

Lanchester Parish Council

February 2016

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.

LANCHESTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – Have your say

***Housing Design of New Development Business & Employment Historic Environment
Green Spaces & the Rural Environment Transport and Travel Community Assets***

The Neighbourhood Plan is a new kind of planning document. Once completed, it will have legal status and be used in making decisions on planning applications within the Parish. The preparation of the Plan provides the opportunity for the local community to decide how our area should grow and develop in the future. The Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Group are keen to seek your views to help us move forward with the development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

**Throughout February we will be conducting a survey to
seek the views of the community**

We have developed a draft vision and objectives under 7 key topic areas to help form the building blocks of the Neighbourhood Plan. We think these capture the key messages from previous consultations, but we'd like to hear what you think before moving forward. Together with the draft vision and objectives, we are also asking a few more focussed questions under each topic. Your responses will help make sure we have all the information and support we need to develop the detailed subject matter of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The questionnaire will be delivered to households in the village at the beginning of February and posted out to rural properties. Responses are sought from as many individuals as possible by the closing date of 29 February 2016. Additional copies of the questionnaire can be picked up at the Post Office, Library and Community Centre.

**The questionnaire can be completed online at
www.lanchesterparish.info/neighbourhood-plan/**

Completed paper questionnaires can be returned by using the drop-in boxes at the Post Office, Library and Community Centre or by post to the Parish Council, Lynwood House, Durham Road, Lanchester, DH7 0LS.

**If you have further questions, we are having an Open Day event on Saturday 20 February
between 10am – 12noon at the Methodist Church.**

We look forward to receiving your completed questionnaires

Conservation Area Character Appraisal

Durham County Council are currently carrying out a public consultation on the draft character appraisal for the Lanchester Conservation Area. The draft document can be viewed at www.durham.gov.uk/LanchesterCA Comments on the document need to be submitted by 27 February. For further details or queries please contact the County Council on 03000 267146.

Precept

The Parish Council considered its precept requirement at a recent Council meeting and set the precept for 2016 / 17 at £55,844.00. The result of the increase will mean that a property in band D will see an increase of 93p or 2.5% in 2016 / 17. This equates to less than 2 pence per week.

The Council will continue to work hard to realise efficiencies and to develop projects for the community.



Christmas Lights

On Saturday 28 November a large crowd gathered on the Village Green for the annual Christmas Light Switch On.

The switch on event included an excellent selection of Christmas Carols from Lanchester Brass Band and Lanchester Choral & Operatic Society who bravely played on through the wind and rain. In addition volunteers manned a gazebo and gave away mulled wine, mince pies and cakes for the adults and juice, sweets and a lucky dip prize for the children. Many thanks to the volunteers who kindly gave up their time to help out at the event.



The lights were formally switched on by Mr Mike Gladstone (Chair of Lanchester Partnership) accompanied by Jason Cheng and Grace Carroll-Cook from Lanchester EP Primary School and Lucy Duggan and Joshua D'Northwood from Lanchester All Saints Primary School.



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.

Dementia Friends

Members of the community came together in November to attend a Dementia Friends Information Session delivered by Alzheimer's Society. The session at Lynwood House provided information about dementia and how to create a dementia friendly community.



Lanchester Community Emergency Plan

Members of the community have been working on producing a Community Emergency Plan for some time. This work has been supported by the Civil Contingencies Unit and Durham County Council.

Although the plan has not yet been finally adopted it is near completion. The plan includes actions to inform key groups and organisations in the parish in the event of an emergency. Other actions may include the use of equipment from the emergency sheds and opening of a number of safe rest centres.

The flooding situation in the village on Tuesday 5 January saw parts of the plan put into action. Key organisations in the village i.e. schools, churches, doctors etc were contacted and informed of the situation. The equipment shed behind the Methodist Church was opened and aqua sacs were distributed. Officers from the Civil Contingencies Unit attended the village to offer support.

It is hoped that the plan will be completed and adopted in the near future following which an information / training session will be undertaken with all those involved.

If you would like further information on the Community Emergency Plan please contact Sally Laverick on 01207 520146

Lanchester Parish Councillors

Ossie Johnson	Stella House, Durham Road,	521937	CHAIR
Colin Burton	58 Pixley Dell, Delves Lane,	07985 551615	
Ann Cook	46 Manor Grange,	529334	
Bob Glass	2 The Paddock	03000 268711	
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	
Julie Richardson	Linden Lodge, Cadger Bank	521741	
Peter Richardson	Linden Lodge, Cadger Bank	521741	
Philip Richardson	Linden Lodge, Cadger Bank	521741	

Staff Lead Officer / Clerk Sally Laverick 520146 / 529415
Handyperson David Maddox



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 session will be at Lynwood House on:

Tues 8 March
6.30 pm - 7.00pm

