

Lanchester Parish Council

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

Present Cllr. O Johnson (Chair)

Cllr. K Harrison, Cllr. S Walker, Cllr. D Friesner, Cllr. A Gray
Cllr. K Leary, Cllr. M Walker, Cllr. I Tute, Cllr. P Jackson
Cllr. D Smith, Cllr. T Jones, Cllr. B Gray

Mike Wardle - Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. J Considine - family commitments
Cllr. M Gray - other commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

46/18 Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest were received as follows:

Councillor D Smith declared an interest in item 14 (3 and 5)
Councillor J Considine declared an interest in item 14 (5)
Councillor D Friesner declared an interest in item 14 (5)
Councillor P Jackson declared an interest in item 14 (5)
Councillor A Gray declared an interest in item 15

47/18 Public Participation

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

48/18 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13 February 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

49/18 Police Report

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

- There are currently no anti-social behaviour trends in the village.
- Two incidents of parked cars on Durham Road being scratched by keys
- Bogus callers continue to be a concern in the village
- There has been an increased number of telephone calls claiming to be from HMRC regarding claims of unpaid tax
- Ornsby Hill House has been targeted by unknown persons who have entered and damaged brick work
- A garage burglary on Durham Road
- Theft of a van on Peth Side
- Attempted theft of 3 vehicles at Lanchester Services

Resolved - that the report be received

50/18 Correspondence

- (i) **Durham County Council – council tax discount and welfare assistance scheme posters**

Resolved - that the posters be displayed in the notice board

- (ii) **Clerks & Councils Direct – March newsletter**

Resolved - that the newsletter be received

51/18 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 28/18)

The next meeting of the PCC will be on Saturday 24 March.
The next meeting of the AAP will be on Wednesday 14 March

Resolved - that the information be received

52/18 Neighbourhood Plan (min 29/18)

Mike Wardle provided members with an update.

Members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group had attended the Planning Committee Meeting last Thursday and presented the Neighbourhood Plan draft policies. All feedback and comments from the Parish Council, the planning consultant and Durham County Council will be fed back to the next working group meeting. Mike thanked all those who had attended the meeting.

Mike Wardle informed Members that he had recently attended an archaeology information day at County Hall. Included in the information presented was the important recent find in Lanchester of a veterans

discharge diploma confirming the bestowal of Roman citizenship on him, his wife and their children. This is one of only 20 examples found in Britain.

It was agreed that copies of the report should be made available to interested councillors.

It was also agreed that this information needs to be included in the Heritage Audit when it is reviewed.

Resolved - that the information be received

53/18 Lanchester Community Emergency Plan

The Lanchester Community Emergency Plan was adopted in early 2016.

The aim of the plan is to provide an early response to an emergency. This may include actions such as informing key organisations in the village of the emergency, providing emergency equipment, opening safe centres etc..

The Co-ordinators have reviewed and updated the plan, including all contacts. The revised version of the plan was circulated in February 2018.

Resolved - that the information be received

Members discussed the recent very heavy rainfall which resulted in flooding on the A691 near Maiden Law Bank. It was noted that Front Street had not flooded which suggested that the works undertaken by the County Council on Newbiggen Lane and Front Street had made an impact.

It was noted that there is still some outstanding flood alleviation works to take place in the village.

54/18 Responses to Issues Raised

(i) FixMyStreet website – no longer used by Durham County Council (min 31/18)

Members considered the response received from Durham County Council. The County promote their 'Do it on-line self-serve portal' as the preferred method of reporting issues.

Resolved - that Councillor Friesner provide further feedback to the County Council

(ii) Parking – Peth Bank (min 11/18)

Members considered information received from the County Council stating that no action will be taken in this area.

Resolved - that a site visit is arranged with Durham County Council to further consider the matter

(iii) Street Furniture – Front Street (min 10/18)

Members were informed of the advice from the County Council regarding bollards.

Resolved - that the information be received

55/18 Risk Assessment Schedule

Members considered and reviewed the policy.

It was agreed that the following additional risks should be included:

- Christmas Light Event – low risk
- Website – low risk
- Data Protection

Resolved that:

- (i)** The above additions be included
- (ii)** the Risk Assessment Schedule be approved

56/18 Internal Audit Arrangements

Members considered and reviewed the policy.

Resolved that:

- (i)** the Internal Audit Arrangements be approved
- (ii)** Mr Mike Young be approved as the internal auditor

57/18 Schools – Distribution of Newsletters

Resolved - that a donation of £100.00 is awarded to the two Primary schools in Lanchester

58/18 Grants / Donations

Members considered the applications received

Resolved that the following donations are made:

- (i)** The Great North Air Ambulance - £200.00
- (ii)** 1st Lanchester Guiding - £200.00
- (iii)** All Saints Parish Centre - £200.00
- (iv)** Lanchester & Burnhope Parochial Church Council – Clock Maintenance - £200.00
- (v)** The Lanchester Partnership – Community Events -£200.00

Councillor D Friesner took over as Chair for this item

Members considered the following planning application:

Proposed change of use of agricultural farm buildings to equestrian use for full livery and dressage training purposes on land to the west of Stonelea, Hole House Farm, Lanchester DM/18/00603/FPA

Members were informed of the background to the planning application. Permission had been granted at the end of 2016/early 2017 for an agricultural building and a hardstanding area.

The following elements make up the application:

- An existing agricultural building has been extended and changed into stabling for 25 horses.
- The external hard standing area for which planning permission had been granted has been changed to an outdoor horse arena
- The agricultural building for which planning permission had been granted was erected larger than agreed and has been changed into an indoor horse arena

Members referred to their letter sent to the planning authority in November 2016 which raised no objection to the proposed agricultural building and hardstanding area for agricultural purposes but which registered concerns that the area may be used for equine activities.

Resolved - that a letter is sent to the County Council presenting the following concerns:

- The concern and disappointment of the Parish Council that an agricultural building and hardstanding area have been changed without permission into a substantial equine facility.
- The Parish Council wish to encourage agricultural development in the Parish. The Parish Council would question the applicants statement that there is no business case for agricultural use, particularly as it is only several months since the erection of the agricultural building.
- Impact on highways. There will be an increase in the number of vehicles on the road and accessing the facility. In particular an increase in large vehicles with horse trailers. There is a small single track bridge near to the facility which could be damaged by an increase in frequency, quantity and weight of vehicles. This bridge is listed as a Heritage Asset in the recently published 'Lanchester Community Heritage Audit'.
- Visual impact. This is a substantial facility which has a visual impact on the countryside. There is likely to be an impact of light intrusion from the arena and stables. There will be a substantial number of parked vehicles and trailers on the site.

- There is concern over the size of this facility and the possibility of further development which may follow.
- There is a concern that this facility may expect further living accommodation on site.
- The Parish Council ask if a business case should have been presented for the equine facility.
- The Parish Council refer to their letter to the County Council dated 10 November 2016 which raised concerns that the proposed agricultural building may be used for equine purposes.
- The Parish Council would ask that neighbouring properties are consulted on the planning application.

60/18 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report E.
A bank reconciliation was also distributed for consideration.
Resolved - that the report be received

61/18 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (Feb)	£1306.17
D Maddox	Salary (Feb)	£382.14
Durham County Council	Pension (Feb)	£405.84
S Laverick	Expenses	£22.62

62/18 Chairperson's Announcements

The Chair informed Members that a resident had contacted him to state that she would be sending a letter to the Parish Council regarding concerns about a planning matter.

63/18 Questions from Members – Information only

Councillor Jones suggested that a list of questions could be prepared and sent to Northumbrian Water Ltd in advance of their attendance at the Parish Council meeting next month.

64/18 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 10 April at Lynwood House following the Village conference which will commence at 7.15pm

Meeting ended at 9.00pm