

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Conference Room in Park House, Lanchester on Monday 20 May 2013 at 7.40pm

Present Mr O Johnson (Chair)

Mr C Burton, Mrs A Cook, Mr Peter Richardson, Mr P Jackson
Mr K Harrison, Mr A Nairn, Mr S Walker, Mr M Wardle
Mr B Gray, Mrs M Gray, Mrs J Richardson, Mr Philip Richardson

County Councillor Richard Young – Observer

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mr K Leary - other commitments
Mr B Glass - away

The above apologies were received and accepted

106/13 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

107/13 Public Participation

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

108/13 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9 April 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson

109/13 Committees

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 16 April 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

110/13 Police Report

Members considered the Police report which gave information regarding incidents / crimes in the area for the period 27/3/13 – 24/04/13 as follows:

Number of community related calls 15

(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) 0

Bogus Callers 0

Anti-Social Behaviour 10

1 x report of a group of youths banging on doors and windows at Brook View

1 x report of youths congregating in the alleyway near to The Garths making a nuisance and smashing glass bottles. On arrival the youths had already left the area and no trace of glass was found.

1 x report of youths climbing on the roof of the old bus shelter. Officers attended and told youths to move on.

1 x report of youths climbing on the roof of The Green School.

1 x report of neighbour dispute at Watling Way. Both parties spoken to.

1 x report of unknown person riding in fields near Peth Bank without permission.

4 x reports of youths congregating near takeaway on Front Street.

Criminal Damage 2

1 x report that unknown persons have smashed drain pipes and glass windows at The Green School

1 x report that unknown persons have damaged an external CCTV camera at The Green School

Thefts 3

1 x report of theft of oil from a farm

1 x report of theft of two bird feeders at Deanery View

1 x report of theft of three-wheeler car from property on Cadger Bank.

Members received an update on the live event which is to take place on Thursday 13 June in Lanchester.

Members were informed that the new Neighbourhood Warden for the Lanchester area is Chris Highmarsh.

111/13 Grassed Area – Lanchester Valley Railway Path – between Station Road and Newbiggen Lane (min 35/13)

Members were informed that information had been received from the County Council which confirmed that they would be prepared to issue a licence to the Parish Council to allow the Parish Council to undertake a

number of cuts to the grassed area, but that the County Council would retain ownership and maintenance responsibility for the area.

Members considered this information and a discussion took place on whether the Parish Council should cut the grass in this area.

A Councillor proposed that the area be cut by the Parish Council and a second Councillor proposed an amendment that the area is not cut by the Parish Council.

The amendment not to cut the grass was voted on with the result being 3 votes for and 8 votes against.

The proposal to cut the grass was voted on with the result being 8 votes for and 3 votes against.

Resolved that:

- (i) a limited grass cutting service be provided for this season
- (ii) a licence agreement be entered into with the County Council for 2013.
- (iii) arrangements be made with our grass cutting contractor to undertake this works
- (iv) a review of these arrangements take place at the end of this year

112/13 Correspondence

- (i) **North Pennines AONB – Annual Forum 2013**
Members considered an invite to the above event
Resolved - that the information be received
- (ii) **Healeyfield Parish Council – winter maintenance**
Members considered a request to support Healeyfield Parish Council in getting Long Edge Lane added to the winter maintenance schedule
Resolved - that a letter is sent supporting the request
- (iii) **Lanchester and Burnhope Parochial Church Council – letter of thanks**
Resolved - that the letter be received
- (iv) **Junior Football Team – request for use of Kitswell Park football field**
Members considered the request
Resolved - that permission be granted for the 2013/14 season subject to the usual conditions
- (v) **Resident – letter of thanks – Village Green path**
Resolved - that the letter be received
- (vi) **The Lanchester Partnership – letter – Neighbourhood Plan**
Resolved - that the letter be received

113/13 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 76/13)

Members received an update.

Resolved - that the minutes of the PCC meeting be received

Members discussed the request by the AAP for a date and time for a village meeting to discuss concerns raised in last years survey

Resolved that:

(i) Park House be used as a venue for this meeting

(ii) the meeting be arranged for the end of July

(iii) Members are informed of the date and time of the meeting

114/13 Lanchester Cricket Club – Bonfire & Firework Display (min 53/13)

Members considered a financial donation towards the above event.

Resolved - that a donation of £300 is made

115/13 Lynwood Community Interest Company (CIC) (min 55/13)

Mike Wardle the Chair of the Lynwood Care Centre Community Interest Company provided Members with an update.

Mike outlined the history of the Lynwood site and the involvement of the Parish Council over a number of years and the creation of the CIC. It had been hoped that the CIC would have been able to fund and develop the whole site but funding restrictions had not made this possible. Derwentside Homes have taken the role as developer and are currently building the development which will include homes, GP surgery and some community space. The CIC have now withdrawn from the project and have recommended to Derwentside Homes that they approach the Parish Council to manage the community space. Negotiations are currently taking place between Derwentside Homes and the Parish Council. The CIC are intending to hold a open session / exhibition on 26 June at Park House between 3pm – 8pm where Derwentside Homes will provide a display of the development.

An article explaining the above is to appear in the Village Voice.

Mike Wardle was thanked for his involvement in this project.

116/13 Training Opportunities

Members were informed about a number of training opportunities available.

Resolved - that Members inform the Clerk if they wish to attend any of the courses

Members were asked to complete and return their Training Request Forms to enable the Annual Training Plan to be progressed.

117/13 Newsletter

Members considered the draft quarterly newsletter.
Resolved - that the newsletter be approved

118/13 Schedule of Meetings 2013 /14

Members considered the schedule of meetings.
Resolved - that the information be approved

119/13 Tree Report – Village Green

Members considered the report and the recommendations for tree work.
Resolved - that the matter be placed on the agenda of the next meeting for further discussion

120/13 Insurance Renewal 2013 / 14

Members discussed the insurance document and premium.
Resolved - that the insurance premium of £705.60 from AON be accepted, the level of cover provided having been accepted as sufficient.

121/13 9 Month Bond (min 86/13)

Members were informed that following the recommendation at the last meeting, a £20,000 bond had been taken out for a 9 month period commencing 17 May at 1.2% gross interest.
Resolved - that this action be agreed

122/13 Internal Audit Report

Members considered the Internal Audit report.
Recommended - that the report be received

123/13 Year on Year Budgets

Members considered the Report
Resolved - that the report be received

124/13 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report J.
Resolved - that the report be received.

125/13 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (April)	£1180.84
D Maddox	Salary (April)	£384.23
Durham County Council	Pension (April)	£373.82
Talk Talk	Phone	£21.84
NPower	Christmas Lights Electricity	£409.23
C Wilson	Hollinside – rent	£20.00
Society Local Coun. Clerk	Annual Membership	£162.00
Durham County Council	Waste – Annual Charge	£216.00
Talk Talk	Phone	£27.22
S Laverick	Expenses	£45.45
SSJ	Legal Fees	£1052.00
PDL Services	Website	£100.80
M Young	Internal Audit Fee	£135.00
Aon	Insurance Premium	£705.60

126/13 Chairperson’s Announcements

The Chair welcomed the new Councillors to the Parish Council.

127/13 Questions from Members – Information only

Paul Jackson made reference to the floods that had occurred in the village at the weekend.

Mike Gladstone reported that a multi-agency group has been working on several flooding issues.

128/13 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 11 June 2013 at 7.15pm.

Meeting ended at 9.20pm