

## Lanchester Parish Council

### Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lanchester Community Centre on Tuesday 14 September 2021 at 7.00pm

**Present** Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

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

County Cllr. D Oliver  
County Cllr. M McGaun

**Apologies** There were no apologies for absence

#### **143/21        Declarations of Interest**

Councillor McDermid declared an interest in agenda items 10 and 12.

#### **144/21        Public Participation**

Members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

#### **145/21        Minutes of the last meeting**

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13 July 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

#### **146/21        Committees**

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the minutes of the Finance, Development & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 28 July 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted
- (ii) the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 28 July 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

**147/21 Police Report**

The Police report was considered by Councillors.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the information be received
- (ii) the PCSO is asked to attend a future council meeting
- (iii) the contact details of the PCSO are passed to Councillors

**148/21 Correspondence**

- (i) **Clerk & Councils Direct – July magazine**  
**Resolved** - that the magazine be received
- (ii) **Clerk & Councils Direct – September magazine**  
**Resolved** - that the magazine be received
- (iii) **The Clerk Magazine - July**  
**Resolved** - that the magazine be received
- (iv) **The Clerk Magazine - September**  
**Resolved** - that the magazine be received
- (v) **Letter – Richard Holden MP**  
**Resolved** - that the letter be received

**149/21 Durham County Councillors**

County Councillors Douglas Oliver and Michael McGaun attended the meeting and provided an update on work during the last 4 months since election.

The Councillors have been involved in a number of issues including:

- 60/70 pieces of casework
- Meeting residents and community groups
- Recent leaflet distribution
- Facebook page
- Road safety – consultations with County Council Highways on Ford Road and Cadger Bank crossing
- Meeting with PCSO
- Bus Service issues
- Planning – The Pastures
- Parking problems
- Pathway access

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**150/21 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC)**

Councillors considered the minutes from the last PCC meeting  
**Resolved** - that the minutes be received

The next meeting of the PCC will take place on 18 September.

The AAP has significant funding available to deliver projects over the next few years. A funding workshop is taking place on 15 September to provide further information. The Clerk and a Councillor will attend this workshop. Councillors considered possible projects including:

- Improvements to the Lanchester Valley Walk with educational interpretation. A creative project to include the schools for the benefit of the whole community.
- Planting scheme on the Village Green

Councillors discussed the opportunity to win 2,000 bulbs. Nominations for areas for consideration need to be submitted by 24 September. It was agreed that Councillor Hepplewhite submits an application for the Village Green.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**151/21 Lanchester Craft and Food Market**

Councillors considered a complaint received from a resident regarding the parking in the village during the recent farmers market. Councillors confirmed that vehicles had been parked on the grass in front of the Church, on the grass along the by-pass and along many roads including the narrow Ford Road.

Councillors considered a request from the organiser of the Lanchester Craft and Food Market to use the Village Green for future markets.

Councillors discussed the request.

The organiser of the market attended the meeting and outlined his market and event experience and the benefits that the market brings.

Following a discussion it was considered that the Village Green was not a suitable venue.

**Resolved** - that permission is not given to use the Village Green for future markets

Councillor David Smith left the meeting at 8.10pm

**152/21 Car Emissions – Stationary Vehicles (97/21)**

The concerns about car emissions from stationary vehicles particularly outside of schools had been considered by Councillors at meetings in May and June.

Action had included seeking information from the County Council, asking the schools to pass on concerns to parents, article in the Parish Council newsletter, informing the County Councillors and contacting the MP.

Councillors were informed that the County Councillors had also contacted the County Council to raise the matter and further information would be reported back. In addition correspondence has been received from Richard Holden MP. The MP had tabled a formal Written Parliamentary Question and Councillors were informed of the question and answer.

The letter from the MP was read out and discussed. The MP had offered to attend a future meeting to discuss this and other matters.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the information be received
- (ii) a letter is sent to Durham County Council asking for the matter to be considered and addressed
- (iii) Richard Holden MP be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting

**153/21 Football Teams – Kitswell Park**

Councillors were informed that the adult football team that has played at Kitswell Park for the last 10 years are no longer playing. The manager thanked the Parish Council for the support over the 10 years.

The football field is currently being used this season by Beamish FC under 14's and under 10's girls teams for their home matches.

There has been some discussions with the football team regarding frequency of grass cutting. The club has been informed about the number of cuts undertaken through the year.

**Resolved** - that the information be received

**154/21 Traffic and Speed Concerns (99/21)**

Councillors discussed the meeting which had taken place on 2 August with representatives from the Police and the County Council to discuss road and traffic concerns in the Parish. Eight Parish Councillors had attended the meeting.

The meeting had involved a lengthy discussion on concerns including:

- Station Road crossing
- Ford Road
- Maiden Law Bank
- Peth bank
- Kitswell Road

The Parish Council would ask that residents report accidents and near misses so that they can be recorded.

Whilst Officers maintained that little could be undertaken regarding some of the concerns they did agree to look at signage, speed surveys and speed limits at some locations.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the officers are thanked for attending
- (ii) an update is requested

Councillor Jude Considine attended the meeting at 8.55pm

**155/21 Bus Services - Lanchester**

Councillors were informed that several residents had been in touch regarding changes to bus services which had caused problems. This included changes to the X5, X15 and 30 bus services which now posed problems for children getting to school on time and people getting to work on time.

With regard to the bus for schoolchildren it was reported that bus provision was now being provided although not into the school grounds.

**Resolved** - that letters are sent to the County Council and Go North East raising the concerns

**156/21 Pace Egg Bank**

Councillors were informed that The Lodge and accompanying land and fields will be sold at auction.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the information be received
- (ii) a letter is sent to the solicitors dealing with the estate to inform them that Pace Egg Bank is regularly and historically used for community activities and has a public right of way through it

**157/21 Lanchester Community Emergency Plan**

Councillors were informed that the emergency plan was activated on Saturday 21 August following heavy rain. The Co-ordinators had attended and distributed aqua-sacs and cleared debris from drain covers. Local businesses and organisations were contacted. The Civil Contingencies Unit were informed and the fire brigade attended at Victoria Terrace.

The main part of Front Street was OK but drain covers lifted due to water volume on Newbiggen Lane, Station Road and Ford Road.

The County Council have been asked to check and clear the drains and the aqua-sacs have been replaced.

Correspondence has been received from a resident regarding flood mitigation proposals at The Close

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the information be received
- (ii) the flood mitigation proposals are forwarded to the County Council and Northumbrian Water for consideration

**158/21 Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan – Celebration Event**

Councillors considered the proposals for the celebration event.

**Resolved** - that the details be approved and the event progressed

**159/21 Annual Return 2020/21**

The Lead Officer went through the papers returned from external audit. External audit confirmed that no matters had come to their attention which gave cause for concern.

**Resolved** - that the Annual Return be approved and accepted

**160/21 Financial Information**

The Lead Officer presented report H.

**Resolved** - that the report be approved

**161/21 Accounts for Payment**

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

S Laverick	Salary (July)	£1,409.28
D Maddox	Salary (July)	£545.89
Durham County Council	Pension (July)	£430.37

Durham County Council	Trade Waste Service	£282.88
Lanchester Comm Assoc	Room Hire	£71.25
County Durham Assoc LC	Training	£20.00
S Laverick	Expenses	£169.58
Lanchester Comm Assoc	Room Hire	£18.38
County Durham Assoc LC	Training	£30.00
Total Results Ltd	Website work	£350.00
Lanchester Comm Assoc	Room Hire	£26.25
On-line Playgrounds	Play Parts	£39.04
S Laverick	Expenses	£41.53
MK Print Solutions	Newsletter / Annual Report	£479.00
S Laverick	Salary (August)	£1,409.28
D Maddox	Salary (August)	£545.89
Durham County Council	Pension (August)	£430.37
Mazars	Audit Fee	£360.00
P Snowdon	Hanging Baskets	£248.00
Npower	Electricity – Xmas Lights	£430.62

**162/21 Chairperson’s Announcements**

Councillors were informed that the Village Voice was being re-started with the first edition to be in November.

**163/21 Date of next meeting**

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 12 October at 7.00pm
- (ii) a Finance, Development & General Purposes Committee Meeting and a Planning Committee Meeting will take place on Wednesday 29 September at 7pm at Lanchester Community Centre

Meeting ended at 9.20pm