

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Conference Room in Park House, Lanchester on Tuesday 11 October 2011 at 7.15pm

Present Mr O Johnson (Chair)

Mr K Leary, Mr M Clarke, Mr K Harrison,
Mr A Nairn, Mr S Walker, Mr B Glass, Mr A Myers
Mr M Wardle, Mrs A Cook, Mr C Burton, Mr D Lindsay

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mrs M Gray - other commitments

Mr B Gray - other commitments

Mr P Jackson - other commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

248/11 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

249/11 Public Participation

The public participation policy was distributed for the benefit of the press and public present.

250/11 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13 September 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson

251/11 Committees

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Finance, Development & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 28 September 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

252/11 Police Report

The police report gave information regarding incidents / crimes in the area for the period 24/08/11 – 27/09/11 as follows:

(These calls are outlined below. Other calls not listed refer to incidents such as road traffic collisions, stray farm animals, concern for safety reports, false alarm)

Burglary (other)	1
1 x attempted theft from outbuilding on Durham Road	

- 1 x verbal altercation between parties at public house
- 1 x upsetting letter received by wrong recipient – no offences disclosed – no police action required
- 1 x fruit thrown at dwelling by unknown youths on Lanchester Valley Walk – youths made off prior to police arrival
- 1 x noisy party at Elmfield – quiet on police arrival
- 1 x small controlled fire at woods at Maiden law – youths suitably advised by police
- 1 x neighbour dispute at Manor Grange – both parties suitably advised by police
- 1 x report of unknown male riding motorbike on footpaths near shops on Front Street – gone prior to police arrival
- 1 x vehicle revving engine at Manor Grange – gone prior to police arrival
- 1 x two stray dogs at Manor Grange – returned to owner who was suitably advised
- 1 x report of neighbours security light allegedly causing anti-social behaviour at Hurbuck Cottages

1 x large section of stone wall stolen from outside of dwelling on Peth Bank

- (i) **County Durham Association of Local Councils - AGM**
Members considered attendance at the AGM
Resolved - that Colin Burton attend and vote
- (ii) **Letter from residents – speed of traffic along Newbiggen Lane**
Resolved - that the information be received
- (iii) **2013 Review of Parliamentary constituencies in England**
Resolved - that the information be received
- (iv) **Durham County Council – Community Buildings Review - Consultation**
Resolved - that the information be received

(v) **County Durham Association of Local Councils – small/medium Local Councils Forum**

Members considered the formation of the above group

Resolved - that Members support the establishment of the forum

(vi) **How to Respond to Planning Applications – an 8-step guide**

Resolved - that the information be received and further copies be requested

(vii) **Durham County Council – problems accessing planning applications (min 236/11)**

Members considered the letter of response on the above issue

Resolved

(i) that the letter be received

(ii) that recent problems be reported to the County Council

(viii) **LINK - newsletters**

Resolved - that the information be received

254/11 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 228/11)

There was no new information to report on the AAP. The next PCC meeting is to take place on Saturday 15 October.

255/11 Lynwood Development (min 231/11)

Colin Burton and Ossie Johnson declared an interest in this item and Keith Harrison took over as Chair.

Mike Wardle outlined progress on the development.

- The Community Interest Company is now registered and the first Board meeting will take place this week.
- There are three local people interested in becoming involved in the Community Interest Company as community members.
- Durham County Council have agreed that if any existing partners withdraw, then the scheme can be adapted with the remaining partners
- The architects who have worked on the scheme so far have gone into administration and therefore a new architect will need to be appointed
- There is a tight deadline due to funding criteria

Members considered committing further monies in the project through the Power of Wellbeing.

Resolved - that up to £3000.00 be committed at risk to contribute towards the next stage of the works. The money to be returned to the Council if and when the full monies for the project are secured.

256/11 'The Heads Up' website

Members were informed that information on Lanchester and the Parish Council will be included in a new community website funded through the Area Action Partnership. The Clerk has received information and training allowing her to become an administrator on the site. The website address is www.mid-durham.org.uk

257/11 Maintenance Report

The Lead Officer presented report E.

Resolved that:

- (i) the appreciation of Members be passed to David Maddox on the work undertaken to date.
- (ii) the report be received

258/11 Christmas Lights Switch-On Event (min 245/11)

Members considered the details and costs for the Christmas Light Event (report F)

Resolved that:

- (i) the details for the event as outlined in the report be agreed
- (ii) costs of £350 - £400 for the event be approved
- (iii) Pat Glass MP be asked to switch on the lights

259/11 Village Green – further developments (min246/11)

The Lead Officer presented report G

Resolved that:

- (i) the proposals be agreed
- (ii) further work be undertaken to develop the project

260/11 Community Flood Engagement – Public Event (min164/11)

Members considered report H from Karen Gibson the Community Flood Engagement officer regarding the community event in September.

Resolved - that the report be received

261/11 Helping Councils Serve People and Places Better (min 79/11)

Ann Cook gave members information on a training session attended earlier in the year and suggested that the Councillor Surgery sessions could be enhanced through the inclusion of some sessions during the week with a coffee morning style approach.

Resolved - that a new schedule of councillor surgery sessions be drawn up with options for consideration

262/11 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report I.

Resolved - that the report be received.

263/11 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (Sept)	£1103.56
D Maddox	Salary (Sept)	£374.79
S Charlton	Salary (Sept)	£1674.50
Durham County Council	Pension (Sept)	£357.56
HMRC	Tax & NI (July – Sept)	£3532.51
Talk Talk	Phone	£18.89
Ian Smales	Survey Fees	£630.00
Vodafone	Phone	£25.53
S Laverick	Expenses	£44.45
Gem Travel	Coach Hire	£90.00

264/11 Chairperson's Announcements

The Chairperson made reference to two forthcoming public events:

(i) The County Durham Strategy and Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment public meeting on 14 November at 7.30pm at the Social Club organised by Lanchester Partnership

(ii) Public meeting on buses for Lanchester and Burnhope on 28 October at 6.30pm at St Bedes School organised by Pat Glass MP.

265/11 Questions from Members – Information only

There were no questions from Members.

266/11 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 8 November 2011 at 7.15pm.

Meeting ended at 8.30pm