

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday
12 January 2016 at 7.15pm

Present Mr O Johnson (Chair)

Mr K Harrison, Mr S Walker, Mr B Gray, Mrs J Richardson,
Mr M Wardle, Mr B Glass, Mr Peter Richardson,
Mr P Jackson, Mrs A Cook

Mr R Young - County Councillor – observer

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mr C Burton	- ill
Mr Philip Richardson	- work commitments
Mrs M Gray	- other commitments
Mr K Leary	- other commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

1/16 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

2/16 **Public Participation**

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

3/16 **Minutes of the last meeting**

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 December 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

4/16 **North East Combined Authority (min 278/15)**

Councillor Johnson welcomed Mr Simon Henig, the Leader of Durham County Council to the meeting.

Mr Henig presented information on the North East Combined Authority to the Councillors and public present.

The County Council are shortly to commence a consultation exercise on the North East Combined Authority following which the County Council will make the decision on whether to be included in the NECA.

Mr Henig answered questions from Councillors and members of the public.

The Chair thanked Mr Henig for attending the meeting.

5/16 Neighbourhood Warden Report and Police Information

Resolved - that the Neighbourhood Warden report for November be received

Confirmation has been received from PCSO Lisa Jackson that she will attend the Parish Council meetings when her shifts allow

6/16 Correspondence

- (i) Letter – resident – seats in the bus shelter**
Members considered a letter received from a resident requesting that seats be installed in the bus shelters.
Resolved - that prices are sought for installing a seat in each of the three bus shelters.
- (ii) Letter – resident – footbridge near Brook View**
Members considered a letter received from a resident regarding the lighting on the footbridge near Brook View. A member of the public spoke and agreed that the lighting was poor.
Resolved - that a letter is sent to the County Council asking that they improve the lighting
- (iii) Buckingham Palace Garden Party – 24 May 2016**
Members considered nominations to the above event
Resolved - that Councillor Paul Jackson be included in the county draw
- (iv) Letter of thanks – Christmas Lights**
Members received a letter of thanks from Lanchester Partnership following their involvement in the Christmas Light Switch On event
Resolved - that the letter be received
- (v) Letter of thanks – Royal British Legion**
Resolved - that the letter be received
- (vi) North East Region Parish and Town Council Event**
Members received information on the event
Resolved - that members contact the Clerk if they wish to attend
- (vii) Audit Procurement**
Members considered the arrangements and options for external audit procurement

Resolved - that the Parish Council opt in to the Sector Led Body arrangements for the five year period

- (viii) **Letter – Durham County Council Archaeology Section (min 261/15)**
Resolved - that the letter be received

7/16 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 271/15)

Resolved - that the minutes of the Parish Councils Committee are received

8/16 Neighbourhood Plan (min 272/15)

Mike Wardle gave an update on progress.

The conservation area appraisal led by the County Council has progressed. The County Council are meeting with the working group on 27 January to present the draft document. There will be a community consultation event for the draft document on 3 February at Lynwood House.

The North of England Civic Trust will support the working group to produce a Heritage Audit of the Parish. A community mapping event will take place on 13 January and volunteer training sessions have been arranged for 28 January.

The second topic based questionnaire will be distributed at the beginning of February. An open day event has been arranged for Saturday 20 February at the Methodist Church.

Resolved - that the information be received

9/16 Parking in Front of the War Memorial (min 244/15)

Members were informed that a response had been received from the County Council following our request to install bollards to prevent unsuitable parking in front of the war memorial. The County Council are unable to offer a solution to the problem. Members were informed that the County Councillors are looking to progress this matter.

Resolved - that a copy of the letter is forwarded to County Councillor Ossie Johnson

10/16 Lanchester Community Emergency Plan

Members were informed that work continues on producing a Community Emergency Plan for Lanchester. The plan is almost complete and was used during the recent flooding event on 5 January.

Members considered the draft plan.

The plan has been produced by volunteers with support from Durham County Council and the Civil Contingencies Unit.

There are concerns from the volunteers about potential insurance issues.

Members discussed whether the Parish Council should take responsibility for the plan and its future. The Parish Council insurers have been asked if the volunteers would be covered under the Parish Council insurance in the event that the plan was activated.

Resolved - that the Parish Council take responsibility for the Community Emergency Plan subject to confirmation from our insurers.

11/16 Flooding

Following the severe flooding across parts of the country, members discussed whether the proposed flood alleviation plans for Lanchester are robust enough to cope with these levels of rainfall.

Resolved - that a letter is sent to the County Council seeking this assurance

Members were reminded of the need to report blocked gullies to the County Council.

Members discussed the recent flooding event in the village.

Resolved - that a letter of thanks is sent to Peter Suddes for his actions on the day

12/16 Maintenance Report

Resolved - that the report be received

13/16 Website

Members discussed the current arrangements and server provider

Resolved - that alternative server provision is secured

14/16 Precept 2016/17 (min 257/15)

The Lead Officer presented report F.

Resolved - that the precept be set at £55,844.00 for 2016/17

This would result in an increase in band D council tax of £0.93 a year or 2.5%

15/16 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report G
Resolved - that the report be received

16/16 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (December)	£1285.34
D Maddox	Salary (December)	£418.73
Durham County Council	Pension (December)	£391.45
HMRC	Tax & NI (Oct – Dec)	£953.16
CCL Office	Stationery	£8.82
CCL Office	Stationery	£74.45
Clive Crumpton	Expenses – website	£50.00
Lanchester Brass Band	Donation	£90.00
Lanchester Choral Society	Donation	£90.00
North England Civic Trust	Heritage Audit	£720.00
S Laverick	Expenses	£307.10

17/16 Chairperson’s Announcements

The Chair informed Members that Pat Glass MP a former Lanchester Parish Councillor had been appointed shadow Minister for Europe.

The Chair informed members that Ken Ball, Consett Fire Station Officer had been awarded the BEM.

18/16 Questions from Members – Information only

There were no questions from Members.

19/16 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 9 February 2016 at 7.15pm at Lynwood House

Meeting ended at 9.30 pm