

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 12 April 2022 at 7.05pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

Cllr. D Friesner, Cllr. E Hepplewhite, Cllr. A Gray,
Cllr. T Jones, Cllr. I Tute, Cllr. L Montgomery,
Cllr. O Johnson, Cllr. P Jackson, Cllr. D Smith

County Cllr. M McGaun

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. J Considine	- away
Cllr. S Walker	- ill
Cllr. D Toner	- ill

The above apologies were received and approved

89/22 Declarations of Interest

Councillor D Smith declared an interest in 7 (iii)
Councillor A Gray declared an interest in 12

90/22 Public Participation

Members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

91/22 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 March 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

92/22 Committees

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Finance, Development & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 30 March 2022 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 30 March 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

93/22

Police Report

The Police report was considered by Councillors. Councillors considered that there had been a lot of activity recently with thefts and traffic accidents.

Councillors were informed that road traffic collisions (RTC) are recorded under the 'Transport' heading of the police report. If a RTC doesn't require police attendance or the police are not informed, this may not be included in the statistics.

Councillors asked if the CCTV camera on the Village Green was in operation.

Councillors discussed the matter of people without licences going door to door selling items and claiming to be part of a prison reform service. The police would ask residents to stay vigilant and report anything suspicious.

Resolved that:

- (i) the police report be received
- (ii) enquiries are made regarding the CCTV camera on the Village Green

94/22

Correspondence

- (i) **County Durham Association of Local Councils – training sessions**

Councillors considered attendance at the training sessions

Resolved - that Councillors inform the Clerk if they wish to attend any of the sessions

- (ii) **Memorial Seat**

Councillors considered further information on a request for a memorial seat on the Village Green. The suggestion was for a seat to one side of the bus shelter.

Resolved that:

- (i) Permission is given for the seat
- (ii) The seat, price and plaque are discussed with the resident
- (iii) Clarification is sought on planning permission

(iii) To consider a suggestion to plant a tree for the Platinum Jubilee and to consider planting a Miyawaki forest

Councillors discussed planting a tree for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. It was agreed that a suitable native tree is planted in autumn probably on the Village Green by-pass with a plaque.

Resolved - that a tree is planted

Councillors discussed a suggestion from a resident to plant a mini Miyawaki forest. The planting area would be approximately the size of a tennis court and very densely planted. Councillors noted that the Parish Council does not own much land. It was agreed that the County Council are asked for advice and whether they have any land options in the Parish.

Resolved - that the County Council are asked for advice on the matter

(iv) Lanchester Cricket Club – replacement of practice nets fencing – funding application

Councillors were informed that the cricket club are applying for a grant to replace the fencing around the practice nets. They would like a letter of support from the Parish Council to submit with the application.

Resolved - that a letter of support is provided

(v) Durham County Council - To consider a response to the proposed parking restrictions at:

- **St Bedes School/Howden Bank/Bishops Meadow, Lanchester**
- **Front Street, Lanchester**
- **Church View, Lanchester**

Councillors considered the proposed parking schemes received from the County Council.

St Bedes School/Howden Bank/Bishops Meadow

Councillors understood why the parking restrictions were suggested and agree that something needs to be done to address road safety and public health issues. However there was a concern that the proposals may move the cars and create a problem elsewhere. The Parish Council would ask that St Bedes School considers their on-site parking and drop off facilities.

Front Street

Councillors understood why the parking restrictions were suggested and agree that something needs to be done to address road safety and public health issues. However there was a concern that the proposals may move the cars and create a problem elsewhere. The Parish Council would ask for clarification that the proposal does not restrict residents parking in front of their dwellings.

Church View

No comments to make

Resolved - that the comments are forwarded to the County Council

(vi) Clerk Magazine – March

Resolved – that the magazine be received

- (vii) **Clerk & Councils Direct – March**
Resolved – that the magazine be received

95/22 Durham County Councillors

Apologies were received from County Cllr. Doug Oliver.

County Cllr. Michael McGaun provided an update on the following areas of work:

- Traffic proposals around schools – consultation ongoing
- Funds for jubilee celebrations
- Recent Police and Crime Commissioner visit to Lanchester
- Durham shortlisted for 2025 County of Culture
- Warning of scam calls relating to County Council work
- Nexus transport offering family discounts
- Upcoming meeting with Karbon Homes

Resolved - that the information be received

96/22 Police and Crime Commissioner - visit

Councillors discussed the visit by the Police and Crime Commissioner which took place on Tuesday 29 March.

Several Parish Councillors and the County Councillors met with the Police and Crime Commissioner and walked around several key locations with parking and traffic concerns. The meeting proved useful and the notes from the visit are awaited.

97/22 Hanging Baskets

Members were informed that the lighting columns which hold the hanging baskets need to undergo a structural test. This testing is required every 30 months.

Resolved - that the testing is undertaken at a cost of £1150.00

Members considered the price received for the provision of hanging baskets and watering.

Resolved - that the hanging baskets are provided at a cost of £264.00 plus the cost of watering

98/22 Code of Conduct

Councillors were informed that the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council in July 2021 requires an update. The update presents clearer information about dealing with 'other relevant interests'.

Resolved - that the policy be updated

99/22 Planning application

Subdivision of existing farmhouse into 2 dwellings at West Newbiggen Farm, Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester DM/22/00886/FPA

Councillors considered the planning application.

Councillors noted the application and raised the following matters:

- Assurance that the proposal does not affect the operation of the rural business
- Clarification on whether there is an agricultural restriction on the dwelling. If so that this should remain in place for both dwellings
- Assurance that the development has adequate parking for two dwellings.

Resolved - that this response is sent to the County Council

Councillor A Gray left the meeting at 8.15pm

100/22 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report F.

Resolved - that the report be approved

101/22 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (March)	£1,640.93
D Maddox	Salary (March)	£657.13
Durham County Council	Pension (March)	£520.71
HMRC	Tax & NI (Jan – March)	£1,275.72
RC Primary School	Donation	£100.00
EP Primary School	Donation	£100.00
Parochial Church Council	Donation	£300.00
S Laverick	Expenses	£127.53
P Snowdon	Hanging Baskets – Water	£503.20
BT	Phone & Broadband	£186.42

102/22 Chairperson's Announcements

The Chair informed Councillors that information had been received from Lanchester Partnership regarding the Lanchester Big Jubilee Picnic Event to be held on Sunday 5 June as part of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. A request for a donation towards the costs of the event had been received. Councillors were in favour of a donation being made. The event and donation will be discussed formally at the May meeting.

103/22 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 10 May following the Annual Meeting.

Meeting ended at 8.45pm