

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 13 February 2018 at 7.15pm

Present Cllr. O Johnson (Chair)

Cllr. K Harrison, Cllr. S Walker, Cllr. D Friesner,
Cllr. K Leary, Cllr. M Walker, Cllr. I Tute, Cllr. P Jackson
Cllr. D Smith, Cllr. J Considine, Cllr. T Jones

Mike Wardle - Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group
Barrie Alderson - Durham County Council

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. B Gray	- family commitments
Cllr. M Gray	- family commitments
Cllr. A Cook	- ill
Cllr. A Gray	- other commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

22/18 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

23/18 **Public Participation**

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

24/18 **Park House Play Area**

The Chair welcomed Barrie Alderson from Durham County Council to the meeting.

Barrie provided information on the proposed improvement works to Park House Play Area. The County Council had requested tenders for the works through the County Councils procurement process and one tender had been returned within the timescale.

The proposed works will include:

- replacing the safety surfacing within the fenced play area
- replacing the two old springers with three new springers
- including a hopscotch game within the safety surface

The remaining play equipment is sound. Members discussed the painting of the existing equipment.

A visual of the scheme was presented and discussed.

Barrie informed Members that the scheme provided good value for money. The project would be completed before the summer.

In addition Barrie informed Members that he would explore the replacement of the old swing outside the fenced play area with a more modern swing. This would be in addition to the tender works.

Barrie Alderson left the meeting.

Members discussed the project.

Resolved that:

- (i) the project be approved
- (ii) the painting of the existing equipment be undertaken at an additional cost of up to £2000.00

25/18 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9 January 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

26/18 Police Report

The Police report provided by PCSO Lisa Cullen-Jackson was read out which included the following incidents.

- Youths congregating outside the takeaways on an evening.
- Village being targeted by door to door sellers. It is a legal requirement that sellers have a Pedlars Certificate. Police are actively checking these documents and anyone seen trading without one can have their goods seized and may face prosecution.
- Reports were received about a party held at the cricket club which saw individuals causing issues for residents.
- Theft of 18 lambs from a field on Longedge Lane
- The old fish shop at Deneside which is being accessed by youths. The owner has now secured the building.

Resolved that:

- (i) the report be received
- (ii) a copy of a Pedlars Certificate is obtained to inform the community

27/18 Correspondence

- (i) **Durham County Council - Poster - Garden Waste Collection Service Resolved** - that the poster be displayed in the notice board
- (ii) **Lanchester Cricket Club Beer Festival – May 2018**
Members received information from the club on the preparations for the beer festival to be held 25 – 27 May 2018. A number of measures are being proposed to address people bringing their own alcohol to the event and underage drinking.
Resolved - that the Parish Council supports the measures to address these issues
- (iii) **Campaign to Protect Rural England – North East Newsletter – Winter 2017/18**
Resolved - that the newsletter be received
- (iv) **Clerks & Councils Direct – January magazine**
Resolved - that the magazine be received
- (v) **The Clerk Magazine – January 2018**
Resolved - that the magazine be received
- (vi) **Northumbrian Water Limited – letter**
Members considered the response received regarding concerns of sewer capacity
Resolved - that a representative from Northumbria Water Limited is asked to attend a future meeting to discuss the matter

28/18 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 8/18)

Resolved - that the minutes of the PCC meeting held in January be received

Members were informed that the AAP are considering a project to allocate £10,000.00 to undertake environmental projects across the mid Durham area. The fund will be administered by the County Council, however the projects will be considered and agreed at the PCC meetings.

Members were asked to report fly-tipping hotspots to the Clerk.

Members discussed fly-tipping and whether this had been made worse following charges for bin emptying and charges at the waste recycling centres.

Resolved - that the information be received

29/18 Neighbourhood Plan (min 9/18)

Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2018 be approved

Mike Wardle provided members with an update.

The draft policies have been drawn up along with a draft outline of the Neighbourhood Plan document. These documents were circulated to Members at the meeting. The intention is to arrange a Planning Meeting in the near future to discuss fully the policy documents. Members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group will be invited to attend.

Shaun Hanson our planning consultant and Stuart Carter from Durham County Council are to meet to discuss and review the policies and provide feedback.

Resolved that:

- (i) the information be received
- (ii) a meeting of the Planning Committee is arranged
- (iii) a full pack of documents is delivered to Councillors not attending this meeting

30/18 Lanchester War Memorial Working Group

Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2018 be approved

The proposed design for the memorial has progressed. A meeting has taken place with the contractor where examples of their work were viewed and a contractor to undertake the works to the War Memorial has been appointed.

Work continues to produce a complete and accurate list of names for inclusion on the War Memorial.

The work on the war memorial has been planned for August and September.

Resolved - that the information be received

31/18 Issues Raised by Councillors and members of the public

Members considered the following matters:

- (i) **Condition of the footpath on Ford Road**
Information has been received from a resident regarding the poor condition of the pavement between Ford Crescent and Smallhope Drive. It was reported that repair work has just been undertaken on the path.
Resolved - that the information be received
- (ii) **FixMyStreet website - no longer used by Durham County Council**
A Councillor informed Members that the County Council no longer accept reports via FixMyStreet website to report problems or issues.
Resolved - that the County Council are asked why they don't use this reporting option anymore
- (iii) **Request for more grit bins**
Members discussed the grit bins in the Parish. The County Council use a number of criteria to determine where grit bins should be located.
Resolved - that a small group of Councillors consider the quantity, location and quality of the grit bins and report back to the Parish Council
- (iv) **Walk - removal of stile and lack of signage**
A Councillor informed Members that a ladder stile has been replaced with a gate and that footpath signage is missing on a recognised walk
Resolved - that this is reported to the Public Access Forum
- (v) **Steps - Ridgeway to Valley Walk**
Members discussed the condition of the steps
Resolved - that this is reported to the County Council for attention
- (vi) **Pedestrian crossing – Ford Road/Station Road**
Members discussed the crossing point on Station Road which can cause difficulty for pedestrians, cyclists and walkers. The problem is the volume and speed of traffic at certain times of the day. The County Council have been contacted previously regarding this matter. The County Council have stated that it does not fit national guidelines for a pedestrian crossing. The County Council are planning to undertake some works, including a dropped kerb and improved signage.
Resolved - that a letter is sent to the Highways Authority asking them to identify possible pedestrian safety options for this area

32/18 Newsletter

Members considered the newsletter

Resolved - that the newsletter be approved for distribution

33/18 Planning

Councillor D Friesner took over as Chair for this item

Members considered the following planning application:

Change of use of residential annex to dwelling at Woodlea Manor, Lanchester DM/18/00036/FPA

The Parish Council have responded and objected previously to a similar application.

Resolved - that a letter of objection is sent to the County Council requesting that the residential annex remains as an annex to Woodlea Manor

34/18 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report F

Resolved - that the report be received

35/18 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (Jan)	£1306.17
D Maddox	Salary (Jan)	£382.14
Durham County Council	Pension (Jan)	£405.84
Planning Advice Plus	Neighbourhood Plan	£525.20
BT	Broadband	£86.64
S Laverick	Expenses	£240.19
Durham County Council	Election Costs	£3675.60
Planning Advice Plus	Neighbourhood Plan	£675.40

36/18 Grass Cutting Contract 2018 and long term agreement

Resolved - that under the powers contained in Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the Press and Public be excluded from the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

Members discussed and considered the returned prices and the awarding of a longer term contract.

Resolved that:

- (i) the grass cutting contract be awarded to A D Purves Landscaping being the lowest tender

- (ii) a three year contract be awarded, the price for year two and three to be confirmed prior to the grass cutting season commencing

37/18 Grassed Area – Lanchester Valley Railway Path – between Station Road and Newbiggen Lane

Members considered the licence agreement entered into with the County Council in 2014 which had allowed the Parish Council to undertake a number of cuts to the above grassed area. Under this agreement the County Council had retained ownership and maintenance responsibility for the area.

Members considered this information and a discussion took place on whether the Parish Council should cut the grass in this area again in 2018 under a similar arrangement.

Resolved that:

- (i) a licence agreement be entered into with the County Council to cut the grass in this area
- (ii) a five year licence is requested

38/18 Chairperson’s Announcements

The Chair announced that Lanchester Partnership have requested the use of the Village Green on Saturday 21 April for the Annual litter pick
Resolved - that permission be granted for this event

39/18 Questions from Members – Information only

Councillor P Jackson informed Members that Willowburn Hospice has secured £1.5 million to build a new unit and that work would commence shortly.

40/18 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 13 March at 7.15pm at Lynwood House

Meeting ended at 9.00pm