

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance, Development and General Purposes Committee held at Lynwood House on Wednesday 26 July 2017 at 7.15 pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)
Cllr. S Walker, Cllr. P Jackson, Cllr. O Johnson, Cllr. M Gray,
Cllr. I Tute, Cllr. T Jones, Cllr. D Smith, Cllr. M Walker

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. J Considine - family commitments
Cllr. K Leary - ill
Cllr. D Friesner - other commitments
Cllr. A Gray - family commitments

179/17 Election of Chair

Resolved - that Cllr Keith Harrison be elected as Chairperson for the ensuing year.

180/17 Election of Vice Chair

Resolved - that Cllr. Stuart Walker be elected as Vice Chairperson for the ensuing year.

181/17 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

182/17 Public Participation

There were no public present.

183/17 Budget Position

The Lead Officer presented the finance report.

Recommended - that the report be received

It was noted that the wall in the rose garden was in need of some repair

Recommended - that a price is sought for repairs

184/17

Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan

Members were informed that a meeting had taken place on Tuesday 25 July to discuss policy development. Information on policies had been provided from each topic group. This information will now be forwarded to our consultant who has been engaged to undertake work on supporting policy development with the group. The consultant will generate a coherent approach for policy development and produce information on how all the policies will interrelate. The consultant will attend the next full meeting of the group to provide guidance on policy development and to present the revised draft housing settlement edge policy.

A small group has been formed to consider the mapping requirements for the Neighbourhood Plan.

The working group are preparing a budget to accommodate the remaining stages of the Neighbourhood Plan preparation.

The next full meeting of the working group will take place on Thursday 14 September.

Recommended - that the information be received

185/17

Christmas Lights

Members discussed the fencing around the Christmas Tree which is becoming very tight for space and considered a price received to extend the fencing around the tree.

Recommended - that the price of £923.00 is accepted for undertaking works to extend the fence subject to confirmation that the person undertaking the work has appropriate insurance

Members discussed purchasing solar lights to put on trees further up Front Street

Recommended - that this is not progressed at this time

Members discussed the Christmas Light Switch On event and agreed the following details:

- (i) The switch on to take place on Saturday 25 November
- (ii) The gazebo be moved to a more central position on the green
- (iii) Lighting be purchased for the gazebo
- (iv) Investigate a sound system for the speech
- (v) Extra fencing be installed on Front Street side
- (vi) The main elements and timings for the event to remain the same
- (vii) Canon Bob Spence be asked to switch on the lights

Recommended - that the details of the event be approved

186/17

Durham County Council

Members were informed that the following responses had been received to recent enquiries:

- Speed Visor on Cadger Bank – a response had been received from the County Council stating that the radar within the speed visor cannot be adjusted to accommodate the gradient of the road. The overhanging branches will be cut back
- Salt Bin – A damaged salt bin was reported. The bin has now been replaced.
- Blocked gullies on Cadger Bank – this has been reported and a response received to say the matter will be addressed
- Overhanging trees on the Valley Walk – this has been reported and addressed
- Nettles on approach to the two primary schools – this has been reported
- Grass / tree clearance on Newbiggen Lane – this has been reported
- Resident – Ashdown Grove – boundary of property – this matter has now been resolved between the resident and the County Council
- Scaffolding at the Library – a response has been received from the County Council which indicates that the scaffolding is in place for safety reasons
Recommended - that an officer from the County Council is asked to attend a meeting of the Parish Council to discuss the matter further
- Parking Scheme – The signs for the parking enforcement are now in place
Recommended that:
 - (i) the effectiveness of the scheme be reviewed in a number of months
 - (ii) the County Council be asked to inform the enforcement team of problems with parking on footpaths
- Library listed status – the County Council will not assist with the process but have provided a web link for more details

The matter of youths in the Smallhope Burn behind Browney Mews was discussed. Members were informed that a site visit had taken place with the Police. PCSO Lisa Jackson has issued residents with an 'Anti-Social Behaviour' form to record incidents.

A Councillor asked that the driver of the Village Bus be asked to turn off his engine when waiting at the bus stop
Recommended - that this request is passed to Lanchester Partnership

187/17 Newsletter

Members considered the quarterly newsletter
Recommended - that the newsletter be approved for distribution

188/17 Date of next meeting

Recommended - that the next Finance, Development & General
Purposes Committee meeting be held on Wednesday 27
September at 7.15pm at Lynwood House

Business concluded at 8.30pm