

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 8th October 2024 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

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

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. L Montgomery – ill
Cllr. A Gray – Family commitments
Cllr. O Johnson – ill
Cllr. D Toner – work commitments

The above apologies were received and approved.

141/24 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

142/24 Public Participation

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

143/24 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th September 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted.

144/24 Police Report

Members were updated on the recent PACT report for September.

- Police were called after there were reports of temporary traffic lights stuck on red on the A691. Police made contact with the council and the issue was resolved.
- It was reported that on the A691 between Langley Park and Lanchester, there was a push bike in the middle of the road. Officers attended to remove the obstruction.

- A report was received for sheep on the A691, officers attended to control traffic and make sure the sheep were returned to the field. When officers arrived on scene, the sheep had already been returned to their field.
- Officers were on patrol in Lanchester when sheep made their way on to the A691. Officers were able to assist a local farmer in herding the sheep into a nearby field.
- Officers attended a two vehicle RTC on the A691 near the Jet petrol station. Ambulance was called as there were multiple injuries. Passengers and drivers were taken to hospital with non-life threatening injuries.
- Officers stopped a vehicle after it was reported the car was “all over the road” on the A691 in Lanchester. The driver was breathalysed and blew zero. The elderly driver was given words of advice around their driving.

Resolved that:

- (i) That the PACT report be received.

145/24 Correspondence

- (i) **Letter from Resident – Christmas Light witch on Event**
Jill & Mike Gladstone have accepted the Parish Councils invitation to turn on the Christmas Lights this year.
Resolved – that the information be received.

Councillor V Jackson entered the meeting.

146/24 Durham County Councillors

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

- Planning – Solar Farm development
- Greencroft lodge development and forest development
- Community Funding – if there are any worthy causes to inform Councillor Oliver
- County Hall – staff are starting to move out of County Hall
- Durham Park and Ride is expanding.
- Flood – Working with DCC as to what has been done a since the flood

Resolved – that the information be received.

147/24 Remembrance Sunday

Councillors considered a request to help with the cost of the leaflets for Remembrance Sunday.

Resolved – that the request be approved.

County Councillor Doug Oliver left the meeting.

148/24 Trees – ash dieback on roadside

Councillors discussed the increased number of trees with ash dieback on the roadsides

Resolved – The Clerk to investigate if Durham County Council are carrying out any assessments.

149/24 Greencroft Forest Park

Members discussed the development.

Resolved – that the information be received.

150/24 Footpath adjoining the A691

Members discussed the footpath that runs alongside the A691 which is falling into disrepair.

Resolved – Clerk to take no further action for now.

151/24 Garage - Burnside

Councillors discussed the recent request from a resident to help with the repairs of their garage.

Resolved – Clerk to advise resident that the Parish Council will be taking no action.

152/24 Durham County Council – Lanchester Station Road Unadopted Highway and Recreation Ground River Quality Monitory

Members discussed the request from Northumbrian Water to use the land for river quality monitoring. Clerk to ask if we can be kept updated with the information their collect.

Resolved – that the request be approved.

153/24 DCC consultation on 2025/26 Budget

Members discussed the consultation. Clerk to send email to Councillors with more information.

Resolved – that the information be received.

154/24 Doras Wood

Councillors discussed the entrance to Doras Wood has been blocked off by nearby residents. Clerk to speak to Countryside Rangers to investigate

Resolved – that the information be received.

155/24 Advertising Boards

Members discussed the increasing number of advertising boards in the Village. Clerk to send a letter to DCC to investigate further.

Resolved – that the information be received.

156/24 Kitswell Football Field

Members discussed the request for more regular cuts of the football field. Councillors agreed to 3 more cuts per cutting season as and when required.

Resolved – that the request be approved.

157/24 Community Emergency Plan

Councillors were updated on the recent training exercise that took place.

Resolved – that the information be received.

158/24 Annual Return 2023/24

Councillors received 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.

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s. 1(2)
It is likely that the press and public will be excluded from this item due to the confidential nature of the information.

159/24 Clerk Contract

Councillors discussed the Clerks contract.

Resolved – that the contract be approved.

160/24 Financial Information

The Clerk presented the report.

Resolved – that the report be approved.

161/24 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

McAee	Security Software Subscription	£79.99
Microsoft	Software Subscription	£79.99
MK Print Solutions	Printing Newsletter	£129.00
L Dodd	Expenses	£78.93
L Dodd	Salary (September)	£1495.78
D Maddox	Salary (September)	£697.42
Durham County Council	Pension (September)	£451.62
Proludic	Play Equipment Repairs	£67.63
BT	Phone & Broadband	£174.10
TTI	Ryobi hedge trimmer	£318.37

162/24 Chairperson's Announcement

There were no Chairpersons announcements.

163/24 Date of next meeting

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

Meeting ended at 8:50pm