

Lanchester Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance, Development and General Purposes Committee Meeting held at Lynwood House on Thursday 29th January 2026 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr. P Jackson (Chair)

Cllr. A Gray, Cllr. V Jackson, Cllr. I Tute, Cllr. K Harrison, Cllr. D Smith,
Cllr. O Johnson, Cllr. T Jones, Cllr. E Hepplewhite, Cllr. S Walker,
Cllr. J Smith

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Cllr. B McDermid - work commitments
Cllr. D Toner - work commitments
Cllr. L Montgomery - other commitments
Cllr. L Walker - other commitments

The above apologies were received and approved

18/26 Election of Chair

Resolved - that Cllr. Paul Jackson be elected as Chairperson for the ensuing year.

19/26 Election of Vice Chair

Resolved - that Cllr. Stuart Walker be elected as Vice Chairperson for the ensuing year.

20/26 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

21/26 Public Participation

There were no members of public present.

22/26 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the finance report.

Recommended - that the information be received.

- 23/26 Animal Wood Carvings**
Members discussed the recent site visit with TW Fiddes Sculpture and approved for a Hare, Otter, Frog and Badger to be ordered.
- Resolved** – Clerk to obtain a quote for an 8-foot totem pole and price for installing the sculptures.
- 24/26 Footpath on Village Green**
Members discussed the condition of the footpath on the Village Green.
- Resolved** – that the Clerk obtain a quote from AD Purves Landscaping to repair the path
- 25/26 Grass Cutting Contract 2026 and long-term agreement**
Members discussed and considered the returned prices and the awarding of a longer-term contract.
- Resolved that:**
- (i) the grass cutting contract be awarded to A D Purves Landscaping being the lowest tender.
 - (ii) a three-year contract be awarded, the price for year two and three to be confirmed prior to the grass cutting season commencing.
- 26/26 Hanging Baskets**
Members considered the price received for the provision of hanging baskets and watering.
- Resolved** – that the hanging baskets are provided at a cost of £264.00 plus the cost of watering.
- 27/26 Cricket Club**
Members discussed the quote for a new fence at the Cricket Club. The quote was approved with the possibility of extending the length to Fenhall Park if possible. Members also discussed the possibility of repairing the fence near the football pitch.
- Resolved** – Clerk to speak to the Environment Agency before the football pitch fence can be repaired.
- 28/26 Christmas Lights**
Councillors were updated on the advice received to replace the Christmas Tree Lights.
- Resolved** – Members approved the replacement of lights.

29/26

Solar Planet Trail Project

Councillors were updated that the planning application had been treated as invalid. Clerk still trying to get more information on this.

Resolved – Clerk to keep chasing the Contractor and Planning Department to get more information. County Councillor Alison Gray will try to speak to head of planning to see what else can be done.

30/26

Tree Surveys

Councillors considered the quotes received to remove a High Priority Tree.

Resolved – The quote received from Jewitt Arboriculture be approved.

31/26

Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next Finance, Development and General Purposes Committee Meeting of the Council TBC

Meeting ended at 8:00pm