

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 13 February 2024 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

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

County Cllr. D Oliver

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. L Montgomery - work commitments
Cllr. B McDermid - work commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted.

13/24 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

14/24 **Public Participation**

Members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

15/24 **Minutes of the last meeting**

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9 January 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted.

16/24 **Police Reports**

No PACT report for January was received as there has been a changeover of PCSO. The new PCSO for Lanchester and Burnhope area is Connor Milner. The Clerk did confirm that the previous PACT report figures are for Lanchester area only.

Resolved that:

- (i) that the information be received.

- (ii) the Clerk to organise a meeting with the new PCSO
Connar Milner

17/24 Correspondence

(i) Lanchester Partnership

Councillors considered a request to use the Village Green for the annual litter pick on 9th March.

Resolved - that permission is granted.

(i) Letter from resident - Concerns over dog fouling and littering

Members considered a letter from a resident over concerns over dog fouling and littering around his property.

Resolved - that the Clerk forward the email and a letter from the Parish Council to Durham County Council to see what they can do about the situation.

18/24 Durham County Councillors

County Cllr. D Oliver provided an update on the following areas of work:

- Flood – Work carried out on the drains near Ornsby Hill.
- St Bedes – An introduction meeting was held with the new Headteacher. She is keen to engage with the local community.

Resolved - that the information be received.

19/24 Area Action Partnership (AAP) / Parish Councils Committee (PCC)

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the PCC meeting held on 18th November 2023 be received.

20/24 Flooding Support

The Clerk updated the Councillors on information received about potential financial support for flood victims. This included some organisations that may be able to offer individual grants. Members discussed how inform residents of this information.

Resolved that:

- (i) that the information be received.
- (ii) the Clerk to put an article in the Village Voice.

21/24 Solar Planet Walk

Councillor Paul Jackson gave an update on the project.

- The areas we need for our project have been marked out on plans given to us from CPAL, we now await the lease for our project.
- The planning department at Durham County Council are still to come back with which planning permission we need for our project.
- Procurement have sent out expressions of interest and are now putting together a tender pack and hopefully have some applicants coming forward who are interested in being involved in the project.

Resolved - that the information be received.

22/24 Greencroft Forest Park

Councillor David Friesner gave an update on the development.

Resolved that:

- (i) that the information be received.
- (ii) the Clerk and Councillor David Smith to write a letter to the forestry commission.

Councillor Alison Gray left the meeting.

23/24 Internal Audit Arrangements

Members considered and reviewed the policy.

Resolved that:

- (i) the Internal Audit arrangements be approved.
- (ii) Mr Gordon Fletcher be approved as the internal auditor.

Councillor Paul Jackson left the meeting.

24/24 Risk Assessment Schedule

Members considered and reviewed the policy.

Resolved - that the Risk Assessment Schedule be approved.

25/24 Newsletter

Councillors considered the newsletter.

Resolved - that the newsletter be approved for distribution.

26/24 Financial Information

The Clerk presented the report.

Resolved - that the report be approved.

27/24 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

Morrisons	Christmas Lights Event	£20.00
Tesco	Christmas Lights Event	£24.80
B&M	Christmas Lights Event	£60.00
Cotswold Seeds	Grass Seed – Village Green	£69.80
Amazon	Padlock	£11.98
Amazon	Workwear – Handyman	£80.96
D Maddox	Salary (January)	£663.02
L Dodd	Salary (January)	£1481.04
DCC	Pension (January)	£451.62
DCC	Procurement Services	£1356.00

28/24 Clerk Contract

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

29/24 Chairperson's Announcements

There were no Chairpersons announcements.

30/24 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 12th March at 7.00pm.

Meeting ended at 8.15pm