

Lanchester Parish Council

**Minutes of the Finance, Development and General Purposes Committee
held in the Conference Room in Park House, Lanchester on Wednesday
4 June 2014 at 7.15 pm**

Present Mr C Burton (Chair)

Mr M Wardle, Mr P Jackson, Mr B Gray, Mr B Glass,
Mr Peter Richardson, Mr O Johnson, Mr K Harrison

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mrs M Gray - other commitments
Mr A Nairn - away

The above apologies were received and accepted

141/14 Declaration of Interest

Ossie Johnson, and Bob Glass declared an interest in agenda item 10.

142/14 Public Participation

There were no public present.

143/14 Budget Position

The Lead Officer presented the finance report.

Recommended - that the report be received

144/14 Lanchester Miners' Banner Group (min 83/14)

Members were informed of progress and considered the minutes and actions from the last meeting.

Most elements of the project had now been completed. The focus of work was now centred on organising the celebration event on 27 June.

Recommended - that the minutes of the recent meeting be received

145/14 Durham Gala

Members discussed the attendance of the replica banner at the Durham Gala and the opportunity for the banner to be blessed in the cathedral. It is likely that the attendance at the Gala will result in some expenditure being incurred.

Recommended - that in principle the Council will pay the costs incurred

146/14 Christmas Lights (min 84/14)

Members were informed that the new LED multi-coloured lights for the Christmas Tree had been ordered at a cost of £3662.75 +VAT. The grant we received last year would cover £2660.00 of this.

Members were informed that following the last meeting a price had been requested for a replacement transformer for the Christmas Tree. The price received was £515 + VAT which is higher than anticipated.

Recommended - that the transformer is not purchased at this time

Members discussed the old, mostly broken Christmas Light motifs which have been stored in the cellar unused for the past 4 years. As Park House is being sold shortly there is a need to remove these items from the building.

Recommended - that the motifs are disposed of

147/14 Lynwood (min 86/14)

Members were informed that no correspondence had been received from Derwentside Homes since the last meeting.

We are waiting for Derwentside Homes to prepare a formal agreement for consideration.

Members were informed that a licence had been received from the new owners of Park House to occupy the existing office on a short term basis. This would allow us to remain at Park House until at least the end of August.

Recommended – that the information be received

148/14 Lanchester Community Emergency Plan

Members were informed that two workshops had taken place at the beginning of May to continue the process of preparing a Community Emergency Plan for Lanchester.

A draft document had been formulated. This draft document is currently on the Lanchester Partnership website for the community to comment on. A short article had appeared in the Village Voice and the Parish Council newsletter informing the community of the plan.

Recommended - that the information be received

149/14 Lanchester Cricket Club – Grant (min 122/14)

Members were reminded that at the last ordinary meeting the Parish Council had taken the decision to become the recipient of the grant from Sport England to refurbish the changing facilities.

Legal advice has been sought which recommends that the Parish Council takes a primary role in administering the grant. It will be the responsibility of the Parish Council to ensure that the grant is spent appropriately and that it is administered in accordance with the terms and condition of the grant set by Sport England and in line with the council's financial regulations.

The Award Offer letter and document has been received from Sport England which needs to be signed within one month if the grant is to be accepted.

Recommended that:

- (i)** a working group of the Parish Council is established to deliver the project
- (ii)** representatives from the cricket club are invited to become part of the working group
- (iii)** the award offer letter and documents from Sport England are circulated to Members

150/14 Grass Cutting Contract 2014

Members were informed that further correspondence had been exchanged with a company who had submitted a tender for the grass cutting contract for 2014.

A formal complaint had now been received and the complaints procedure has been instigated.

151/14 Date of next meeting

Recommended - that the next meeting be held on Wednesday
30 July at 7.15pm in the Conference Room at Park House

Business concluded at 8.30pm