

# **Lanchester Parish Council**

## **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 9 January 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. A Gray, Cllr. M Gray  
Cllr. D Smith, Cllr. J Considine, Cllr. T Jones

Mike Wardle - Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group  
Michelle Atkinson - Lanchester Partnership Community Events

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

Cllr. B Gray - ill  
Cllr. P Jackson - away  
Cllr. I Tute - ill

The above apologies were received and accepted

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

### **1/18 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

### **2/18 Public Participation**

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

### **3/18 Lanchester Partnership – Community Events**

Michelle Atkinson attended the meeting to inform Councillors about the community events being progressed through a working group of the Lanchester Partnership.

The main efforts of the group are centred on organising a Lanchester Fun Run (5K and 10K) and Summer Fayre. Both events will take place on 22 July at Burnhopeside Hall. They are holding regular meetings and need to ensure that they have enough volunteers to manage the events. They are working through details such as first aid, radios, Health & Safety and will submit information to the Durham County Council Safety

Advisory Group. It is intended to start with low numbers attending and build up year by year.

The Chair congratulated the group on the progress made and asked that the Parish Council be kept informed.

#### **4/18 Minutes of the last meeting**

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12 December 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

#### **5/18 Committees**

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 12 December 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

#### **6/18 Police Report**

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

- A vehicle was keyed on Deanery View – no suspects have been identified
- An attempted burglary was reported at Manor Grange – access was not gained – no suspects have been identified
- Two male suspects have been arrested in connection with the distraction theft of an elderly lady's bank card on Front Street – investigations are ongoing
- Theft of a quad bike from a farm near Iveston village. The bike was fitted with a tracker device which led to officers arresting the offender and seizing other stolen items from his property
- A male has been arrested and charged with criminal damage after kicking and smashing the glass on the door to the Spar, Front Street

**Resolved** - that the report be received

The removal of stone from the stone wall along Ford Road on leaving the village was reported.

**Resolved** - that this information is passed to the Police

**7/18                      Correspondence**

- (i)      Lanchester Choral and Operatic Society – Letter of thanks**  
**Resolved** - that the letter be received

**8/18                      Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC)**  
**(min 273/17)**

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

Councillor M Gray provided an update on the PCC meeting held in November, including:

- Dementia Friendly Communities
- Fly Tipping Cameras
- Youth Fund Allocation

Councillors were reminded that the AAP offers a small grants scheme to community groups.

**9/18                      Neighbourhood Plan (min 274/17)**

**Resolved that:**

- (i)**      The minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2017 be approved
- (ii)**     The minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2017 be approved

Mike Wardle provided members with an update.

Work continues on policy development. The design guidance for the plan is being worked on by a small group.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

A meeting with Durham County Council to discuss the status of Back Lane is to be arranged. It is possible that to progress this matter an article may need to be submitted to the Village Voice or a petition organised.

**Resolved** - that this action is approved

**10/18                    Street Furniture – Front Street (min 278/17)**

Members discussed the variety of street furniture on Front Street and in particular the recent installation of bollards on commercial premises. Members were informed of the information received from the County Council on the matter. There is a concern of the different styles of the bollards.

**Resolved** - that a letter is sent to the business outlining the concerns of the Parish Council

11/18

## **Parking Issues**

### **(i) Parking Sign (min 276/17)**

Members considered correspondence received from the County Council regarding a complaint received from a resident about a recently installed parking sign. Members considered that the sign was not obtrusive and would wish to see it retained.

**Resolved** - that the County Council are informed of the view of the Parish Council

### **(ii) Waiting Restrictions**

The Parish Council considered proposals to introduce waiting restrictions at St Bedes Court and Front Street to address ongoing road safety issues generated by school time traffic.

The Parish Council fully support both schemes and asked that following implementation that enforcement of the schemes takes place.

**Resolved** - that the County Council are informed accordingly

### **(iii) Parking – Peth Bank**

Members considered the ongoing problems of car congestion and parking at the junction of Peth Bank and Durham Road

**Resolved** - that the County Council are asked to look at this matter

### **(iv) Traffic Management – St Bedes School**

Members were informed of a proposed scheme to introduce a second car lane at the front of St Bedes School to assist with school drop off and pick up times. The school is committing a substantial amount of money to address the congestion and parking problems currently experienced.

A planning application has been submitted to the County Council to seek approval for the scheme. Members considered the plans and welcomed the application which attempts to improve the current situation.

**Resolved** - that a letter of support is sent to the County Council

**12/18            Annual Play Inspections**

Members were informed that the annual play inspections have been completed for Hollinside, Hurbuck Cottages, Manor Grange and Park House. The inspections identified some routine maintenance which would be addressed.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**13/18            Wooden Animal Carvings**

Members discussed the wooden animal carvings on the path on the Village Green. The carvings have been installed for almost six years and are showing signs of wear, particularly the fox.

**Resolved** - that prices are sought for a replacement wooden fox

**14/18            Maintenance Report**

Members considered report G which identified the maintenance work undertaken in the last three months

**Resolved that:**

- (i)      the report be received
- (ii)     thanks be passed to David Maddox for the work undertaken

**15/18            Grass Cutting 2018**

Members discussed the process for securing a contractor to undertake the grass cutting for 2018

**Resolved that:**

- (i)      Quotes are sought for the work
- (ii)     That a two or three year contract is explored

**16/18            Precept 2018/19 (min 263/17)**

The Lead Officer presented report H.

**Resolved** - that the precept be set at £60,401.14 for 2018/19

This would result in an increase in band D council tax of £1.10 a year or 2.78%

**17/18 Financial Information**

The Lead Officer presented report I  
**Resolved** - that the report be received

**18/18 Accounts for Payment**

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

|                       |                      |           |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| S Laverick            | Salary (Dec)         | £1306.17  |
| D Maddox              | Salary (Dec)         | £381.94   |
| Durham County Council | Pension (Dec)        | £405.84   |
| HMRC                  | Tax & NI (Oct – Dec) | £1,335.01 |
| S Laverick            | Expenses             | £356.00   |
| BT                    | Phone                | £86.87    |
| Damascus Road         | Christmas Event      | £50.00    |

**19/18 Chairperson's Announcements**

There were no announcements

**20/18 Questions from Members – Information only**

Councillor Friesner informed Members that a walker and her dog had been injured by a cow whilst walking on a recognised walk in Lanchester.

**Resolved** - that this matter is reported to the public access forum at Durham County Council

**21/18 Date of next meeting**

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

Meeting ended at 9.15pm