

Lanchester Parish Council

February 2012

Newsletter

Welcome to Lanchester Parish Council's newsletter. This newsletter is produced quarterly to provide the community with information on the services and activities that the Council provides.

Locality Map Achievements

The Locality Map project has been running for 15 months and Sue Charlton the project Officer has been working around the Parish on a number of exciting activities and events.

The project has resulted in some fabulous outcomes including:

- * 105 training days. Training delivered has included archive research, amphibian and reptile identification, road verge survey, chainsaw courses, hedge laying, farm workers first aid, herbicide, computer and sheep shearing.
- * Support for the farming community has included meetings, the formation of a farming group to discuss relevant issues, form filling, advice on Entry Level Stewardship and Higher Level Stewardship applications etc.
- * 140 volunteer days have been recorded. Volunteers have taken part in monthly practical conservation works, wildlife audit, heritage audit and community engagement works.
- * A Wildlife Audit of the Parish has been completed and published. The launch event will take place on 17 March (see overleaf for details)
- * Seven heritage walks leaflets have been produced detailing the heritage of the Parish. The walks cover the whole of Lanchester Parish and are of varying length. The leaflets will be widely distributed throughout the Parish with a launch event taking place on 31 March (see overleaf for details).
- * 700 attendances by local school children have been recorded. Activities include: farm trips, seed growing, insect hotels, chicken hatching programme, recording wildlife, installing ponds, woodland work, food production, nature walks, mini-beast hunts etc.



Sheep shearing course

You can also find details of everything happening on the Project and more on our website www.lanchesterparish.info or follow us on Twitter (LanchesterLM) and facebook (Lanchester Locality Map).



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas
Funding is being made available through the Rural Development Programme for England, which is jointly funded by Defra and the European Union.



Lanchester Lions

Many of you will have read the recent article in the Village Voice seeking new members for the Lanchester Lions and volunteers to help out at the Carnival and Bonfire Night events. Without help it is possible that these two great community events may not take place.

If you would like to join the Lions group or are able to help out at an event please contact:

Brin Jones (President) 01207 520372

Tom Robinson (Vice Pres.) 01207 521391

Tony Corry (Vice Pres.) 01207 520783

Village Green

Further improvements and developments are to be made to the Village Green.

A scheme has been agreed which includes: tree planting, tree works, wild flowers, hedge laying, litter bin and seat replacement and the installation of wood carvings along the route of the new path.

Funding for the scheme has been secured through a Northern Gas Network grant, National Tree Week grant and Lanchester Parish Council. A generous contribution of £500 has been donated by Lanchester Wines.

Work will commence at the end of February with the project due for completion by Spring.



Lanchester Parish Council, Park House, Station Road, Lanchester, DH7 OEX Tel: 01207 521957

Check out our website on www.lanchesterparish.info

e-mail lanchesterparish@btopenworld.com

Lighting Up The Village

On Saturday 26 November at 6pm the village Christmas Lights in Lanchester were switched on. A crowd gathered on the Village Green for the annual event and the lights were switched on to everyone's delight.

Pat Glass MP switched on the lights accompanied by Liam Smith and Ellie Crowe from Lanchester EP Primary School and Joe Massey-Allen and Rebecca Draper from Lanchester All Saints Primary School and Councillor Ossie Johnson, Chair of Lanchester Parish Council.

Lanchester Brass Band attended and enhanced the event, playing a selection of Christmas Carols which were enjoyed by all.

The Christmas Lights are provided and maintained by Lanchester Parish Council and the lights in the trees on the Village Green always look wonderful on the dark winter nights.

Following the switch on there was a supper at the Chapter House which provided an opportunity to celebrate the excellent work undertaken by the Friends of Longovicium.



Launch Events

Come along and help us celebrate the new Wildlife Audit and Heritage Walks publications

Lanchester Wildlife

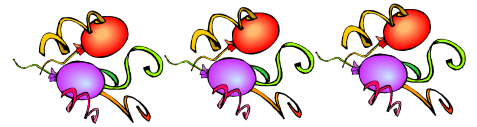
An audit of the species of Lanchester Parish

Saturday 17 March 11.00am - 1.30pm

Lanchester Social Club

Introduction by Professor David Bellamy OBE
refreshments ~ wildlife displays ~ face painting
badge making ~ and lots more

Bring the family to this FREE event



Lanchester Heritage Walks

Saturday 31 March 10.00am

Lanchester Village Green

(in inclement weather at Park House)

Introduction by local historian John Gall

Come along and see the new walks leaflets and have some refreshments

Two FREE guided walks will leave the Village Green at 10.30am (limited numbers). To attend these walks you must pre-book by contacting Sue on 07585 001355

Setting the Precept

The Parish Council has set its precept at £50,624.00 for the year 2012/13, an increase of 2.5% on last year. The Parish Council has worked hard to restrict the rise in precept particularly considering that inflation is higher than 2.5% and that Durham County Council have removed a £6000 contribution (equivalent to 12% of budget) paid in previous years.

The 2.5% rise will mean an average increase of **38p per year per household**.

In the past 3 years approx £170,000.00 of grants and funding has been secured to work on projects such as the bike track, play area, village green, locality map etc.

101 is now the number to call when you want to contact your local police - when its less urgent than 999



Lanchester Parish Councillors

Ossie Johnson	Stella House, Durham Road,	521937	CHAIR
Colin Burton	15 Deanery View,	520840	VICE CHAIR
Elizabeth Cook	46 Manor Grange,	529334	
Bob Glass	2 The Paddock	295765	
Bill Gray	27 Foxhills Crescent,	520656	
Margaret Gray	27 Foxhills Crescent,	520656	
Keith Harrison	Colepike Home Farm,	529522	
Paul Jackson	Stonebeck, Front Street,	521208	
Kevin Leary	60 Deanery View,	521627	
Alasdair Nairn	1 St Bedes Court,	529384	
Stuart Walker	2 St Bedes Court,	520790	
Mike Wardle	8 Ornsby Hill,	521622	
David Lindsay	13 Foxhills Crescent,	520102	
Malcolm Clarke	14 Briardene	07542 342352	
Alan Myers	10 Ashdown Grove	07502 163913	
Staff	Lead Officer / Clerk	Sally Laverick	521957 / 529415
	Handyperson	David Maddox	
	Development Officer	Sue Charlton	07585 001355

Need to speak to your Councillor?

Lanchester Parish Council has introduced open sessions to allow time for residents to speak to their councillors about issues that concern or affect them. The next sessions will be at Park House on:

Tues 13 March
10.00 am - 11.00 am
(coffee morning)

Tues 8 May
6.30 pm - 7.00pm