

Lanchester Parish Council

Annual Report 2007 / 08

Welcome to Lanchester Parish Council's Annual Report.

This report describes the main achievements of Lanchester Parish Council during 2007 / 08 . It also gives details about the services provided by the Council.

Overview by Chair

The Annual Report provides me with an opportunity to review the last 12 months.

The year began with the local elections in May. Fifteen councillors were elected to represent Lanchester on the Parish Council. Names and contact details of the selected councillors can be found overleaf.

Work continues on forging links with the Unitary Authority which is due to come into operation in April 2009.

Within the Village, the Christmas lights were once again a great success. In addition the Village Map information point was installed and a new bus shelter erected.

The Parish Council continued to establish and develop valuable partnership working to ensure services are provided effectively.

Lanchester Parish Council are looking forward to exciting developments in 2008 / 09.

The emergence of the new Unitary Authority in 2009 will mean that the coming year will provide opportunities for partnership working and sharing of good practise and information.

The Parish Council has made a commitment to work towards Quality Status which would result in increased communication with residents, best value provision of services and opportunities to engage in further provision of services.

The Parish Council are working with local groups to finalise details of a new play area at Kitswell Road and have already identified monies through balances to part fund the scheme.

Councillor Neil Fleming
Chair of Lanchester Parish Council 2007 / 08

Services and Activities

Council services in Lanchester are currently offered through three tiers of local government:

- Lanchester Parish Council
- Derwentside District Council
- Durham County Council

With the emergence of the new Unitary Authority in April 2009, only two tiers of local government will remain, these being the new Unitary authority and Lanchester Parish Council.

Lanchester Parish Council provides services that enhance life in the parish from play areas to Christmas lights and leading the debate on our area's future. The areas of Lanchester, Hurbuck Cottages, Hollinside, Malton and Ornsby Hill are covered.

Lanchester Parish Council currently provides and maintains the following services within the village:

- Play Areas
- Allotments
- Village Green
- Xmas Lights
- Hanging Baskets
- Bus shelters
- Public seating (some)
- General upkeep of the village

Derwentside District Council consults Lanchester Parish Council on all planning matters affecting Lanchester Parish. The Parish Council continues to fulfil its objectives in protecting and enhancing the village by its consideration of planning applications and comments to Derwentside District Council which reflect the content of the Village Design Statement.

Lanchester Parish Council continues to work alongside various partners such as; Derwentside District Council, Durham County Council, Lanchester Partnership, Police and Community Groups etc.

The Parish Council welcomes views from residents and people working here on any aspects of life in the village.

Please contact your Councillor or the Clerk at Park House on 01207 521957.

Receipts and Payment Account

Year ended 31 March 2008

Payments

General Admin	£21,773.74
S.137	£1,725.37
Parish Plan	£375.62
Parks and Open Spaces	£25,002.29
VAT	£4,542.55

£53,419.57

Receipts

Contribution from DDC	£5802.00
Precept	£44,328.00
Interest Received	£3,249.15
Garage Rent	£160.00
Bus Shelter Maintenance	£106.00
Donations	£400.00
Sundries	£164.08
VAT	£5,050.74

£59,259.97

Balance at 1 April	£66,020.16
Add Total Income	£59,259.97
	£125,280.13
Less Total Expenditure	£53,419.57
Balance at 31 March	£71,860.56

This statement represents fairly the financial position of the Council at 31 March 2008 and reflects its income and expenditure during the year.

Schedule of Meetings

Lanchester Parish Council has 15 elected members who meet in full session 11 times a year. In addition there are a number of Committees which deal with the important work of the Council. The committees in 2007 / 08 were:

- Planning Committee
- Recreation Committee
- Finance and General Purposes Committee
- Appeals Committee
- Parish Liaison Committee

Members are elected to the committees on an annual basis.

All meetings are held in the Conference Room, Park House, Station Road. Notice of all meetings can be found in the Library or the Parish Council notice board at Park House and public attendance and participation is welcome.

Grants

The Parish Council has the powers to give financial support to a number of local clubs and organisations. During 2007 / 08 the Parish Council awarded the following grants:

• Lanchester Brass Band	£50
• British Legion	£25
• Lanchester Lions	£400
• Willowburn Hospice	£500
• Butterwick Hospice	£250
• Lanchester Parish Church Clock	£200
• Victim Support Durham	£100

Applications for grants will be considered from any organisation. These requests will be considered by the Parish Council in the March meeting.

Meet The Councillors

Lanchester Parish Council comprises of 15 elected councillors, a Lead Officer / Clerk and a Handyperson.

Lanchester Parish Councillors 2007 / 08

Cllr. Neil Fleming	11 Broadoak Drive,	Lanchester	520987	CHAIR VICE CHAIR
Cllr. Ossie Johnson	Stella House, Durham Road,	Lanchester	521937	
Cllr. Colin Burton	15 Deanery View,	Lanchester	520840	
Cllr. Elizabeth Cook	46 Manor Grange,	Lanchester	529334	
Cllr. Bob Glass	c/o Park House, Station Road	Lanchester	295764	
Cllr. Patricia Glass	c/o Park House, Station Road	Lanchester	295764	
Cllr. Bill Gray	27 Foxhills Crescent,	Lanchester	520656	
Cllr. Margaret Gray	27 Foxhills Crescent,	Lanchester	520656	
Cllr. Keith Harrison	Colepike Home Farm,	Lanchester	529522	
Cllr. Paul Jackson	Stonebeck, Front Street,	Lanchester	521208	
Cllr. Kevin Leary	60 Deanery View,	Lanchester	521627	
Cllr. Alasdair Nairn	1 St Bedes Court,	Lanchester	529384	
Cllr. Stuart Walker	2 St Bedes Court,	Lanchester	520790	
Cllr. Mike Wardle	8 Ornsby Hill,	Lanchester	521622	
Cllr. David Lindsay	13 Foxhills Crescent,	Lanchester	520102	

Councillors do not receive any payment or allowance for attending meetings or for carrying out Council business.

Staff 2007 / 08

Clerk of the Council	Mr. Jim Owens
Handyperson	Mr. Cliff Hudspith

Please note that both of the above personnel have left the employment of Lanchester Parish Council. The new Lead Officer / Clerk is Sally Laverick who can be contacted on 01207 521957 / 01207 529415

Check out our website on www.lanchesterparish.info