

# Lanchester Parish Council

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 11 February 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

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

Cllr. P Jackson - away  
Cllr. A Cook - ill  
Cllr. M Gray - other commitments  
Cllr. L Montgomery - other commitments  
Cllr. B Gray - family commitments  
Cllr. A Gray - work commitments  
Cllr. K Leary - ill

The above apologies were received and accepted

### **18/20 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **19/20 Public Participation**

There were no public present

### **20/20 Minutes of the last meetings**

#### **Resolved that:**

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14 January 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

### **21/20 Police Report**

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

- 1 x Anti-Social Behaviour – 4 youths causing a nuisance in the Doctors surgery
- 1 x Burglary Incident – Crinnions Pub – under investigation

- 2 x thefts from motor vehicles – both occurred on Deanery View, both relating to vehicles being scratched with an unknown implement – under investigation
- 2 x thefts – theft of quad bikes from Hamsteels Hall Farm and the theft of a lawn mower from Railway Street – under investigation
- 4 x Road Traffic Collisions – West Drive, Ford Road, Hall Hill Farm and on the A691

A report was received by Police that a child had been followed home from St Bedes. Officers identified a possible suspect who has been dealt with appropriately.

In relation to the spate of burglaries from December, at present no arrests have been made and enquiries are on-going.

Community Speedwatch was carried out on 10 February in the following locations:

- A691 Lanchester south – 9.30am – 160 vehicles with 7 speeding
- B6296 Cadger Bank south east – 10.00am – 39 vehicles with 9 speeding
- B6301 Ford Road – 10.30am – 46 vehicles with 0 speeding
- A6076 Maiden Law Bank north east – 10.55am – 64 vehicles with 12 speeding

The Chair referred to information provided by a Councillor on the content of the Police report.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the information be received
- (ii) the content of the Police report be discussed at the next meeting
- (iii) information on the Community Speedwatch activities be included in the Village Voice summary

**22/20**

**Correspondence**

**(i) County Durham Association of Local Councils - Training**

Members considered attendance at the following training sessions:

- Planning training – 24 February
- Play, Sport and Fitness Area Training Seminar – 21 April

Members were informed that 3 places had provisionally been booked for the planning training.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) An e-mail is sent to Councillors asking if they would like a place on the planning training
- (ii) Two places are booked on the Play, Sport and Fitness Area training seminar

**(ii) Lanchester Allotments Association – minutes of the AGM**

**Resolved** - that the minutes be received

- (iii) **Campaign to Protect Rural England – winter newsletter**  
**Resolved** - that the newsletter be received
  
- (iv) **Durham County Council – Friends Against Scams**  
Members considered the poster.  
**Resolved that:**
  - (i) The poster be displayed in the Parish Council notice board
  - (ii) The poster be passed to the Library for consideration
  
- (v) **Lanchester Cricket Club Beer Festival – May 2020**  
Members received information from the club on the preparations for the beer festival to be held 22 – 24 May 2020. A number of measures are being proposed to address people bringing their own alcohol to the event and underage drinking.  
**Resolved that:**
  - (i) the Parish Council supports the measures to address these issues of people bringing their own alcohol to the event and underage drinking
  - (ii) the cricket club are asked to liaise with the Police regarding arrangements for the event
  - (iii) the cricket club are asked to remove signage promptly following the event
  - (iv) the cricket club are asked to consider environmental matters and support the efforts of reducing single use plastic in Lanchester

**23/20 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 8/20)**

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 the PCC had arranged a meeting for 13 February with the County Council to discuss the fly tipping cameras and the environmental Improvement Projects

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**24/20 Neighbourhood Plan (min 9/20)**

The Neighbourhood Plan Submission consultation will conclude on 17 February. The process of appointing an examiner for the Neighbourhood Plan has commenced. It is hoped that the examination will commence in March.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

## **25/20 Community Energy Workshop**

Councillors David Smith and Trevor Jones attended a Community Energy Workshop on 27 January and provided a summary for members.

The morning consisted of a number of workshops from key organisations:

- Opening remarks by Durham County Councils Climate Change Champion
- Community Energy England
- Durham County Council – Low Carbon Economy Team
- Northern Powergrid
- Durham Energy Institute, Durham University
- Rural Energy Community Fund

Some groups could offer funding and some could assist in obtaining funding or delivering projects.

The afternoon session was for groups who already had projects to discuss

Councillors found the workshop interesting and felt that regular meetings would be useful to generate momentum about projects and exchange information.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

## **26/20 Bus Stop – Willowburn Hospice**

Members discussed the concerns regarding the current bus stop facility for Willowburn Hospice on Maiden Law Bank.

Members were informed that the existing bus stop has been removed by the developer whilst building work is undertaken. A new bus stop will be re-instated. A temporary bus stop has been installed to the satisfaction of the County Council and the County Council have spoken with the bus company to ensure that they use the temporary arrangements.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

## **27/20 Crossing Point – Station Road**

The crossing point on Station Road was discussed by members. Pedestrians cross Station Road on the Lanchester Valley Walk. There is a direct crossing point which is identified by coloured road paint which has poor visibility. There is a further crossing point towards the village which was introduced by the County Council more recently which affords slightly better visibility.

This crossing point has been discussed by Councillors on several occasions and a site visit was undertaken with County Council officers in recent years.

The crossing continues to be a concern for Councillors with one Councillor witnessing a near pedestrian accident in recent weeks.

This crossing point is well used by adults, children, families, older people, cyclists and horse riders. People are encouraged to use the Lanchester Valley Walk as a route into and through the village and to access schools.

Members feel that the crossing point continues to present a problem and danger to users.

Members received information from a resident on a response they had received from the County Council on the same matter

**Resolved** - that a site meeting is arranged with the County Council to discuss the matter further

**28/20**

**MP**

Members discussed inviting the new MP to a future Parish Council meeting so he could introduce himself.

**Resolved** - that an invitation is sent

**29/20**

**Manor Grange Play Area**

Members were informed that following a pre-application planning submission the County Council had confirmed that planning permission would not be required for the proposed relocated play area.

Paperwork had been submitted to the County Council to progress a lease for the land.

Two further grant applications were being progressed and two councillors agreed to assist with their completion.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**30/20**

**Newsletter**

Members considered the quarterly newsletter.

**Resolved** - that the newsletter be approved for distribution

**31/20 Maintenance Report**

Members considered report B which identified the maintenance work undertaken between October and December.

**Resolved** - that the report be received

**32/20 Financial Information**

The Lead Officer presented report C.

**Resolved** - that the report be received

**33/20 Accounts for Payment**

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

S Laverick	Salary (January)	£1,369.17
D Maddox	Salary (January)	£472.30
Durham County Council	Pension (January)	£422.23
AD Purves Landscaping	Maintenance	£1,428.00
Durham County Council	Christmas Lights	£1,443.94
Durham County Council	Planning Advice	£30.00

**34/20 Chairperson's Announcements**

There were no announcements

**35/20 Questions from Members – Information only**

It was noted that the works by Northumbrian Water Ltd had been completed on the Village Green

**36/20 Date of next meeting**

**Resolved** - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 10 March at Lynwood House at 7.15pm

Meeting ended at 8.50pm