

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 10th June 2025 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

Cllr. A Gray, Cllr. V Jackson, Cllr. L Montgomery, Cllr. L Walker,
Cllr. P Jackson, Cllr. E Hepplewhite, Cllr. D Toner, Cllr I Tute,
Cllr. B McDermid, Cllr. O Johnson, Cllr. S Walker, Cllr. D Smith
Cllr. J Smith

1xMembers of the public

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. T Jones - away

The above apologies were received and approved.

94/25 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

95/25 Public Participation

Members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

96/25 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 13th May 2025 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted.
- (ii) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13th May 2025 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted.

97/25

Committees

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 29th May 2025 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted

98/25

Police Report

Members were updated on the recent PACT report for May.

Resolved that:

- (i) that the PACT report be received.
- (ii) the Clerk to write a letter to the Police asking for written confirmation why police can't attend our meetings.

99/25

Durham County Councillor

County Councillor A Gray provided an update on the areas she has recently been working on, these included:

- Neighbourhood Warden and Cllr Gray will be doing a walkabout in July
- Highways – this included speeding concerns on Howden Bank, a consultation for parking at Victoria Terrace, the parking concerns on Newbiggen Lane and a dropped curb near the Kings Head pub that has been requested.
- Cameras – to get extra cameras for the Village there are a number of protocols to go through and it is not an easy task.
- The library has started to fine children for late books, there has been a lot of complaints, DCC to look into this.
- Lanchester Medical Centre and problems with GPs.

100/25

Beacon Event – VJ Day 80

Councillors were updated on the details of the event.

Resolved – that the Clerk provide a poster for the Village Voice.

101/25

Lanchester Solar Planet Walk

Councillors received an update on the project.

Resolved – that the Clerk set up a meeting with the contractors for a further update.

102/25 Greencroft Forest Park

Councillors were given an update about the development.

Resolved – that the information be received.

103/25 Christmas Light Switch On

Members agreed a date of the 22nd of November for the Christmas Light Switch on Event.

Resolved – approved.

104/25 Summer Holiday Activities

For the past couple of years Outdoor and Sustainability Education Specialists (OASES) have provided free sessions for families in local parks and greenspaces, such as den building and bug hunting. They also provide free healthy snacks and water to help combat holiday hunger. Previously these sessions were funded by AAPs, but with the current transition to Local Networks they are unable to fund these for the upcoming summer holidays.

Resolved – Councillors agreed to fund these sessions temporarily this summer while the Local Networks get organised to take these sessions back on next year.

105/25 Burnhope Car Park

Councillors discussed a request to use the Car Park for the Centenary Gala celebrations.

Resolved – request approved.

106/25 Wooden animal Carvings

Members discussed a request to replace the wooden animals in the Village.

Resolved – the Clerk to provide quotes.

107/25 Flood Prevention

Councillors discussed ways to help with flood prevention in the Village this year.

Resolved – that the Clerk and Cllr Gray request Durham County Council to schedule a leaf collection and cleaning of the drains in the autumn.

108/25 Victoria Terrace

Members were informed of a residents request for information about the area behind Victoria Terrace.

Resolved – the area does not belong to the Parish Council and the resident to contact Durham County Council for advice.

109/25 Financial Year 2024/25 End of Year Accounts

The Clerk presented the report.

Resolved that:

- (i) the Council approve the Annual Return – Annual Governance Statement
- (ii) the Council approve the Annual Return – Accounting Statement
- (iii) the Council approve the financial position for the end of year

110/25 Financial Information

The Clerk presented the report.

Resolved – that the report be approved.

111/25 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

Post Office	Post	£2.60
Post Office	Post	£5.10
HMRC	PAYE/NI	£1127.88
Tribune	Stationery	£341.90
Brass Band	Donation	£50.00
John Stafford	Donation	£50.00
D Maddox	Salary (May)	£701.84
L Dodd	Salary (May)	£1608.83
Durham County Council	Pension (May)	£481.87

112/25 Chairperson's Announcement

Councillors discussed the fencing along Durham Road that Northern Gas Networks have destroyed while conducting works in the area. Clerk to speak to Northern Gas Networks and see if they are going to repair the fence.

113/25 Date of next meeting

Resolved – that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 8th July at 7.00pm

Meeting ended at 8:45pm