

# Lanchester Parish Council

# Newsletter

August 2016

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

In February a second topic based questionnaire was distributed in the community to all dwellings and businesses. The questionnaire asked for feedback on a draft vision and objectives under 7 key topic areas and some focussed questions were asked under each topic area. 307 completed questionnaires were received. Some findings from the questionnaire are as follows:

- ◆ 96% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed with the draft vision.
- ◆ Draft objectives categories included: Housing, Design of New Development, Business & Employment, Historic Environment, Green Spaces & the Rural Landscape, Transport and Travel and Community Assets. Between 89% and 99% of respondents either strongly agreed or agreed with the draft objectives.
- ◆ With regard to the appropriate number of new houses to be built per year over the next 10 - 15 years, 26% of respondents said none, 20% said up to 5 dwellings, 24% said 6 - 10 dwellings and 21% said 11 - 15 dwellings per year.
- ◆ Over 89% of respondents were in favour (in principle) of a boundary to the settlement of Lanchester to manage the location of any new housing development.
- ◆ Over the last 15 years permission has been granted for approximately 10 - 12 dwellings per year. 61% of respondents thought this was about right and 32% of respondents thought this was too much.
- ◆ 92% of respondents agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan should draw upon the Village Design Statement to guide the design of new development.

The Conservation Area Appraisal completed by Durham County Council and assisted by volunteers from the community has now been approved by the County Council. The heritage Audit is also nearing completion. The North of England Civic Trust have assisted volunteers in producing the audit which has involved surveying and recording over 200 heritage assets. The Conservation Area Appraisal and the Heritage Audit will provide valuable information for the Neighbourhood Plan.

The next step is to bring together all the information we have gathered to prepare a topic paper for each objective / area which will then produce options to achieve the objectives. A grant of £5000 has been secured from 'Locality' to engage a consultant to assist with this process. A full day workshop took place in July to begin this next stage of the plan.

## Annual Report 2015/16

Lanchester Parish Council's Annual Report for 2015 / 16 was published in June and distributed in Lanchester Parish. If you didn't receive a copy or would like further copies, please contact the Clerk on the number below or pick up a copy at the Library or Community Centre.

The report outlines the services that the Parish Council provides and the main achievements of the year. The report also provides an overview of expenditure and income for the year. A summary of the financial picture is shown as follows:

Balance at 1 April 2015	£100,639.00
Total Income	£64,827.23
Total Expenditure	£65,853.34
Balance at 31 March 2016	<b>£99,612.89</b>



The Balance figure includes monies received as grants for specific projects as well as monies identified for particular works.

## Hanging Baskets

The hanging baskets are once again providing a colourful display throughout the village during the summer months.



## Grants for Community and Voluntary Groups

The Mid Durham Area Action Partnership (AAP) has a small grants scheme aimed at supporting local community groups. Grants of up to £400 can be obtained and the AAP are keen to encourage more groups to apply. Applications can be for equipment, activities, ongoing revenue costs etc.



For more details or an application pack, contact Lynn on 07557 541413

## Grants received

Since 2008 the Parish Council, working with partners and independently have secured over **£295,000** to deliver projects and improve services.

Sources of funding have included: Heritage Lottery Fund, Rural Development Programme for England, Durham County Council, Youth Opportunities Fund, Northern Gas Networks, County Durham Environment Trust, CIF grant, Area Action Partnership, Sport England, local businesses etc.

Projects undertaken include:

Bike Track & Play Area	- £90,000.00
Village Green phase one	- £16,700.00
Village Green phase two	- £1,955.00
Tree Grants	- £600.00
Locality Map project	- £68,000.00
Walk Leaflets	- £3,200.00
Quality Status Bursary	- £500.00
Gateway Project	- £12,274.00
Lynwood	- £800.00
Village Comp. Prize Money	- £800.00
Xmas Light Replacement	- £18,000.00
Miners' Banner project	- £23,500.00
Neighbourhood Plan	- £4,000.00
Neighbourhood Plan	- £1660.00
Cricket Changing rooms	- £47,700.00
DIAL document	- £400.00
Village Improvements	- £500.00
Neighbourhood Plan	- £5000.00

**Many thanks go to the organisations and individuals who have worked with us on these projects.**

## Lanchester Parish Councillors

Ossie Johnson	Stella House, Durham Road,	521937	CHAIR
Colin Burton	c/o Parish Council, Lynwood House, Durham Road,		
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	
<b>Staff</b> 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 13 September  
6.30 pm - 7.00pm**