

Lanchester Parish Council

**Minutes of the Finance, Development and General Purposes Committee
held in the Conference Room in Park House, Lanchester on Wednesday
30 September 2009 at 7.15 pm**

Present Mr C Burton (in the Chair)

Mr B Gray, Mr K Harrison, Mr D Lindsay
Mr O Johnson, Mr M Wardle

Apologies Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mr B Glass	- other commitments
Mrs M Gray	- other commitments
Mr P Jackson	- work commitments
Mr K Leary	- other commitments
Mr S Walker	- family commitments
Mr A Nairn	- work commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

211/09 Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were received

212/09 Public Participation

The public participation policy was distributed for the benefit of the public present.

213/09 Budget Position

The Lead Officer presented the finance information. The Lead Officer informed Members that information on projected year end and proposed budgets for 2010 / 2011 would be presented at the Finance, Development and General Purposes meeting in November.

Recommended - that the report be received

214/09 Quality Status

The Lead Officer informed Members that the submitted portfolio for Quality Status had been considered and approved. The Quality Status certificate had been received from NALC and this would be formally presented to Lanchester Parish Council at the

County Durham Association of Local Councils AGM on Saturday 31 October at County Hall.

Recommended - that the certificate be framed

215/09 Durham County Councils Strategy for Bus Information 2006 - 2011

Members considered the report

Recommended - that the report be received

216/09 Strategic Building in the Parish

Members agreed that the Parish Council needed to consider and formulate a strategic approach to building in the Parish. This would provide a direction when considering future applications and avoid considering applications in a piecemeal fashion.

Members also considered the importance of Durham County Council adopting the Village Design Statement as supplementary planning guidance.

Recommended that:

(i) the Lead Officer writes to DCC to seek clarification that DCC will retain the Village Design Statement as supplementary planning guidance and take note of the Derwentside District Local Plan when drawing up their new Local Development Framework

(ii) the Head of Planning at DCC is approached and requested to attend a future meeting of Lanchester Parish Council

217/09 Locality Map

Members were informed that all amendments have now been completed and the document will go to the printers shortly.

Members discussed the Action Plan of the document.

Recommended that:

(i) the sub group should remain in place to work through the priorities

(ii) the sub group will work towards a launch event for late Spring 2010 (April / May)

(iii) funding avenues are explored to provide match funding for the Leader application to employ an Advocacy worker

218/09 Village Green

Members were informed that a meeting and site visit had taken place with officers from DCC on 23 September to discuss the broad proposals for the Village Green. Discussion had centred on:

- A path around the green beside the Burn
- The shelter on the green
- The parking area near the Church
- Minor works on the trees
- Planting of bulbs around the trees

Nick Jones from DCC agreed to provide a schedule of options with rough estimates for the developments discussed. This information should be received next week.

Members discussed the planting of crocus and snowdrop bulbs around the trees and the need for them to be planted by November.

Recommended - that bulbs be purchased and planted

219/09 Date of next meeting

Resolved - that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 25 November at 7.15pm in the Conference Room at Park House

Business concluded at 8.50 pm