

# Lanchester Parish Council

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 10 October 2023 at 7.00pm

**Present** Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)  
  
Cllr. P Jackson, Cllr. S Walker, Cllr. L Montgomery, Cllr. O Johnson,  
Cllr. I Tute, Cllr. D Smith, Cllr. T Jones, Cllr. E Hepplewhite,  
Cllr. J Considine, Cllr. D Toner, Cllr. A Gray

**Apologies** Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. V Jackson	- other commitments
Cllr. B McDermid	- work commitments
Cllr. D Friesner	- away

The above apologies were received and approved.

### **141/23      Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **142/23      Public Participation**

Members of the public were welcome to the meeting.

### **143/23      Minutes of the last meeting**

**Resolved that:**

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12 September 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted.

### **144/23      Greencroft Forest Park**

Pryor and Rickett Silviculture attended the meeting to discuss the proposal for a UKFS compliant afforestation scheme across the former area of Greencroft Park.

**Resolved** – that the information be received.

**145/23 Heritage 100 Walk**

Keiron Young from Walk and Talk Trust attended the meeting to give us an update on the Heritage 100 Walk project. In February Keiron received funding from the Mid Durham AAP, with this funding the posts for the walks were made. Lanchester's post is ready but just needs a licence agreement from Durham County Council to be able to install the post. Funds of £1500 need to be raised to commission the author to write the story on the walks. The author will conduct research and interviews and if any of the Councillors would like to be involved, we just need to let Keiron know. The author will write the story, present the story to the community and help create resources for the local primary schools.

**Resolved** – that the information be received.

**146/23 Police Report**

The PACT report for September was received. The Councillors were also updated on the recent meeting with PCSO Rutherford.

**Resolved** – that the PACT report and information be received.

**147/23 Correspondence**

**(i) Durham County Council – Tax Base and Local Council Tax Reduction scheme grant**

Councillors were provided with information on the indicative tax base and Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme grant. This will support budget planning and precept setting.

**Resolved** – that the information be received.

**(ii) Letter from resident – Lanchester Tennis Courts**

Councillors considered a letter received from a resident about the conditions of the tennis courts.

**Resolved** – that Durham County Council are written to and a copy sent to the County Councillors.

**(iii) Letter from resident – Ford Road footpath**

Councillors considered a letter received from a resident about concerns they had with the footpath on Ford Road.

**Resolved** – that the information be received.

**(iv) Letter from resident – Kings Head parking**

Councillors considered a letter received from a resident about the recent changes to the parking situation at the Kings Head.

**Resolved** – that the information be received.

- (v) **Letter from resident – Gate access from Ashdown Grove**  
Councillors considered a letter received from a resident about the gate access from Ashdown Grove to the football field.  
**Resolved** – the Clerk to respond to the resident’s letter.
- (vi) **Durham County Council – Review of polling districts and polling places**  
Councillors were informed that there are no changes to Lanchester’s polling districts and places.  
**Resolved** – that the information be received.
- (vii) **CDALC – D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Councillors were asked if we wanted to be involved in the D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.  
**Resolved** – that we would join Burnhope Parish Council in a joint event.

**148/23 Durham County Councillors**

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

- Councillor Oliver has been speaking with CPAL about progressing our lease for the Solar Planet Project
- Drainage around the Village
- Road works on Ford Road
- Meeting with the Headteacher at Lanchester EP School

The County Councillors were asked if they could give us an update on the plans for Shotley Bridge Hospital at the next Parish meeting.

**Resolved** - that the information be received.

County Councillor D Oliver left the meeting at 8:30pm

**149/23 Christmas Light Switch on Event**

Councillors considered and agreed the arrangements for the event.

**Resolved** – that the Clerk to progress with the arrangements.

Councillor A Gray left the meeting at 9pm

**150/23 Lanchester in Bloom (min 133/23)**

Councillors agreed to the planting of flowers at the entrance signs into the Village.

**Resolved** – the Clerk and Chairman to progress this.

**151/23 Access from Valley Grove/Woodlands to Lanchester Valley Walk (min 260/22)**

Councillors were updated on the possibility of extending the path from Valley Grove/Woodlands to Lanchester Valley Walk. Durham County Council have arranged to come out to assess the area and see if an extended path is an option.

**Resolved** – that the information be received.

**152/23 Annual Return 2022/23**

The Clerk 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.

**153/23 Financial Information**

The Clerk presented the report.

**Resolved** – that the report be approved.

**154/23 Accounts for Payment**

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

Throstleness Farm	Play Park Rent	£20.00
JB & N Harrison	Jacksons – Timber (Kitswell Swings)	£91.59
L Dodd	Salary (September)	£1400.37
D Maddox	Salary (September)	£610.09
D Maddox	Expenses	£256.78

**155/23 Chairperson’s Announcement**

There were no Chairpersons announcements.

**156/23 Date of next meeting**

**Resolved** – that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm

Meeting ended at 9:30pm