

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

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

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. A Gray	- family commitments
Cllr. B McDermid	- work commitments
Cllr. L Montgomery	- ill
Cllr. D Toner	- work commitments

The above apologies were received and approved.

157/23 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

158/23 **Public Participation**

Members of the public were welcome to the meeting.

159/23 **Minutes of the last meeting**

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10 October 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted.

160/23 **Police Report**

The PACT report for October was received.

Resolved – that the PACT report and information be received.

161/23 Correspondence

- (i) **Letter from resident – Kitswell Bike Track**
Councillors considered a letter received from a resident requesting permission to repair some of the jumps on the bike track.
Resolved – a site visit to be arranged.
- (ii) **Clerk & Councils Direct Magazine - November**
Resolved – that the magazine be received.

162/23 Durham County Councillors

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

- The recent flood - County Councillor Oliver is arranging a site visit with Durham County Council to walk around the Village and discuss all aspects of the flood.
- Information on road works – County Councillor Oliver is to arrange for the Parish Council to start receiving regular updates about road works in the area.

Resolved – that the information be received.

County Councillor D Oliver left the meeting at 8:05pm

163/23 Greencroft Forest Park (144/23)

Councillors discussed all aspects of the proposal.

Resolved – Councillors are advised to send their individual responses to Pryor & Rickett Silviculture.

164/23 Lanchester Community Centre

A request for a donation to the Community Centre was received .

Resolved – The Clerk to send the grant/donation applications forms to the Community Centre and if they would like us to consider their donation this will be done at the next March meeting.

165/23 Christmas Light Switch on Event (149/23)

The Councillors were given an update on the event. Everything in hand and going according to plan.

Resolved – that the update be received.

166/23 Flooding

The recent flood was discussed in length. A meeting has been arranged in December with Civil Contingencies Unit at Durham County Council and the Environment Agency to discuss the issue further.

Resolved – the Clerk to give an update at the next meeting about the meeting with Civil Contingencies Unit the Environment Agency.

167/23 Planning application

Application for agricultural land improvements utilising imported soil materials at Spring Gardens Farm, Howden Bank Lanchester DM/21/02616/WAS (amended plans)

Councillors discussed the application.

The Parish Council consider that the previous objections regarding this application sent on 4 October 2021, 28 September 2022 and 10 May 2023 remain valid. It was agreed to attach the letter from the 4 October 2021, 28 September 2022 and 10 May 2023 to this further correspondence.

Resolved – that a letter is sent to the County Council further objecting to this application.

168/23 National Pay Award – 2023/24 pay agreement

Councillors were informed that the National Pay Award has been agreed.

Recommended that:

- (i)** The pay award is applied to staff salaries
- (ii)** The pay award is back dated to 1 April 2023

169/23 Poppy Wreath

Councillors considered a donation to the Royal British Legion

Resolved - that a donation of £100.00 is made.

170/23 Financial Information

The Clerk presented the report.

Resolved – that the report be approved.

171/23 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

BT	Phone & Broadband	£198.64
HMRC	Tax & NI (July-Sept)	£931.62
Durham County Council	Pension (September)	£425.30
Mazars	External Audit Fee	£504.00
L Dodd	Salary (October)	£1400.37
D Maddox	Salary (October)	£610.09
Durham County Council	Christmas light work	£1715.11
P Snowdon	Watering - Hanging Baskets	£425.60

172/23 Chairperson's Announcement

There were no Chairpersons announcements.

173/23 Date of next meeting

Resolved – that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 12th December at 7.00pm

Meeting ended at 8:35pm