

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held via 'Zoom' on Tuesday 10 November 2020 at 6.30pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

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

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. K Leary - ill

The above apologies were received and approved

109/20 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

110/20 Public Participation

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

111/20 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13 October 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

112/20 Correspondence

(i) Durham County Council – County Durham Plan

Members were informed that the County Durham Plan has been adopted by the County Council

Resolved - that the information be received

(ii) Campaign to Protect Rural England – North East region Autumn newsletter

Resolved - that the newsletter be received

(iii) Letter - Durham County Council – large tractors and trailers on Peth Bank and Ford Road (min 103/20)

Members considered the response from the County Council to concerns about tractors and trailers on Peth Bank and Ford Road

Resolved - that the letter be received

(iv) Durham County Council – Public Bridleway and Public Path Creation

Members were informed that notice had be received confirming the order

Resolved - that the information be received

113/20 Planning

(i) The following planning application had been refused by Durham County Council:

- Felling of three pine trees at The Paddock, Lanchester

The following planning applications had been approved by Durham County Council:

- Single storey rear and two storey side extension at Foxhills Crescent, Lanchester
- Upgrade driveway with a dropped curb and tarmac of existing gravel covered drive at Peth Bank, Lanchester
- Install raised timber decking, steps and hand rail within rear garden at Burnhopeside Avenue, Lanchester
- Retrospective application for fascia signage to front of property at Front Street, Lanchester

Resolved - that the information be received

(ii) Planning Application – DM/20/01464/FPA – Residential development (78 dwellings) with associated landscaping and drainage infrastructure at Oakwood House and Oakwood Stables, Lanchester

Members were informed that some amended plans had been submitted prompting a further consultation period.

The amendments comprised of changes to the site layout, site access arrangements, with more information on pedestrian access points at Oakwood and the Valley Walk and a further Odour report.

Members considered that the original response and objections of the Parish Council remained valid.

It was agreed that a further letter be sent to the County Council confirming the content of the original letter and referring to the recently adopted County Durham Plan which allocates no housing sites in Lanchester and which is compliant with the Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan.

Resolved - that a letter is sent to the County Council

Councillors Bill Gray and Margaret Gray entered the meeting at 7.00pm.

(iii) Planning Application – DM/20/02808/FPA – Retrospective planning application for the demolition of outbuilding and change of use of land to private residential amenity space at West View, Lanchester

Members considered the application at some length.

Members noted that the application was retrospective and within the conservation area. Discussion centred around the historic nature of the access road, the positioning of the new wall and the access arrangements for neighbouring properties.

Resolved - that a letter of objection is sent to the County Council for the following reasons:

- The work has been undertaken without planning permission
- The access road is historic and been in use without restriction for many decades
- The submitted planning statements are inconsistent with the work undertaken
- The work undertaken is not in keeping with the conservation area and other properties in West View
- The wall has been built substantially to the side and rear of the original garage boundary
- The work has resulted in restrictive access to residents in West View who wish to access the rear of their property
- Concern that the right of access for residents of West View has been affected
- The works have severely hampered the access arrangements for service and emergency vehicles to the rear of West View

(iv) Planning White Paper Consultation

Members were informed that a comprehensive response had been sent from the County Association and National Association of Local Councils to the consultation.

Resolved - that the information be received

114/20 Play Equipment and Repairs

(i) Repairs to Safety Surfacing

Members were provided with prices from a number of companies for repairs to two areas of safety surfacing. The surface around the roundabout has recently had repairs undertaken.

Resolved - that the areas are monitored and the prices are retained for future reference

(ii) Zip Wire at Kitswell Park

Members were informed that play parts had been purchased for the Zip wire at a cost of £511 +VAT. The repairs will be made to the zip wire shortly.

Resolved - that the information be received

(iii) See saw at Park House Play Area

Members were informed that repairs were required to the see saw at a cost of £700 + VAT

Resolved - that the play equipment parts are purchased

115/20 Manor Grange Play Area

Members were provided with an update on the project.

- Lease with the County Council. The Heads of Terms had been received from the County Council. Members considered them and agreed that they could be signed and returned. Following this the full lease will be drawn up and signed.
- Funding – The additional form for funding from the County Councillors Neighbourhood Budget has been completed. All the funding is in place and will be released to the Parish Council once the lease has been signed.
- Consultation – It was agreed that some consultation should take place through the two village primary schools to seek feedback from children on the content of the scheme.

Members were informed that it is aimed to complete the above works by Christmas. Following this the County Council will undertake a procurement process to secure a contractor. The procurement process will take 6 weeks and the contractor usually has a 6 – 8 week construction period before starting on site. It is hoped that the works will commence by May 2021.

Resolved that:

- (i) the Heads of Terms be signed and returned
- (ii) consultation is undertaken through the schools
- (iii) the information be received

116/20 Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal

Members considered a donation to the Royal British Legion for the poppy wreath

Resolved - that a donation of £100 is made

117/20 Remembrance Seat

Members were informed that the Remembrance Seat donated by the Consett Branch of the Royal British Legion had now been installed near to the War Memorial on the Village Green.

It was agreed that an unveiling photo be taken to include: Chair of the Parish Council, Chairman of the Consett & District Royal British Legion, Eric Hepplewhite and a flag bearer.

Resolved - that the above arrangements are made

Members discussed the Remembrance Service which had taken place on Sunday 8 November. Members agreed that the service had been safe and respectful in the current restrictive circumstances and had gone very well.

Resolved - that a letter of thanks is sent to Churches Together

118/20 Christmas Lights and Events 2020 (min 104/20)

(i) Christmas Lights Switch On

Members were provided with the following details:

- Lights to be switched on Saturday 28 November
- The lights are displayed between 3.00pm and 12midnight and 7am – 9am.
- The lights are extended to include all of January
- A grant form has been completed to fund the extra electricity
- The Lanchester Partnership are to enhance the event by encouraging people to stay at home and switch on their home lights at the same time as the Village Green lights are switched on. They intend to live stream the countdown and switch on through the Partnership facebook.

(ii) Santa Event

The Lanchester Partnership is working on an event which will involve Santa travelling around the houses to deliver a small present to children. This will take place sometime in December and will be arranged to be Covid safe. The Parish Council have been asked to supply the presents.

Resolved that:

- (i)** The presents are purchased for the event at a cost of approximately £500
- (ii)** The information be received

119/20 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report D.

Resolved - that the report be approved

120/20 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

S Laverick	Salary (Oct)	£1,407.48
D Maddox	Salary (Oct)	£491.49
Durham County Council	Pension (Oct)	£430.37
Information Comm. Office	Data Protection Fee	£40.00
Bullivant Agriculture	Garage Security	£1,140.00
P Snowdon	Hanging Baskets	£248.00
S Laverick	Expenses	£115.93
Proludic	Play Parts	£613.58

121/20 Chairperson's Announcements

There were no announcements

122/20 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place via 'Zoom' on Tuesday 8 December 2020 at 6.30pm

Meeting ended at 7.50pm