

# Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday  
10 May 2016 at 7.30pm

**Present** Mr O Johnson (Chair)

Mr C Burton, Mrs A Cook, Mr Peter Richardson, Mr P Jackson,  
Mr K Harrison, Mr B Gray, Mr S Walker, Mr B Glass,  
Mr K Leary, Mrs J Richardson,

Mr R Young (County Councillor - Observer)

Mr S Longstaff - Durham County Council

Mr P Marshall - Environment Agency

PCSO L Jackson

PC I Nelson

**Apologies** Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mrs M Gray - other commitments

Mr A Nairn - work commitments

Mr Philip Richardson - work commitments

Mr M Wardle - away

The above apologies were received and accepted

**107/16** **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

**108/16** **Public Participation**

There were no public present

**109/16** **Minutes of the last meeting**

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12 April 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

## **110/16 Committees**

### **Resolved that:**

- (i)** the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 14 April 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

## **111/16 Lanchester Flood Alleviation Scheme (min 59/16)**

Simon Longstaff from Durham County Council and Phil Marshall from the Environment Agency attended the meeting to present information on the proposed Lanchester flood alleviation scheme.

Members were informed that the County Council have been working with the Environment Agency since 2012 to address the flood problems in Lanchester.

Previous schemes have been proposed and explored over recent years, however it is felt that a multi-agency holistic approach to address all sources of flooding should be progressed. This would address flooding caused by the two watercourses, drains, surface water etc..

The recent flood in the centre of the village in January 2016 was caused in part by leaves and detritus washing down Newbiggen Lane and blocking the tops of the gullies. The County Council state that the gullies themselves were clear and that it was the debris on top of the gullies that caused the problem.

The proposed scheme would include:

- (i)** installing an attenuation tank at the entrance to the Alderdene culvert to hold the water
- (ii)** reducing the size of the entrance to the Alderdene culvert to reduce the water entering the culvert
- (iii)** improvements to pipe network on walkway

A more immediate action will be the installation of 60 metres of Beany blocks in Front Street to take more water into the drains. Beany drains are less likely to be blocked by debris. This work is scheduled for early this financial year.

In addition some repair works have been identified to the culvert near Woodham Court.

With regard to the proposed scheme, it is important that this is a fully integrated, designed and modelled scheme. Work is being undertaken on the modelling scheme to ensure that best return for investment is obtained and that funding can be secured.

It is likely that the full scheme will take 2 / 3 years to implement. This is due to the complex nature of multi-agency working and funding securement.

Members discussed the proposals and expressed concern over the timescales proposed.

It was agreed that a newsletter to the community from the County Council and Environment Agency would be useful.

It was also agreed to place an article in the next Parish Council newsletter.

The Chair thanked the Officers for attending the meeting.

**112/16 Neighbourhood Protection Team Reports and Police Report**

**Resolved that:**

- (i)** the Neighbourhood Warden report for February be received
- (ii)** the Neighbourhood Warden report for March be received

PCSO Lisa Jackson and PC Ian Nelson attended the meeting and presented the police report.

**Resolved** - that the report be received

**113/16 Correspondence**

- (i) Lanchester Parochial Church Council – letter of thanks for grant**  
**Resolved** - that the letter be received

- (ii) All Saints Catholic Primary School – letter of thanks for donation**  
**Resolved** - that the letter be received

- (iii) Durham County Council – potential surplus declaration –  
Chapmans Well Reclamation Site**  
**Resolved** - that the information be received

- (iv) Durham County Council – potential surplus declaration – Malton  
Colliery Reclamation Scheme**  
**Resolved** - that the information be received

**114/16 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC)  
(min 74/16)**

**Resolved** - that the minutes of the PCC meeting be received

Dates and times for the next PCC and AAP meetings were provided.

**115/16 Neighbourhood Plan (min 75/16)**

Members received an update on progress.

Work continues on the Heritage Audit which should be completed by the middle of July. A meeting to discuss and agree the significance of the assets has been arranged. A draft document should be available at the beginning of July.

The Conservation Area Appraisal is to be approved by the County Council in the near future.

The second topic based questionnaire was administered during February. 307 returned questionnaires have been received and inputted onto Survey Monkey. A basic quantitative and qualitative analysis has been circulated. Further work is needed on the textual responses.

A grant application is being progressed with 'Locality for £5000.00 to appoint a consultant to assist with the next stage of the plan. The next stage will include producing a 'Topic Paper' for each objective / area of the plan. This will include pulling together all the evidence and information available to produce options to achieve the plan objectives.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**116/16 Newbiggen Lane – Planning Appeal**

Members considered the report prepared by Mike Wardle which gave information on the recent planning appeal. Members considered a number of documents including: the closing statement, the Village Voice article and the statement made on behalf of the Parish Council at the enquiry.

Mike Wardle was thanked for attending the appeal and for speaking on behalf of the Parish Council.

Members discussed the substantial amount of work undertaken by Elaine Hogg, Mike Gladstone, Brian Masterman and Eric Hepplewhite on behalf of the community.

**Resolved** - that a letter of thanks is sent to these individuals

**117/16 Review of Parking Facilities (min 37/16)**

Paul Jackson provided Members with information on the background to the review. Durham County Council are currently consulting with residents and businesses in Front Street on parking proposals.

There was some concern that not all residents and businesses in the proposed area had received information on the consultation.

**Resolved that a response is made to the County Council:**

- (i) Suggesting that the time limited parking all carries a 2 hour maximum
- (ii) Asking for confirmation that all properties in the proposed area have received correspondence.

**118/16 Park House Play Area**

Members were informed that it has been necessary to arrange for some ground works to be undertaken at Park House to address the damage done over recent years by moles. A price of £480.00 has been provided and a contractor appointed to undertake the works

**Resolved** - that the action be ratified

**119/16 Insurance Renewal 2016/17**

Members discussed the insurance document and premium.

**Resolved** - that the insurance premium of £726.91 from AON be accepted, the level of cover provided having been accepted as sufficient.

**120/16 Internal Audit Report 2015/16**

Members considered the Internal Audit report.

**Recommended** - that the report be received

**121/16 Financial Year 2015 / 16  
End of Year Accounts**

The Lead Officer presented the report

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the Council approve the Annual Return – Annual Governance Statement
- (ii) the Council approve the Annual Return – Accounting Statement
- (iii) the Council accept the financial position for the end of year

**122/16 Financial Information**

The Lead Officer presented report J

**Resolved** - that the report be received

**123/16 Accounts for Payment**

**Resolved** - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (April)	£1276.65
D Maddox	Salary (April)	£427.33
Durham County Council	Pension (April)	£391.45
North England Civic Trust	Heritage Audit	£960.00
AD Purves Landscaping	Play area repairs	£350.40
Society Local Council Clerks	Annual Subscription	£187.00
CCL Office Limited	Stationery	£89.19
Durham County Council	Trade Waste	£253.00
M Young	Internal Audit	£135.00
North England Civic Trust	Heritage Audit	£960.00
Aon	Insurance	£726.91
S Laverick	Expenses	£129.68

**124/16 Chairperson's Announcements**

There were no announcements

**125/16 Questions from Members – Information only**

There were no questions from Members.

**126/16 Date of next meeting**

**Resolved** - that the next Ordinary meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 14 June 2016 at 7.15pm at Lynwood House

Meeting ended at 9.00 pm