

Lanchester Parish Council

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Conference Room in Park House,
Lanchester on Tuesday 12 November 2013 at 7.15pm**

Present Mr O Johnson (Chair)

Mr C Burton, Mr S Walker, Mr B Glass, Mr B Gray
Mr K Harrison, Mr K Leary, Mrs J Richardson
Mr M Wardle, Mr Peter Richardson, Mr Philip Richardson

Mr R Young - County Councillor (observer)

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mrs M Gray - other commitments
Mrs A Cook - away
Mr A Nairn - work commitments
Mr P Jackson - work commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

237/13 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made at this point in the meeting.

238/13 Public Participation

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

239/13 County Durham Plan

The Chair welcomed Mike Allum, Spatial Policy Manager and Zoe Thirlaway, Spatial Policy Officer from Durham County Council to the meeting. Mike gave a presentation on the latest draft of the County Durham Plan.

Approximately 40 members of the public attended the meeting to listen to the presentation.

Mike informed the meeting that this latest draft of the County Plan is the pre-submission draft and is the plan that Durham County Council would wish to submit to the Secretary of State for approval. The overall strategy of the document along with priorities and approach remains the same. There is a slight increase in housing and industry and a slight reduction in retail elements following recent census information received.

There is a new green belt being proposed in North West Durham. The number of housing allocation sites has been reduced from over a hundred to 84.

Mike confirmed that the Cadger Bank site included in a previous draft of the plan for housing has been removed from this latest and final draft. Following the last consultation the County Council have considered further the archaeological concerns of the site.

Mike confirmed that the expected timescale for the County Plan was as follows:

- Submit to the Secretary of State in April 2014
- 12 week period for an inspector to consider the plan and all the evidence and consultation responses
- Decision in summer 2014
- Adoption of plan in December 2014

Mike confirmed that the current County Plan is as the County Council would like to adopt. However the inspector will consider all the evidence and make the final decision. Therefore if the community are in agreement with the Cadger Bank housing site being removed from the plan then they need to let the County Council know. All feedback received by the County Council on this latest draft will be passed to the inspector. The community needs to provide evidence that there is support from the community.

Members thanked the County Council for listening to the concerns of the community and the Parish Council and removing the Cadger Bank site from the County Plan.

The meeting was opened for public comments and questions.

Issues raised by the public included:

- Looking for ways to overcome issues to allow development to take place
- Concerns of traffic on Cadger Bank
- Concerns of pedestrians crossing Cadger Bank / Station Road
- Concerns of the Cadger bank housing site – archaeological, traffic, flooding, previously been refused planning permission,

Residents were encouraged to forward their comments to the County Council as part of the consultation process.

Mike Allum and Zoe Thirlaway were thanked for attending the meeting. The members of the public were thanked for attending.

Members considered a response from Lanchester Parish Council to the latest draft of the County Plan.

Resolved that:

- (i) a letter is sent supporting the removal of the Cadger Bank housing site from the Plan and stating the reasons why
- (ii) a letter is sent making comment on the general strategy and content of the plan
- (iii) copies of these letters are sent to Councillors

The latest version of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment document was discussed

Resolved - that a letter is sent to Durham County Council asking for clarification on how / if this document relates to the County Plan

240/13 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15 October 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson

241/13 Police Report

Members considered the Police report which gave information regarding incidents / crimes in the area for the period 25/09/13 – 23/10/13 as follows:

Number of community related calls 19

(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)

Alcohol Seizures 0

Dwelling Burglaries 0

Burglary (other) 2

1 x report from Lanchester EP School that unknown persons have gained access to a storage container over the weekend and stolen two petrol cans and a petrol strimmer.

1 x report from Willow Burn Hospice that overnight unknown persons have gained access to the building site and removed a quantity of plant equipment

Bogus Callers 1

1 x report from Watling Way that an unkempt male is going door to door trying to sell items to raise money so he can join the navy

Anti-Social Behaviour 13

8 x reports of neighbour disputes in the area

1 x report received from a resident stating a local youth from St Bedes is frequently throwing litter into her front garden when walking home. Local

PCSO and Neighbourhood Warden are paying attention to this area to identify the offender.

1 x report regarding youths congregating to the rear of Front Street

1 x report from a Go North East bus driver stating that they have two pupils from St Bedes School attempting to use fake bus passes to obtain free travel. Police arrived and ejected the pupils from the bus and seized the fake bus passes

1 x report received from Deneside reporting eggs thrown at a property. Police arrived and checked the area

1 x report of a group of youths on the bowling green. Youths left prior to police arrival

Vehicle Nuisance **0**

Criminal Damage **0**

Thefts **3**

1 x report of a theft of a trailer from a farm near Kitswell Road

1 x report of a theft of fuel from the Jet garage

1 x report of a theft of a 4ft x 2ft trolley from the rear of Station Road

The Neighbourhood Warden report for September was received.

Members were informed that new legislation would come into effect on 1 December which would require door to door scrap dealers to be registered and display registration in their vehicles.

242/13 Correspondence

(i) Durham Rural Community Council – Autumn Meeting

Members considered attendance at the above event

Resolved - that the information be received

(ii) Lanchester Cricket Club – Firework and Bonfire event

Information received from the cricket club regarding the event was presented to members

Resolved - that the information be received

(iii) Durham County Council – Review of the Statement of Licensing Act 2003 Policy

Resolved - that the information be received

(iv) National Association of Local Councils – Local Councils Explained

Resolved - that the publication be received

243/13 Ford Road (min 226/13)

Members were informed of the response from the County Council to the concerns expressed about Ford Road and the narrow pavement and highway.

244/13 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 227/13)

Members received an update on latest meetings and were informed that the AAP Board meeting scheduled for 20 November would now take place on 11 December at Brandon.

245/13 Quality Councils Scheme

Members considered the information received regarding the proposed changes to the Quality Councils Scheme and expressed some concern about content and unknown costs

Resolved - that the information be received

246/13 Newsletter

Members considered the draft quarterly newsletter.

Resolved - that the newsletter be approved

247/13 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report F

Resolved - that the report be received.

248/13 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

Durham Bannermakers	Banner workshops	£650.00
S Laverick	Salary (Oct)	£1190.32
D Maddox	Salary (Oct)	£387.14
Durham County Council	Pension (Oct)	£377.55
Information Commissioner	Data Protection registration	£35.00
P Snowdon	Hanging Baskets – Water	£504.90
S Laverick	Expenses	£385.40

249/13 Questions from Members – Information only

Members were informed that recent work on a bridge at Hole House Lane had resulted in a two day road closure to replace stolen stones. Members questioned why other necessary maintenance work was not carried out at the same time.

Resolved – that a response on the matter is sought from the County Council

250/13 Chairperson’s Announcements

Resolved - that under the powers contained in Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the Press and Public be excluded from the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

251/13 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 10 December 2013 at 7.15pm.

Meeting ended at 9.00pm