

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday
10 March 2020 at 7.15pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

Cllr. J Considine, Cllr. O Johnson, Cllr. I Tute, Cllr. S Walker,
Cllr. T Jones, Cllr. D Friesner, Cllr. D Smith, Cllr. P Jackson,
Cllr. L Montgomery, Cllr. B Gray, Cllr. A Gray

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. A Cook - ill
Cllr. M Gray - other commitments
Cllr. K Leary - ill

The above apologies were received and accepted

42/20 Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were received:

Councillor T Jones – item 7 min 47/20
Councillor J Considine – item 15 min 55/20
Councillor D Smith – item 15 min 55/20

43/20 Public Participation

The policy was distributed to the public present

44/20 Minutes of the last meetings

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11 February 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

45/20 Committees

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 11 February 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

46/20

Highways Issues

A resident attended the meeting to talk about the speed of traffic around the village and the concerns of safety for pedestrians and motorists. The resident referred in particular to concerns around Ford Road and Cadger Bank but stated that all routes into the village gave concern. The resident referred to a number of recent accidents on Ford Road and Cadger Bank, several of which were serious. The width of the road and pavement on Ford Road gave concern particularly as large vehicles and agricultural vehicles frequently use the route. The resident suggested that the speed limit on roads leading to the village be reduced to 20mph or that there be improved signage, repeater signs and new electronic warning signs on entrance roads.

The Parish Council discussed this matter. It was acknowledged that the Parish Council had discussed these concerns on several occasions and undertaken site visits with County Council officers to explore possible measures to address the problems.

It was agreed that this matter should be included for discussion at an upcoming site meeting with the County Council.

It was also agreed to ask the Community Speedwatch Team to attend Ford Road and Cadger Bank at peak rush hour times to monitor speed.

Resolved that:

- (i) the concerns of speeding traffic be discussed with the County Council
- (ii) the Community Speedwatch team be asked to undertake sessions on Ford Road and Cadger Bank during peak traffic times

Members discussed the recent icy conditions in Lanchester. In particular the ice on the road and pavement on Newbiggen Lane was discussed. It appears that water is seeping across the pavement and road which causes dangerous conditions when icy. The source of the water is not clear.

Resolved - the information including photos be sent to Northumbrian Water Ltd who will investigate the matter

47/20

Northumbrian Water Ltd – Sewer System (min 276/19)

Clair Richardson from Northumbrian Water Ltd was welcomed to the meeting.

Clair presented an update report which had been circulated to Councillors with the agenda. Members discussed the report which gave details of a proposed scheme to address flooding problems along Ford Road.

It was confirmed that Northumbrian Water Ltd would provide a quarterly report which would include details of timescale and priority for this proposed scheme.

Resolved - that the information be received

48/20 Police Report

The Police report for February was read out which included the following incidents:

- 2 x Burglaries – China Hall Farm outbuildings broken into, nothing taken and Maiden Law Bank entry forced to property, nothing taken
- 5 x Road Traffic Collisions – Peth Bank, A691, Bargate Bank, Rowley and Humberhill Lane

Members considered the content of the Police report. It was agreed that an annual report to include the results of investigations into incidents would be useful

Resolved that:

- (i) the information be received
- (ii) the Police are asked to provide an annual report detailing the results of investigations

49/20 Correspondence

(i) The Pensions Regulator – Automatic Enrolment Duties

Members were informed that the Parish Council has completed a re-declaration of compliance with The Pensions Regulator

Resolved - that the information be received

(ii) Durham County Council – consultation on Selective Licensing for Private Landlords

Members considered the information received

Resolved - that the Parish Council supports the proposals

(iii) Consett and District Royal British Legion – donation of Remembrance Bench

Members were informed that the Consett and District Royal British Legion are offering to donate a Remembrance bench to the Parish.

Resolved that:

- (i) The offer of a Remembrance bench is accepted
- (ii) Eric Hepplewhite who co-ordinated the poppy display in 2018 is informed
- (iii) The bench to be located near to the War Memorial on the Village Green
- (iv) Arrangements are made to install the bench

- (iv) **Durham County Council – land at Deneside**
Members considered the information received from the County Council regarding the sale of land at Deneside for residential use.
Resolved - that the Parish Council has no objection to the sale

- (v) **Clerk & Councils Direct – March Newsletter**
Resolved - that the newsletter be received

**50/20 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC)
(min 23/20)**

The next PCC meeting will take place on 21 March at Burnhope. The next AAP meeting will take place on 11 March at Meadowfield.

Members were informed that a meeting had taken place on 13 February with the County Council to discuss the fly tipping cameras and the Environmental Improvement Projects. This had proved to be a useful and interesting meeting.

A site meeting has been undertaken with a County Council officer to discuss the environmental improvement project in Lanchester which would include planting of native bulbs and plugs along the Village Green. The County Council will cost up the project for consideration by the Parish Council.

The County Councillors at the meeting informed Members that they are working on a proposed scheme to address the footpath problems between Lanchester Medical Centre and the Kings Head.

Resolved - that the information be received

51/20 Neighbourhood Plan (min 24/20)

The Neighbourhood Plan Submission consultation concluded on 17 February.

The County Council commenced the process of appointing an examiner for the Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan and two examiners came forward. The examiners were considered by the working group and the County Council were informed of the preferred examiner. The County Council are responsible for appointing the examiner.

The examiner commenced work on the Neighbourhood Plan on 2 March 2020. The examiner asked for clarification on two matters. This may be the first of several requests for information during the examination process. It is proposed that a response to any such requests is formulated by Mike Wardle, Steve Bailey and the Clerk. This information will be circulated to the working group for comment before being sent to the examiner.

Resolved that:

- (i) The decision to select Rosemary Kidd as the examiner for the Neighbourhood Plan be ratified
- (ii) The proposed process for responding to requests for information from the examiner be agreed
- (iii) the information be received

52/20 Risk Assessment Schedule

Members considered and reviewed the policy.

Resolved - that the Risk Assessment Schedule be approved

53/20 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

54/20 Schools – Distribution of newsletters

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

55/20 Grants / Donations

Members considered the applications received

Resolved that the following donations are made:

- (i) All Saints Parish Centre - £250.00
- (ii) Lanchester & Burnhope Parochial Church Council – Clock Maintenance - £300.00
- (iii) 1st Lanchester Guiding - £100.00
- (iv) Natures Edge CIC - £100.00

Councillor A Gray left the meeting

56/20 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report G.

Resolved - that the report be received

57/20 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (February)	£1,369.17
D Maddox	Salary (February)	£472.50
Durham County Council	Pension (February)	£422.23
Durham City Child Care	DBS Checks	£112.00

58/20 Chairperson's Announcements

There were no announcements

59/20 Questions from Members – Information only

It was agreed to agenda the following items for the next meeting:

- Rights of Way in the Parish
- Coronavirus

60/20 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 14 April at Lynwood House following the Annual Village Conference at 7.15pm

Meeting ended at 9.15pm