

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Conference Room in Park House,
Lanchester on Tuesday 11 February 2014 at 7.15pm

Present Mr O Johnson (Chair)

Mr C Burton, Mr S Walker, Mr M Wardle, Mrs M Gray
Mr K Harrison, Mr K Leary, Mr P Jackson, Mr B Glass
Mr Peter Richardson, Mr Philip Richardson

Mr R Young - County Councillor – observer
Ms Louise Harlanderson - Durham Community Action
Mr Chris Affleck - Durham Community Action
Mr Chris Hindmarch - Neighbourhood Warden
Mr Tom Walton - Neighbourhood Warden

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mrs A Cook - ill
Mrs J Richardson - work commitments
Mr B Gray - ill

The above apologies were received and accepted

31/14 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made at this point in the meeting.

32/14 **Public Participation**

The public participation policy was distributed for the benefit of the public present.

33/14 **Minutes of the last meeting**

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14 January 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson

34/14 **Committees**

Resolved that:

(i) the minutes of the Finance, Development & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 29 January 2014 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 29 January 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

35/14 North Durham Community Engagement Project

The Chair welcomed Louise Harlanderson and Chris Affleck from Durham Community Action to the meeting.

Louise gave a presentation on the above project which aims to involve members of the community in health decisions in the North Durham Area.

(copy of the presentation attached)

Louise and her team are happy to talk to individuals and groups to involve them in the project.

Resolved - that the Parish Council becomes a member so that regular updates and information may be received

36/14 Police Report and Neighbourhood Warden Report

The police report was discussed and members noted its new format.

Chris Hindmarch attended the meeting and presented the Neighbourhood Warden report for December. In addition he gave information on the following:

- (i)** a county wide dog fouling campaign is taking place over the next month and Kitswell Park has been identified as a key area for attention
- (ii)** there has been an increase in the number of fly tipping incidents in the County which has resulted in a delay in getting them cleared.
- (iii)** operation 'whitehall' is taking place to target illegal scrap dealings

Members were informed of an ongoing issue of inappropriate parking along Front Street which has caused problems with residents.

Resolved - that the Police report and Neighbourhood Warden report are received

37/14 Correspondence

(i) Barclays Bank – Information on bonds

Members were informed that Barclays would not be issuing any new bonds in the near future

Resolved - that the information be received

- (ii) **Healthwatch – membership scheme**
Members were informed of the different membership options
Resolved - that the Parish Council become a ‘friend’ member and receive regular updates and news

38/14 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC) (min 6/14)

Members considered the minutes of the recent PCC meeting

Resolved - that the minutes be received

Members considered the recently completed Gateway project and its effectiveness.

Resolved - that Bob Glass writes a report about the effectiveness of the Gateways in Lanchester

39/14 Banner Celebration Event Working Group

Members considered the minutes of the working group and the progress made on the organisation of the Celebration event.

Resolved - that the minutes be received

40/14 Royal British Legion – Lanchester Branch Standard (min 5/14)

Members were informed of the information received from The Royal British Legion on the Lanchester Branch Standard. Information included its size, condition and information on a dedication service.

Resolved that:

(i) a letter is sent to the Parish Church asking if they wish to take ownership of the Standard and house it in the Church

(ii) an article is placed in the Village Voice to see if there are any ex-members of the branch still in the Parish.

(iii) the financial implications are considered at a later meeting

41/14 Durham County Council – Implementation Plans

Members considered the information received from the County Council about Lanchester which would form part of Durham County Councils Implementation Plan.

Resolved that the following comments are submitted:

(i) inform the County Council that the recreation facilities at Kitswell Park are leased to the Parish Council on a long lease and therefore any suggestions for this area should be discussed with the Parish Council

- (ii) a further priority is included which is to 'protect the setting of the village and the historic roman heritage
- (iii) ask that the County Council reference the Parish documents including: Parish Plan, Village Design Statement and Locality Map documents
- (iv) questions be raised about the paragraph on flooding and the statement that it is 'primarily fluvial' and the advice of Paul Armin from the County Council be sought on this issue

42/14 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report I.
Resolved - that the report be received.

43/14 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

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|-----------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Durham Bannermakers | Banner Workshops | £1000.00 |
| S Laverick | Salary (Jan) | £1190.12 |
| D Maddox | Salary (Jan) | £387.14 |
| Durham County Council | Pension (Jan) | £377.55 |
| Talk Talk | Phone | £18.36 |
| Durham Bannermakers | Banner workshops | £1500.00 |
| Kate Stockwell | Banner conservation | £2717.52 |
| S Laverick | Expenses | £105.09 |

44/14 Grass Cutting Contract 2014

Resolved - that under the powers contained in Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the Press and Public be excluded from the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

Members discussed and considered the returned tenders.

The Chair asked if any members needed to declare an 'interest' with A D Purves Landscaping. No declarations were received.

Resolved - that the grass cutting contract be awarded to A D Purves Landscaping

45/14 Grassed Area – Lanchester Valley Railway Path – between Station Road and Newbiggen Lane (min 111/13)

Members considered the licence agreement entered into with the County Council in 2013 which had allowed the Parish Council to undertake a

number of cuts to the above grassed area. Under this agreement the County Council had retained ownership and maintenance responsibility for the area.

Members considered this information and a discussion took place on whether the Parish Council should cut the grass in this area again in 2014 under a similar arrangement.

Resolved that:

(i) a licence agreement be entered into with the County Council for 2014 to cut the grass in this area

(ii) a review of these arrangements takes place at the end of the season

46/14 Chairperson's Announcements

There were no Chairperson's announcements.

47/14 Questions from Members – Information only

There were no questions from Members.

48/14 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 11 March 2014 at 7.15pm.

Meeting ended at 9.00pm