

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Conference Room in Park House, Lanchester on Tuesday 12 July 2011 at 7.15pm

Present Mr O Johnson (in the Chair)

Mr C Burton, Mr K Leary, Mr M Clarke, Mr B Gray
Mr K Harrison, Mr P Jackson, Mr S Walker, Mr A Nairn

Maria Matthews - St Bedes School
Beth Meggeson - St Bedes School

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mr B Glass - other commitments
Mr A Myers - family commitments
Mr M Wardle - away
Mrs M Gray - other commitments
Mrs A Cook - sick

The above apologies were received and accepted

176/11 **Declarations of Interest**

Paul Jackson declared an interest in agenda item 11.

177/11 **Public Participation**

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

Two members of the public attended and spoke about their concerns of the speed and size of the traffic along Ford Road, which is a narrow road with narrow pavements and difficult access from side roads.

Resolved that:

- (i) these concerns be passed to the PACT meeting
- (ii) a letter be sent to Lanchester Dairies outlining the residents concerns

178/11 **Minutes of the last meeting**

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14 June 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson

179/11

Police Report

The police report gave information regarding incidents / crimes in the area for the period 25/05/11 – 21/06/11 as follows:

Number of community related calls 9

(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)

Burglaries 2

1 x empty school premises on A691 – entry via cellar door
1 x containers broken into in farm yard at Butsfield

Anti-Social Behaviour 5

1 x report of fighting outside public house in Front Street. Quiet on police arrival. No injuries, no complaints made, no offences disclosed
1 x verbal altercation between drivers over manner of driving on A691. One driver reported by police for careless driving.
1 x report of damage to a To Let sign on Front Street. Police attended and found a discarded piece of board, no offence disclosed
1 x altercation between 2 people over parked vehicle outside premises on Front Street. Both parties suitably advised by police. No offences disclosed
1 x customers refusing to leave public house on Front Street. Left of their own accord and prior to police arrival. No offences disclosed

Criminal Damage, thefts of / from Vehicles / gardens 2

1 x theft of childrens mountain bike from rear garden by unknown person at Deanery View
1 x theft of all 3 windscreen wipers off unattended parked vehicle during night by unknown person at Alderdene

The results of the latest Community Speed Watch session on the A691 outside St Bedes School were reported.

A traffic survey is being carried out on Cadger Bank.

180/11

Neighbourhood Wardens

Members considered the monthly report circulated prior to the meeting.
Resolved - that the information be received

It was reported that a dog litter bin located on the railway path near the cemetery at the end of Kitswell Road has not been emptied for some time. This has been reported to Durham County Council and the Environment Agency.

181/11 St Bedes Comprehensive School

The Chair welcomed Maria Matthews (Head Teacher) and Beth Meggeson (Extended Services Coordinator) from St. Bede's Catholic School and Sixth Form College. They outlined several projects which the school was currently involved with including: securing funding for a sports hall which could benefit not only the school but the whole community; investigating the possibility for an overflow car park to accommodate more student cars; receiving sportivate funding to encourage girls into sport linked to the Olympics.

Members were informed that the students had particularly enjoyed their involvement with the Gateway project.

Members extended an invite for pupils to attend a future parish council meeting. It was agreed that they attend the Ordinary meeting in September.

Maria and Beth were informed of the current Locality Map project and ways in which the project officer could work with the school. The school were extremely interested in the project and it was agreed that the project officer would contact the school to progress.

182/11 Correspondence

- (i) **Durham Police Authority - 'Working together to address changes to Policing in County Durham & Darlington' – workshop**
Resolved - that the information be received
- (ii) **Letter of thanks/congratulations on the village green improvements**
Resolved - that the letter be received
- (iii) **Durham County Council Pension Fund – Actuarial Valuation**
Resolved - that the report be received
- (iv) **LINK - newsletters**
Resolved - that the newsletters be received
- (v) **County Durham Association of Local Councils – election of President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Auditor**
Resolved - that the information be received
- (vi) **Junior Football Team - request for the use of Kitswell football field**
Resolved - that permission be granted for the 2011/12 season subject to the usual conditions
- (vii) **Senior Football Team - request for the use of Kitswell football field**
Resolved - that permission be granted for the 2011/12 season subject to the usual conditions

- (viii) **Group exercise sessions – Kitswell football field - request for the use of the football field**
 Members discussed the request and agreed that the football teams take priority.
Resolved - that the Lead Officer liaise with the applicant to agree terms and conditions for use of the field
- (ix) **Ramside Hall – invitation to ‘Help for Heroes’ event**
Resolved - that the invite be received
- (x) **Durham County Council – review of polling districts and polling places**
Resolved - that a response be sent outlining satisfaction with the current provision
- (xi) **NHS County Durham and Darlington – Hyperacute Stroke Services public consultation**
Resolved - that Paul Jackson respond to the consultation
- (xii) **Go North East – letter received regarding reduction in service (min 136/11)**
Resolved - that the letter be received

183/11 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 166/11)

Colin Burton informed Members of the following progress through the AAP.

- The Gateway works are completed in Lanchester
- Community Speed Watch has regular sessions in Lanchester
- Support for Voluntary Services – a credit union session is to take place in Lanchester
- Small Grants Fund – continues to support local projects
- Support for Community Venues – work with local venues continues
- Young Peoples Group – Sportstart sessions to be provided after school and during summer holidays
- 3 Railway Paths – A draft is due this month
- The results of the speed survey on Cadger Bank show that the number of offenders has reduced, however the number of offenders is still high and further action is to be taken

184/11 Housing in Lanchester / County Durham Plan

Members discussed the recent article in the Village Voice referring to possible housing sites. Members were informed that a response to the County Durham Plan had been sent referring to the Village Design Statement and the Village Development Limit.

Resolved - that the response be endorsed

- 185/11 Request for donation**
- Members considered a request for a donation to be made to Willow Burn Hospice on behalf of a young person who has undertaken a 200 mile bike ride to raise funds.
- Resolved** - that a donation of £50.00 is sent to Willow Burn Hospice
- 186/11 Kitswell Park – Annual Play Inspection**
- Members were informed that the independent annual inspection had taken place at Kitswell Park play area. There were no major defects reported, however there was some minor maintenance works at Kitswell Park to undertake.
- Resolved** - that the report be received
- 187/11 County Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership – training event**
- Resolved** - that Members contact the Clerk if they wish to attend the training
- 188/11 Maintenance Progress 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
- 189/11 Annual Return 2010 / 11**
- The Lead Officer went through the papers returned from external audit. External audit confirmed that no matters had come to their attention which gave cause for concern.
- The Lead Officer outlined that External Audit did refer to the level of fidelity guarantee that the insurance covered and suggested that the council formally review this.
- Resolved that:**
- (i) the Annual Return be approved and accepted
 - (ii) the level of Fidelity Guarantee be referred to the Finance and Development Committee for consideration
- 190/11 Financial Information**
- The Lead Officer presented report G.
- Resolved** - that the report be received.

191/11 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (June)	£1103.36
D Maddox	Salary (June)	£374.79
S Charlton	Salary (June)	£1674.50
Durham County Council	Pension (June)	£357.56
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax & NI	£3532.31
Lanchester Agricultural Show	Show stand	£20.00
Talk Talk	Phone	£20.90
AD Purves Landscaping	Village Green Cert.3	£11886.00
National Assoc. Local Councils	Seminar	£234.00
Vodafone	Phone	£25.53
AD Purves Landscaping	Grass cut/maintenance	£3570.00
Durham County Council	surface works	£5014.80
ATG Access	Bollard repairs	£123.01
Durham County Council	Refuse contract	£170.00
Bat Conservation Trust	Training Course	£380.00
Tyne & Wear Play Assoc.	Play annual inspection	£250.00
G Harrison	Catering	£35.00
G Harrison	Catering	£23.93
East Durham College	Training Course	£228.00
S Charlton	Expenses (arts equip.)	£95.41
S Laverick	Expenses	£65.62

192/11 Chairperson's Announcements

There were no Chairpersons announcements.

193/11 Questions from Members – Information only

There were no questions from Members.

194/11 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 13 September 2011 at 7.15pm.

Meeting ended at 8.30pm