

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House on Tuesday 11th November 2025 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr. K Harrison (Chair)

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

1xMember of the public

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. J Smith – family commitments
Cllr. L Walker – family commitments
Cllr. D Smith – ill
Cllr. L Montgomery – ill

The above apologies were received and approved.

172/25 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

173/25 Public Participation

Members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

174/25 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved that:

- (i)** the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th October 2025 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson and any recommendations contained therein be approved and accepted.

175/25 Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan Review

Unfortunately, DCC could not attend the Parish Council Meeting. Councillors discussed how to proceed with reviewing the plan.

Resolved – Clerk to contact consultant who helped with the plan originally for advice.

176/25

Police Report

No police report received for the month of October. We were informed of the 'Park Safe Initiative Scheme' that is taking place around the schools in the coming weeks and months. This is a new initiative to try and address parking issues around the schools at peak times. Please look out for signs around the school explaining how the scheme works.

Resolved that:

(i) that the information be received.

177/25

Durham County Councillor

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

- Consultation on budget is ending soon, have your say before it ends
- Solar Farm Appeal – DCC did not send out notices about the meeting, so this has been deferred until March 2026
- Meetings have taken place with Traffic Enforcement and Traffic Wardens
- Discussions about how to make Station Road safer to cross
- Request for Doras wood entry to be made wider so a double buggy can fit through
- DCC chased on a number of requests including a new handrail at Alderdene and the Lanchester sign coming into the Village
- Meeting at the Cricket Club and the Social Club about Lanchester Medical Centre
- There has also been at least three visits from DCC carrying out a leaf sweep around the Village

Resolved – that the information be received.

178/25

Poppy Wreath

Councillors considered a donation to The Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal.

Resolved – £100 donation approved.

179/25

Lanchester Food Week

The Parish Council were thanked for their donation towards the banner and the article in the Village Voice for Lanchester Food Week. The event was a great success. Following this some of the business' wanted to decorate their windows for Christmas.

Resolved – The Parish Council have approved a £200 cash prize for the best decorated window. A poll will be put on Lanchester Food Week's Facebook page for everyone to vote.

180/25 Solar Planet Project

Councillors were given an update on the project

Resolved – that the information be received.

181/25 Lanchester Traffic Regulation Order Amendment 2025

Councillors were informed of proposed restrictions in a number of areas in the Village.

Resolved – Clerk to write a letter to explain that unless there are regular traffic wardens enforcing these new restrictions the parking situation will not improve.

182/25 Christmas Light Switch on

Members considered a request received from Lanchester EP School for 5 pupils in year 5 to sell some bracelets they have made to raise money for the Henry Dancer Days Charity.

Resolved – request approved.

183/25 Newsletter

Councillors considered the newsletter for November.

Resolved - that the newsletter be approved for distribution.

184/25 Financial Information

The Clerk presented the report.

Resolved – that the report be approved.

185/25 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the following accounts be approved for payment:

David Maddox	Salary (October)	£739.98
Laura Dodd	Salary (October)	£1650.89
Durham County Council	Pension (October)	£509.83

Post Office	Post	£3.15
Post Office	Post	£3.40
BT	Telephone & Broadband	£222.96
Lanchester Publications	Advert for Food Week	£285.00
Churches Together	Remembrance Sunday	£150.00

186/25 Chairperson's Announcement

There were no Chairpersons announcements.

187/25 Date of next meeting

Resolved – that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 9th December at 7.00pm

Meeting ended at 8:35pm