

# Lanchester Parish Council

## Annual Report 2008 / 09

**Welcome to Lanchester Parish Council's Annual Report.**

**This report describes the main achievements of Lanchester Parish Council during 2008 / 09 . 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.

This year has seen a great deal of change, both internally and externally. Internally, new appointments for both employees of the Council have been made. Externally, important work continued on developing links with the Unitary Authority which came into operation in April 2009.

Following the appointment of a Lead Officer to the Parish Council in April 2008, a number of key policies and procedures have been put into place and the Council is now working towards attaining Quality Status.

This year has seen the introduction and production of an Annual Report and a quarterly Council Newsletter both of which have been distributed widely throughout the community.

The Parish Council is keenly involved in the newly established Area Action Partnership which provides the opportunity for the Local Council voice to be heard at the County Council and local decisions affecting local communities to be made.

Within the Village, the Christmas lights and summer hanging baskets once again showed off the Parish to its best.

The carving of a Roman Legionary was erected on the Lanchester Valley Walk. The culmination of a local project, the Parish Council have agreed to maintain the artwork.

The Parish Council in partnership with Lanchester Partnership and the Young Peoples Group finalised details of the new bike track and play area at Kitswell Park. Following successful planning permission, the contractors commenced work in January 2009. The new facilities which complement the cricket and rugby provision already located at Kitswell Park were opened at a well attended launch event in April and the bike track and play area are currently being heavily used by local children. The scheme which cost approximately £100,000 demonstrated successful partnership working and attracted several substantial sources of funding.

**Councillor Ossie Johnson**  
**Chair of Lanchester Parish Council 2008 / 09**

### Services and Activities

With the emergence of the new Unitary Authority, Durham County Council in April 2009, only two tiers of local government will remain.

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 all located within the Parish.

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

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

The Principal Authority 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 the Principal Authority which reflect the content of the Village Design Statement.

Lanchester Parish Council continues to work alongside a variety of partners including; Durham County Council, Lanchester Partnership, Police and Community Groups etc.

Lanchester Parish Council, Park House, Station Road, Lanchester, DH7 OEX  
Tel: 01207 521957

Check out our website on [www.lanchesterparish.info](http://www.lanchesterparish.info)  
e-mail [lanchesterparish@btopenworld.com](mailto:lanchesterparish@btopenworld.com)

## Receipts and Payment Account

Year ended 31 March 2009

### Payments

General Admin	£30,849.12
S.137	£3,688.69
Recreational Facilities	£80,805.73
Environmental Issues	£9,215.23
VAT	£13,982.59

**£138,541.36**

### Receipts

Contribution from DDC	£6001.00
Precept	£45,616.00
Interest Received	£2,303.49
Garage Rent	£160.00
Bus Shelter Maintenance	£106.00
Sundries	£108,125.00
VAT	£2,887.25
	<b>£165,198.74</b>

Balance at 1 April	<b>£71,860.56</b>
Add Total Income	£165,198.74
	<b>£237,059.30</b>
Less Total Expenditure	£138,541.36
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>£98,517.94</b>

This statement represents fairly the financial position of the Council at 31 March 2009 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 2008 / 09 were:

- Planning Committee**
- Recreation Committee**
- Finance, Development and General Purposes Committee**
- Appeals 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. The Parish Council adopted a Public Participation Policy in 2008 / 09. Public and press attendance and participation is welcome at all meetings.

### Grants

The Parish Council has the powers to give financial support to local clubs and organisations.

During 2008 / 09 the Parish Council awarded the following grants / donations:

Lanchester Brass Band	£50
Royal British Legion	£25
Lanchester Lions	£400
Lanchester Parish Church Clock	£200
Lanchester Rugby Club	£100
Lanchester Community Assoc.	£200
Lanchester EP Primary School	£75
Lanchester RC Primary School	£75

The Parish Council adopted a grant awarding policy in 2008 / 09. Applications for grants will be considered alongside the grant criteria. Requests for grants / donations are normally considered by the Parish Council in the March meeting.

### Lanchester Parish Councillors

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

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

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

#### Staff

Lead Officer / Clerk	Mrs Sally Laverick	521957 / 529415
Handyperson	Mr David Maddox	



**Have  
Your Say**

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