

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Conference Room in Park House, Lanchester on Tuesday 9 July 2013 at 7.15pm

Present Mr O Johnson (Chair)

Mr C Burton, Mrs A Cook, Mr Peter Richardson,
Mr K Harrison, Mr B Glass, Mr K Leary,
Mrs J Richardson, Mr Philip Richardson, Mr M Wardle

Paul Armin - Senior Drainage Engineer – Durham County Council
Mr R Young - County Councillor (observer)

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mr P Jackson - work commitments
Mrs M Gray - other commitments
Mr A Nairn - away
Mr S Walker - away
Mr B Gray - work commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

154/13 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

155/13 **Public Participation**

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

156/13 **Minutes of the last meeting**

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11 June 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson

157/13 **Committees**

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 17 June 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

158/13

Lanchester Flood Report

The Chair welcomed Paul Armin the Senior Drainage Engineer from Durham County Council to the meeting.

Paul presented an initial report that had been compiled to look at the flooding issues mainly in Front Street and at the junction of Maiden Law Bank with the A691.

The report identifies the following problems:

- the interaction between the culvert of Smallhope Burn and the culvert of Alderdene Burn
- surface water on Newbiggen Lane
- blocked culvert on Maiden Law Bank

Consideration is being given to diverting the Alderdene culvert to further down Smallhope Burn and a bid has been submitted to the Environment Agency for up to £1.2million to undertake the works.

The application needs to be approved by the national committee in December, following which a detailed / modelling study will be carried out. This will demonstrate the effect of the works and identify any additional works or issues.

The earliest start date would be April 2015.

Paul informed Members that the County Council has made 25 applications to the Environment Agency and that Lanchester is a top priority.

Paul asked that councillors and members of the public report blocked gullies to the County Council for action.

The Chair thanked Paul for attending the meeting.

159/13

Police Report

Members considered the Police report which gave information regarding incidents / crimes in the area for the period 22/5/13 – 26/06/13 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**3**

1 x report received from a property on Durham Road stating that overnight unknown persons tried but failed to force entry to a property via the front door

1 x report that overnight unknown persons have gained access to an insecure property at Lee Hill Court and removed a handbag from the hallway before making off. The handbag was found discarded nearby.

1 x report that overnight an unoccupied property near Maiden Law had been broken into by smashing a patio door and a large drill was removed.

Burglary (other)**1**

1 x report from builders on the Lynwood House site stating that unknown persons have forced entry to a portacabin before making off with a digital camera, keys and tools.

Bogus Callers**0****Anti-Social Behaviour****8**

1 x report regarding youths congregating at The Garths and causing a nuisance

1 x report of youths throwing stones at a property on Front Street

1 x report of youths throwing eggs at a property on Deneside

1 x report regarding youths congregating near the fence at St Bedes school. Youths made off prior to police arrival and engagement work has been done with the school to identify the offenders.

1 x report regarding an on-going neighbour dispute at Hurbuck Cottages

1 x report regarding groups of youths knocking on doors at Station Road. Three male youths were identified and warned regarding their conduct.

1 x report of youths congregating on the Lanchester Valley Walk near Railway Street and being a nuisance and abusive to people passing.

1 x report of unknown persons banging on the front door of a property in Lee Hill Court.

Vehicle Nuisance**3**

1 x report from Alderdene regarding a male riding an off road motorbike up and down the street. A 23 year old male was stopped and issued with a Traffic 183 warning notice

2 x reports from Peth Bank regarding a motorbike being ridden around a farmers field. One of the riders was identified and issue with a Traffic 183 warning notice

Criminal Damage**0****Thefts****0**

The Neighbourhood Warden report for May was received.

160/13 Correspondence

- (i) Oases – Summer Environmental Play Sessions**
Members considered the request to use Park House Play Area
Resolved - that permission is given for the use of Park House Pay Area for the summer activities
- (ii) County Durham Community Foundation – Windfarm Community Benefits Fund**
Members considered a request for a Parish Councillor to sit on the decision making panel
Resolved - that Mike Wardle seeks further information about the position
- (iii) Lanchester Allotments Association - list of members**
Resolved - that the information be received
- (iv) Hurbuck Cottages – play area**
Members considered a request for a seat
Resolved - that a site visit is arranged and information is reported back
- (v) Healthwatch County Durham – Enter and View Team**
Members considered a request for volunteers to join the team
Resolved - that interested Members contact the Clerk for more information
- (vi) Campaign to Protect Rural England – Newsletter**
Resolved - that the information be received
- (vii) Willowburn Hospice – fundraising event**
Members considered a request to use Park House Play Area
Resolved - that permission is given for the use of Park House Pay Area for the fundraising event

161/13 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 135/13)

Members received an update.

Members were reminded that the Village meeting to discuss AAP priorities had been arranged for Tuesday 23 July between 3.30pm – 6.30pm at Park House.

162/13 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

163/13 Kitswell Park – Annual Play Inspection

Members considered the annual play inspection report for Kitswell Park

Resolved that:

- (i)** the report be received
- (ii)** the report be referred to the Recreation Committee for consideration

164/13 Lynwood Community Interest Company (CIC) (min 115/13)

Mike Wardle informed Members that the public open day organised by the CIC and held on 26 June had proved very successful with large numbers attending.

This had been the last action of the CIC and papers had now been submitted for dissolution. Companies House had acknowledged that the papers had been received and the dissolution was in process. The Parish Council had received a copy of the DS01 dissolution form.

There is a need for the Parish Council to continue discussions with Derwentside Homes regarding the community space

Resolved - that future updates are presented to the Finance, Development & General Purposes Committee

165/13 Annual Training Plan 2013/14

Resolved – that the training plan for 2013/14 be approved

166/13 Annual Return 2012/13

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.

Resolved - that the Annual Return be approved and accepted

167/13 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report H

Resolved - that the report be received.

168/13 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (June)	£1180.84
D Maddox	Salary (June)	£384.23
Durham County Council	Pension (June)	£373.82
HMRC	Tax & NI (April – June)	£864.32
Top Banana	Leaflet Distribution	£71.40
A D Purves	Grass Cutting	£2410.80
Tyne & Wear Play Inspec	Kitswell Play Inspection	£250.00
Talk Talk	Phone	£24.08
CCL Offices	Stationery	£108.29
S Laverick	Expenses	£34.55
BDO LLP	Audit Fee	£360.00

169/13 Chairperson's Announcements

The Chair commented that the hanging baskets were looking good in the village.

170/13 Questions from Members – Information only

There were no questions from Members

171/13 Date of next meeting

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

Meeting ended at 8.30pm