

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Wednesday 14 December 2022 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

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

County Cllr. D Oliver

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. V Jackson - family commitments
Cllr. D Toner - work commitments
Cllr. L Montgomery - family commitments
The above apologies were received and accepted

252/22 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

253/22 Public Participation

Members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

254/22 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

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

255/22 Committees

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Finance, Development & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 30 November 2022 be confirmed as

a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

256/22 Police Reports

The Police report for November was considered which included a report on the recent dog attack on another dog. The dog that attacked is to be rehomed to a specialist dog charity.

Resolved that:

- (i) the Police report be received
- (ii) the Police are asked to confirm that the dog has been rehomed

257/22 Correspondence

- (i) **Poster – guided walk – Durham County Council**
Resolved - that the poster is placed on the notice board
- (ii) **Clerk Magazine – November**
Resolved - that the magazine be received

258/22 Durham County Councillors

County Cllr. M McGaun sent his apologies.
County Cllr. D Oliver provided an update on the following areas of work:

- A meeting had taken place with Cllr. Shuttleworth, Durham County Council portfolio holder for highways, regarding road safety issues in Lanchester including around the schools. The consultation on the proposed double yellow lines around the schools has been completed.
- Looking at improved signage on Ford Road and refreshing the road markings on Peth Bank.
- Recycling bins are being trialled in the centre of the village
- Gateways signs at Hollinside are being explored

Cllr. Oliver was asked to discuss with the County Council the re-surfacing of the roads in the village and a review of the signage. In addition Cllr. Oliver was asked to clarify the progress of the vehicle electric charging point in the centre of the village.

Resolved - that the information be received

259/22 Warm Hubs – Lanchester (min 228/22)

Councillors were informed that the Churches, Community Centre and Library were offering a warm space for the community at various times

through the week. Lanchester Partnership are the umbrella organisation for the project. Each venue has applied for funding to provide the service.

Resolved - that the information be received

260/22 Access from Valley Grove/Greenwell Park to Lanchester Valley Walk

Councillors considered the difficulties faced by wheelchairs users trying to access the Lanchester Valley Walk from Valley Grove.

It was suggested that the footpath could be extended to reach the Valley Walk.

Resolved - that the County Council are asked to consider extending the footpath to improve access to the Valley Walk

261/22 Office Computer and Printer

Councillors were informed that the office computer and printer were over 8 years old and in need of replacement.

Resolved - that new equipment is purchased in the New Year

262/22 Internal Audit Arrangements

Members considered and reviewed the policy.

Resolved that:

- (i)** the Internal Audit arrangements be approved
- (ii)** an internal auditor is secured

263/22 Budgets 2023/24

The Clerk presented report D.

Resolved - that the proposed budget for 2023/24 be approved

264/22 Financial Information

The Lead Officer presented report E.

Resolved - that the report be approved

265/22 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

Royal British Legion Industries	Tree Plaque	£144.99
S Laverick	Salary (November)	£1,458.65
D Maddox	Salary (November)	£555.16
Durham County Council	Pension (November)	£437.90
AD Purves Landscaping	Grass Cutting	£4,852.00
Bullivant Agricultural Ltd	Garage Repairs	£1080.00
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath	£100.00
S Laverick	Expenses	£704.80

266/22 Recruitment of Clerk

Councillors were informed that following interviews on Tuesday 13 December the appointment of Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer had been made.

The new Clerk will be able to commence employment in January which will allow for a cross over period with the outgoing Clerk.

A contract of employment will be required and the new Clerk will be entitled to join the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Resolved that:

- (i) the appointment be approved
- (ii) the Clerk to commence employment in January
- (iii) a contract of employment be progressed
- (iv) salary and pension payments to be progressed

267/22 Chairperson's Announcements

There were no Chairpersons announcements

268/22 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 10 January at 7.00pm.

Meeting ended at 8.15pm