

# Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday  
13 June 2017 at 7.15pm

**Present** Cllr. O Johnson (Chair)

Cllr. A Cook, Cllr. P Jackson, Cllr. J Considine,  
Cllr. K Harrison, Cllr. B Gray, Cllr. S Walker, Cllr. D Friesner,  
Cllr. A Gray, Cllr. D Smith (arrived 8.10pm), Cllr. M Walker,  
Cllr. M Gray, Cllr. I Tute, Cllr. T Jones

PCSO Lisa Jackson

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

Cllr. K Leary - family commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

**125/17** **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

**126/17** **Public Participation**

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

**127/17** **Minutes of the last meeting**

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 16 May 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted
- (ii) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16 May 2017 be amended to include the following wording in min ref 122/17 'A Member raised the issue of the Teaching Assistants and asked if a member of Durham County Council could attend a future meeting to provide an update. This was not considered to be an appropriate agenda item.' Following the amendment the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16 May 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

The process for members to request agenda items was confirmed as being through the Clerk. The setting of the agenda is the responsibility of the Clerk in consultation with the Chair.

The agenda item 'Questions from members' was explained and the relevant section from the Standing Orders was read out for clarity.

**128/17**

### **Police Report**

PCSO Lisa Jackson introduced herself to Councillors. Councillors can contact her through the 101 number.

PCSO Lisa Jackson presented the Police report.

- There have been a number of incidents of anti-social behaviour:
  - Youths at the back of the Bridge School. CCTV has identified a number of youths
  - Children running through the allotments on Peth Bank
  - Youths at Kitswell Park drinking alcohol
  - Youths getting onto the roof of the new extension at All Saints Primary School causing some damage
  - Youths drinking at Malton

These incidents are sporadic and not continuous

- Durham County Council have extended the fencing under the bridge behind Park House Play Area. However youths are still accessing the area so Durham County Council are re-assessing what is required
- Lanchester Beer Festival – some beer had been stolen and several youths are being interviewed
- Willowburn Hospice – building work has attracted intruders
- Bike marking events have taken place at both Primary Schools
- The police are working with the Lanchester Show Committee in preparation for the event
- Building works at the EP Primary School. The traffic lights have now been removed. Police will monitor the situation for further problems.

Members agreed that it was sensible to monitor the situation at the EP Primary School but confirmed that there was still a problem with dangerous and inappropriate parking. PCSO Jackson advised Members to take details of vehicles and pass to the Police or to the Civil Enforcement Team at Durham County Council who are aware of the current problems at the school.

The issue of cars speeding in and out of the village was raised. Members were informed that Community Speed Watch and speed checks are undertaken.

A Councillor reported that the permanent speed visor on Cadger Bank appeared to be at the wrong angle and height to effectively inform motorists.

**Resolved** - that this is reported to Durham County Council Highways

**129/17 Correspondence**

**(i) Letter – resident – concern about the condition of the pavement on Durham Road between the Kings Head and Lynwood House**

Members considered the information received. It was acknowledged that this pavement is used by many people including elderly residents from Lynwood House, Valley Grove and those visiting the doctors surgery.

**Resolved that:**

- (i)** The letter is forwarded to the County Council along with the concerns of the Parish Council
- (ii)** The resident is informed of the action taken

**(ii) The Pensions Regulator – acknowledgement of declaration of compliance**

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**(iii) County Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership – training - Councillors and Chairmanship**

Members considered attendance at the training sessions

**Resolved** - that information on the training sessions is forwarded to Members who can inform the Clerk if they wish to attend

**(iv) County Durham Association of Local Councils - AGM**

Members considered nominations for committee positions

**Resolved** - that Members contact the Clerk if they wish to stand or nominate for a committee position

**(v) Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Dog Control**

Members received details of the order which came into effect on 1 June and the campaign to inform members of the public

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**(vi) Notification of Planning Appeal – Erection of a two storey detached agricultural workers dwelling with adjoining double car port and ancillary hard and soft landscaping features**

**Resolved** - that the original letter of objection sent by the Parish Council be deemed as adequate

**(vii) Notification of Planning Appeal – Residential development of 52 dwellings with new access and associated works – land to the west of Briardene, Cadger Bank**

Members considered the original letter of objection and the opportunity to submit additional information for the planning inspector to consider. Since the original letter of objection was submitted in December 2015

the Conservation Area Appraisal has been completed, the Heritage Audit has been completed and there has been progress in the Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed that this information should form the basis of an additional representation to the planning inspector.

**Resolved** - that the Clerk and Councillor Friesner draw up and submit this additional information

Councillor Smith joined the meeting during the last agenda item.

**130/17 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 113/17)**

The next AAP meeting will take place on Wednesday 14 June  
The next PCC meeting will take place on Saturday 22 July at 10am at Lanchester

Councillor M Gray offered to represent the Parish Council on the PCC  
**Resolved** - that Councillor M Gray attends the PCC meetings

The AAP is organising forum events across the area during June and July to gather information from communities to formulate Village Action Plans. A session has been arranged in Lanchester to take place at Lynwood House on Tuesday 11 July between 4.30pm – 6.30pm. The AAP have asked that some Councillors help out at the forum. Councillor J Considine and Councillor D Smith offered to help. It is hoped that Councillors and members of the public will attend during the event to contribute.

**131/17 Neighbourhood Plan (min 114/17)**

Members were informed that the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 5 July at 6.30pm at Lynwood House. The agenda for the meeting will include looking at all the topic papers and review papers and receiving the draft housing policy.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

Members discussed the position of Chair for the working group. Members were informed that it was acceptable for the position of Chair to be taken by someone who was not a Parish Councillor. In addition the Clerk provided information from the minutes of Parish Council meetings on the decision taken to set up a working group to progress the Neighbourhood Plan

**Resolved** - that Mr Mike Wardle is asked to continue to Chair the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

## 132/17 Chair of the Council

Members were informed that the election of Chair at the Annual Meeting had followed the standing orders which state that it must be the first item on the agenda. The Parish Council have the ability to change the Standing Orders to reflect the wishes of the Council in terms of election of a Chair as long as it remains the first item on the agenda.

A discussion took place on the position of Chair of the Council, including rotating a Chair and limiting the number of years the same Chair can stand.

A proposal was made and seconded to keep the standing orders as they were.

An amendment to the proposal was made and seconded to change the standing orders to introduce a limit to the number of years the same Chair can stand.

A vote taken on the amendment to the proposal was defeated on majority

**Resolved** - that the amendment be defeated

A vote was then taken on the proposal to keep the standing orders as they were. The vote was passed on majority

**Resolved** - that the standing orders remain unchanged

## 133/17 Parking Scheme – Lanchester Village

Members were provided with an update on the parking scheme in the centre of the village. The scheme included marking parking bays, introducing time limited parking and signage. The road markings were applied in February but the signage has yet to be erected. Recent correspondence with the County Council revealed that due to an administration error the signs had not been ordered. They have now been ordered and the works should take place within 6 weeks.

Members expressed concern over the timescale of the project from start to finish and particularly about this latest delay. Members also discussed how the scheme will be managed and monitored by the County Council.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) a letter is sent to the County Council outlining the concerns of the Parish Council
- (ii) the matter is placed on a future agenda

**134/17 Library - Scaffolding**

Members were provided with the following update

The Library building is leased not owned by the County Council. The County Council have corresponded with the owners numerous times over many years regarding the state of the guttering. The Library building has also changed ownership quite recently. The work to address the defective guttering was supposed to take place over the winter but did not. The owner has met with the County Council. He would wish to undertake more substantial work on the whole building rather than a repair job to the defective guttering. He is therefore putting together a revised tender for the whole building. It is therefore likely that the scaffolding will remain for some time. The County Council feel that they are coming to a point where work will now be undertaken.

Members expressed concern over the length of time that the scaffolding has been erected and whether there is a limit to the time that the scaffolding can remain. If the works are not to take place immediately can the scaffolding not be removed. Members identified that the scaffolding is causing difficulty for people using the footpath and that disabled access to the library is problematic. Clarification on when the works will take place and who will undertake the works is required. It was also noted that the internal door needs repairing. It was noted that some repairs have taken place to the rear of the property. Members referred to the recent Heritage Audit which identified the Library as a building of significance.

**Resolved that:**

- (i)** a letter is sent to the County Council outlining the concerns of the Parish Council
- (ii)** the listed status of the Library is placed on an agenda of a future meeting

**135/17 Street Signs – Foxhills Crescent (min 111/17)**

Members were informed that following the reporting of the state of the street signs at Foxhills Crescent, the County Council have agreed to replace them

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**136/17 Lanchester Allotments Association – request for donation**

Councillor Smith declared an interest.

Members considered a request from Lanchester Allotments Association for a donation to help towards their centenary event in August.

Normally requests for donations are considered at the meeting in March, however the timescale for this event makes this impossible.

**Resolved** - that a donation of £100.00 be awarded to Lanchester Allotments Association

**137/17 World War One – Beacons of Light – 11 November 2018**

Burnhope Parish Council have asked if Lanchester Parish Council would work on a joint project with them for this centenary event. The national event aims to light 1000 beacons on 11 November 2018 to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War 1. The area identified for the beacon is the top of Peth Bank.

**Resolved** - that agreement is given in principle to be involved in the event and that more information on detail and costs is presented at a future meeting

Councillor A Gray left the meeting

**138/17 Financial Information**

The Lead Officer presented report C

**Resolved** - that the report be received

**139/17 Accounts for Payment**

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

D Reed	Strimmer Service	£75.00
Olivers Tree Services	Tree work	£2868.00
Total Results	Website hosting	£97.99
CDALC	Annual Subscription	£556.77
SLCC	Annual Subscription	£157.00
S Laverick	Salary (May)	£1306.17
D Maddox	Salary (May)	£382.14
Durham County Council	Pensions (May)	£405.84
CCL Office Ltd	Stationery	£93.51
C Wilson	Rent - Hollinside Play Area	£20.00
S Laverick	expenses	£27.00
A D Purves	Grass cutting	£2155.92

**140/17 Chairperson's Announcements**

There were no Chair announcements

**141/17 Questions from Members – Information only**

Councillor M Gray informed Members that she has noted several occasions where the exit to the Kings Head car park has been used as the entrance.

**Resolved** - that this is placed on the agenda of the next meeting for consideration

Councillor M Gray informed Members that some tree work and grass clearance has taken place on part of the grass verge up Newbiggen Lane.

**Resolved** - that this is placed on the agenda of the next meeting for consideration

**142/17 Date of next meeting**

**Resolved** - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 11 July at 7.15pm at Lynwood House

Meeting ended at 9.15pm