

# Lanchester Parish Council

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 14 May 2024 at 7.05pm

**Present** Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

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

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

Cllr. L Montgomery - ill

The above apologies were received and approved.

### **70/24 Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations of interest were received:  
Councillor D Smith – item 6 (vi) min

### **71/24 Public Participation**

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

### **72/24 Minutes of the last meeting**

**Resolved** – the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted.

### **73/24 Police Report**

Members were updated on the recent PACT report for April.

A pursuit of three quadbikes by Durham Constabulary's RPU team ended in Lanchester. The three bikes were identified as stolen and suspects are under investigations for theft. Farmers are encouraged to secure their farm equipment and if possible, install tracking devices, CCTV, Alarms etc. More information on rural crime prevention advice can be provided by Durham Constabulary.

A new operation to tackle rural crime has been created. Operation Rurali. Officers have increased patrols in rural areas to combat thefts

from farms, poaching, livestock worrying and other types of rural crime. Durham Constabulary are working with partner agencies to help educate farmers and rural residents and make it easier for crimes to be investigated where witnesses/CCTV may be few and far between.

Officers of Durham Constabulary attended a business in Lanchester after reports of a break in. There is now an ongoing investigation into the burglary of the business. CCTV enquiries have been made but anyone who may have any information is encouraged to call 101 and quote reference CRI00541415.

PCSO 30136 Milner has been speaking with local residents whilst on foot patrol and carrying out traffic observations in problem areas for speeding/Anti-social driving.

PCSO 30136 and 8740 attended an RTC on the A691 towards Consett. Both drivers of the vehicle were not hurt but one driver was dealt with for driving offences.

Officers have attended an address in Lanchester after concerns were raised about a property. Investigations are ongoing after officers found there to be evidence of the cultivation of cannabis.

**Resolved that:**

- (i) That the PACT report be received.
- (ii) the Clerk to get an update from the PCSO on a few matters including the following:
  - Parking patrol around the Village
  - PCSO attendance at meetings

**74/24**

**Correspondence**

- (i) **Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) – annual membership fee**  
**Resolved** – that the membership is renewed at a cost of £229.00.
- (ii) **County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) – annual membership fee**  
**Resolved** – that the membership is renewed at a cost of £647.45.
- (iii) **Letter of thanks – Lanchester Parish Church**  
**Resolved** – that the letter be received.
- (iv) **Durham County Council – Christmas Lights 2024**  
Councillors considered the price received for annual work to the Christmas Lights on the Village Green  
**Resolved** – that the works are booked at a cost of £1630.65.
- (v) **Lanchester Partnership – Meeting about the Greencroft Forest Development**  
To remind members of the meeting

Resolved – that the information be received.

- (vi) **Partnership Environment Group – Trees for Lanchester**  
Councillors considered the request to assist the Partnership environment Group in contacting local landowners regarding tree planting.

**Resolved** – that help in contacting local landowners is given.

**75/24 Grass Cutting 2024**

Members considered the price received for grass cutting for 2024.

**Resolved** - that the price be approved.

**76/24 D-Day 80 Beacon Event**

Councillors received an update on the event. Arrangements are in progress.

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

**77/24 Planning application**

Application for Detached garage with storage on first floor to front of property. Pantiles, Cadger Bank, Lanchester DM/24/00809/FPA

Councillors were updated on a response the Parish Council have written for this application.

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

**78/24 Internal Audit Report 2023/24**

Members considered the Internal Audit report.

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

**79/24 Insurance Renewal 2024/2025**

Councillors considered the insurance document and premium.

**Resolved** – that the insurance premium of £975.57 from Clear Councils be accepted, the level of cover provided having been accepted as sufficient.

**80/24 Financial Information**

The Clerk presented the report.

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

**81/24 Accounts for Payment**

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

D Maddox	Salary (April)	£665.02
L Dodd	Salary (April)	£1495.98
Durham County Council	Pension (April)	£451.62
Gordon Fletcher	Internal Auditor	£150.00
CDALC	Annual Membership	£647.45

**82/24 Chairperson's Announcement**

There were no Chairpersons announcements.

**83/24 Date of next meeting**

**Resolved** – that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm

Meeting ended at 7:50pm