

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 9th September 2025 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

Cllr. A Gray, Cllr. V Jackson, Cllr. L Walker, Cllr. E Hepplewhite,
Cllr I Tute, Cllr. B McDermid, Cllr. D Smith, Cllr. T Jones, Cllr. S Walker

5xMembers of the public

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. L Montgomery – work commitments
Cllr. P Jackson - away
Cllr. D Toner – away
Cllr. O Johnson – other commitments
Cllr. J Smith - ill

The above apologies were received and approved.

133/25 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

134/25 Public Participation

Members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

135/25 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

- (i) the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th July 2025 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted.

136/25 Police Report

Members were updated on the recent PACT report for July & August.

Resolved that:

- (i) that the PACT report be received.

137/25 Haystax Holiday Park

The planning consultant for the holiday park, along with the Planning Officer from Durham County Council attended the meeting and gave an update on the planning application as well as answering questions from the Parish Councillors and members of the public.

Resolved – that the information be received.

138/25 Correspondence

- (i) AAP – Farwell letter from Derek Snaith who has recently retired was received.

Resolved – that a letter of thanks be written to Derek for everything he has done over years for Lanchester.

139/25 Durham County Councillor

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

- Trees overgrown in a few areas in the Village
- The Village Bus is starting up again
- Handrail has been requested at Alderdene
- Meeting with traffic warden to discuss parking around the Village
- A dropped kerb has been approved on the pavement outside the Kings Head
- A request for a new Lanchester sign coming into the Village as the last one has disappeared and a clean/paint of both fences

140/25 Lanchester Solar Planet Walk

Councillors received an update on the project.

Resolved – a meeting to be arranged to discuss the project.

141/25 Beacon Event – VJ Day 80

Councillors discussed the event and agreed that it went well and around 100 people attended.

Resolved – that the information be received.

142/25 Cricket Club

Councillors discussed a request for permission to carry out some resurfacing on the Cricket Club grounds.

Resolved – approved with a request to keep the Parish Council informed of these works.

143/25 Tree Surveys

Members discussed the recent tree quotes.

Resolved – The clerk to request lead times for the tree work.

144/25 Planning Policy

Members were in favour of the proposal to change HMOs so planning permission would be needed to allow the conversion of dwelling houses into small Houses in Multiple Occupation for between 3 and 6 residents

Resolved – that the information be received.

145/25 Lanchester Food Week

Permission was granted for the Parish Council to pay for the printing and display of a banner for Lanchester Food Week, along with an article in the Village Voice.

Resolved – approved.

146/25 Doras Wood

Members discussed the situation at Doras Wood.

Resolved – that the information be received.

147/25 Friends of Longovicium

Members discussed a request to partially fund an open evening the group are hosting.

Resolved – a grant of £200 was approved.

Councillor Alison Gray left the meeting.

148/25 Greencroft Forest Park

Members were informed there is no update at this time.

Resolved – received.

149/25 National Pay Award – 2025/26 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 2025.

150/25 Financial Information

The Clerk presented the report.

Resolved – that the report be approved.

151/25 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

D Maddox	Salary (July)	£685.64
L Dodd	Salary (July)	£1608.83
Durham County Council	Pension (July)	£494.02
Post Office	Post	£3.48
Post Office	Post	£3.15
Post Office	Post	£1.70
Microsoft	Subscription	£104.99
Post Office	Post	£8.94
McAfee	Subscription	£103.99
Post Office	Post	£1.74
OASES	Summer Activities	£1660.00
MK Print Solutions	Newsletter	£85.00
AD Purves	Grass Cutting	£3565.45
David Maddox	Salary (August)	£718.04
Laura Dodd	Salary (August)	£1608.83
Durham County Council	Pension (August)	£494.02
Tribune	Stationery	£133.68

152/25 Chairperson's Announcement

There were no Chairpersons announcements.

153/25

Date of next meeting

Resolved – that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 14th October at 7.00pm

Meeting ended at 8:25pm