

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held via 'Zoom' on Tuesday 12 January 2021 at 6.30pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

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

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. K Leary - ill
Cllr. M Gray - family commitments
Cllr. B Gray - family commitments
Cllr. L Montgomery - family commitments

The above apologies were received and approved

Due to IT difficulties Councillor J Considine chaired the first three items on the agenda.

1/21 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

2/21 **Public Participation**

Members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

3/21 **Minutes of the last meeting**

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 December 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

4/21 **Correspondence**

- (i) **The Clerk Magazine – January Magazine**
Resolved - that the magazine be received

- (ii) **Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Design Training Course**
Members considered attendance on the course
Resolved - that information on the course be passed to Councillors David Friesner, Ian Tute and David Smith

5/21 Seesaw – Park House Play Area

Members were informed that the play part for the seesaw at Park House Play Area had been purchased. However a modification to the equipment meant that further parts were required to make it compatible.

Following a site meeting with the play company they have agreed to discount the additional parts required and deliver the parts free of charge. The price of the additional parts is £330.00

Resolved - that the additional parts are purchased

6/21 Manor Grange Play Area (min 129/20)

Members were provided with an update on the project.

The consultation with the two primary schools on the proposed play equipment was completed in December. An analysis of the results has been completed which members discussed.

Following the return of the signed Heads of Terms the full lease is now being prepared by the County Council.

Resolved - that the information be received

7/21 Grass Cutting

Members considered the grass cutting requirements for 2021 and beyond.

Members referred to the financial regulations which allowed for an extension to an existing contract and actions allowed during an emergency.

Resolved that:

- (i) the current grass cutting contact is extended by two years
- (ii) the Clerk and Chair meet with the contractor to agree a price for 2021

8/21 Precept Report 2021/22

The Lead Officer presented report C.

Members discussed the level of precept.

Councillor Ossie Johnson seconded by Councillor Trevor Jones proposed a 4% increase in precept.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Jude Considine seconded by Councillor David Smith for a 2% increase in precept.

Members voted on the amendment which resulted in 5 votes for and 5 votes against. The Chair voted against the amendment.

Members voted on the original proposal for a 4% increase which resulted in 6 votes for and 5 votes against

Resolved - that the precept be set at £67,943.06 for 2021/22

This would result in an increase in band D council tax to £45.89 (an increase of £1.65 a year or 3.73%)

9/21 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report D.

Resolved - that the report be approved

10/21 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (Dec)	£1,407.48
D Maddox	Salary (Dec)	£491.49
Durham County Council	Pension (Dec)	£430.37
HMRC	Tax & NI (Oct – Dec)	£1,283.21
Aviva PLC	Insurance Claim	£58.32
Mazars	Audit Fee	£360.00
BT	Phone & Broadband	£203.32
S Laverick	Expenses	£398.39

11/21 Chairperson's Announcements

Members were informed of the following arrangements around Chairpersons voting.

The Standing Orders state: 'the Chairperson may give an original vote on any matter put to the vote, and in any case of an equality of votes may give a casting vote whether or not they gave an original vote.'

12/21

Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place via 'Zoom' on Tuesday 9 February 2021 at 6.30pm

Meeting ended at 7.20pm