

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Conference Room in Park House, Lanchester on Tuesday 15 October 2013 at 7.15pm

Present Mr O Johnson (Chair)

Mr C Burton, Mr S Walker, Mrs A Cook
Mr K Harrison, Mr K Leary, Mr P Jackson,
Mr A Nairn, Mrs M Gray, Mr M Wardle

Mr R Young - County Councillor (observer)

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:
Mr B Glass - other commitments
Mrs J Richardson - away
Mr Peter Richardson - away
Mr B Gray - work commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

220/13 Declarations of Interest

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

221/13 Public Participation

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

222/13 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10 September 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson

223/13 Committees

Resolved that:

(ii) the minutes of the Finance, Development & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 25 September 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

Police Report

Members considered the Police report which gave information regarding incidents / crimes in the area for the period 28/08/13 – 25/09/13 as follows:

Number of community related calls 7

(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 1**

1 x report received from a property under renovation at Maiden law. Unknown persons have entered the property and removed an iPad. Investigations are on-going

Burglary (other) 2

Unknown persons have tried to gain access to a shop on Front Street via the rear metal fire door. Whilst on the scene, officers also identified the shop next door had also been targeted via their rear door. Access had not been gained to either property.

Bogus Callers 0**Anti-Social Behaviour 2**

1 x report received from staff at a shop in Front Street that a known male had been verbally abusive to staff. Police and Derwentside Homes are working in partnership to tackle this problem
1 x report of a neighbour dispute at Kitswell Road

Vehicle Nuisance 0**Criminal Damage 0****Thefts 2**

1 x report from the petrol station that a driver had filled their car with fuel and made off without paying. Following enquiries the vehicle was found to be displaying registration plates which were stolen earlier in the day from a vehicle in Stanley. Investigations are on-going
1 x report from a resident in Deanery View that unknown persons have accessed her garden and removed a number of items.

The Neighbourhood Warden report for August was received.

Members discussed recent incidents of dog fouling on the Lanchester Valley Walk

Resolved - that the recent incidents of dog fouling are reported to the Neighbourhood Wardens.

225/13 Correspondence

- (i) Campaign to Protect Rural England – Autumn Newsletter**
Resolved - that the newsletter be received
- (ii) The Clerk Magazine**
Resolved - that the magazine be received
- (iii) LCR – Autumn Magazine**
Resolved - that the magazine be received

226/13 Ford Road

Members discussed Ford Road and considered the concern of a resident over the narrow road and pavement and the safety issues this causes for pedestrians. It was noted that at one point on the pavement a wooden service pole makes it necessary to move onto the road to pass with a pushchair or wheelchair.

A member of the public spoke about his concern over the narrow road and narrow pavement. Due to the width of the road, vehicles are pushed closer to the pavement. He stated that there is a 40 metre stretch of pavement which is less than one metre wide and that the position of a service pole on this stretch makes it necessary for pedestrians with pushchairs and wheelchairs to move onto the road to pass. Even walking with older children is difficult as they have to walk in front and not beside you.

Members considered these concerns. In addition they noted that primary school children are encouraged to walk to school if possible and adults may be reluctant to walk along this stretch of pavement.

Resolved – that a letter is sent to Durham County Council asking them to consider options to address the problem of the narrow footpath and road and the safety issues this causes for pedestrians

227/13 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 204/13)

Members were informed that the 'Your Money, Your Area, Your Views' AAP forum event had taken place on 12 October and had proved successful. Members could still participate in the questionnaires by requesting an information pack from the Clerk.

Members considered the minutes of the recent PCC meetings

Resolved - that the minutes of the PCC meetings be received

**228/13 Durham County Council – Environment Awards 2013
Lanchester Village Green Improvements**

Members were informed that the Parish Council had been nominated for an Environment Award for the Village Green Improvements Scheme. Members of the Parish Council had attended the event on 8 October and received a 'Commendation' in the 'Community Partnership' category.

Resolved that:

- (i)** a letter of thanks is sent to the County Council
- (ii)** a letter and copy of the certificate is sent to all those who were involved with the scheme

229/13 Lanchester Community Emergency Plan

Members were informed of progress on the above plan and considered the first draft of the document. Operation Valencia in June had aimed to promote and develop community resilience and the plan was being drawn up by a group of residents and community organisations.

Resolved that:

- (i)** the draft document is received
- (ii)** that the Parish Council supports the development of a plan

230/13 Maintenance Progress Report

The Lead Officer presented report F.

Resolved that:

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

231/13 Fenhall Drift Banner

Councillors Ossie Johnson, Colin Burton and Kevin Leary declared an interest in this item as they are members of the Lanchester Miners' Banner Group.

Members discussed the insurance implications for the replica banner and the celebration event.

Members were informed that the original banner is under custodianship of the Parish Council and is currently insured by the Parish Council. When the replica banner is produced it will also need to be insured. The annual insurance costs will be approximately £110.00 a year.

Resolved – that once the replica banner is produced that insurance is secured to cover the banner.

Members discussed the banner celebration event which is due to take place in June 2014. If the Parish Council organise the event their public and employer liability insurance will cover the event

Resolved – that the Parish Council organise the event

232/13 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report G

Resolved - that the report be received.

233/13 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

CCL Office Limited	Stationery	£81.25
Talk Talk	Phone	£19.24
Marmax Products Ltd	Bench	£128.88
S Laverick	Expenses	£290.20
S Laverick	Salary (Sept)	£1237.70
D Maddox	Salary (Sept)	£402.29
Durham County Council	Pension (Sept)	£396.21
HMRC	Tax & NI (July – Sept)	£903.98
Proludic	Play Equipment	£826.46
Jim Devenport	Banner conservation works	£500.00
Talk Talk	Phone	£22.55

234/13 Chairperson's Announcements

There were no Chairpersons announcements.

235/13 Questions from Members – Information only

There were no questions submitted by Members

236/13 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 12 November 2013 at 7.15pm.

Meeting ended at 8.15pm