Parish Council, Mid Durham Area Action Partnership and Lanchester Partnership provides a valuable and useful guide to public services, societies, clubs and organisations in the Parish. If you have not received your copy through the door, the document can be picked up at the library or community centre or by contacting the Clerk on 520146.

**DIRECTORY OF
INFORMATION
ABOUT
LANCHESTER**



A guide to public services, local societies, clubs and organisations in the parish.

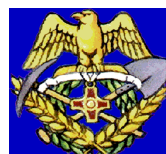
Lanchester Parish Councillors

Ossie Johnson	Stella House, Durham Road,	521937	CHAIR
Colin Burton	3 Lynwood House, Durham Road,	07985 551615	
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	

Staff Lead Officer / Clerk Sally Laverick 520146 / 529415
Handyperson David Maddox



**QUALITY
PARISH
COUNCIL**



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 Lynwood House on:

**Tues 10 March
6.30 pm - 7.00pm**