

Lanchester Parish Council

November 2008

Newsletter

Welcome to Lanchester Parish Council's newsletter. It is intended to produce this newsletter quarterly to provide the community with information on the services and activities that the Council provides.

Chairman's Introduction

Lanchester Parish Council is working towards achieving Quality Status. Quality Status is a recognised scheme which proves our commitment to our local community. By achieving Quality Status we will demonstrate to our community that we are representative, in touch with our community, competent and capable of taking on an enhanced role. The accreditation will demonstrate our ability to deliver efficient services to local residents and speak with greater authority to principal councils when seeking delegated functions which can be better carried out locally.

To attain the award, Lanchester Parish Council must successfully demonstrate and prove competency in 10 areas, covering all aspects of Parish Council work. The Parish Council is aiming to apply for the award in spring 2009 and is working hard to ensure that all the elements required are being put in place and put into practise. To help with the process the Parish Council applied and was successful in attaining a grant of £500 from the County Bursary Scheme.



Chairman Ossie Johnson

Local Government Review

As you may be aware, on 1 April 2009 the new Unitary Authority will take over the operation and provision of services in County Durham. The services previously operated by Derwentside District Council will now be run by the new Unitary Authority and Derwentside District Council will cease to exist. Having previously worked with both Derwentside District Council and Durham County Council to provide services and ensure the effective provision of services in Lanchester, the Parish Council is working with the set up of the new Unitary Authority to ensure that services are maintained and that a good working relationship is established.

Xmas Lights

It's that time of year again when the village of Lanchester will be lit up with festive cheer.

The big Christmas light switch on will be by

Arthur Maughan MBE
and school children on

Saturday 29 November

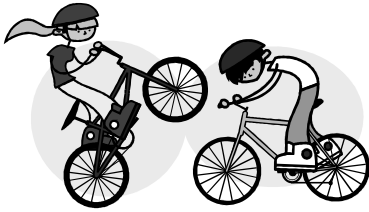
at 6.00 pm

on the Village Green.

Lanchester Brass Band
will be there providing
musical accompaniment

Please join us





Bike Track and Play Area - Update on project

As outlined in the last newsletter, Lanchester Parish Council has been working with Lanchester Partnership and the young people of Lanchester on an exciting project to provide a bike track and play equipment at Kitswell Road Recreation Area. At a meeting in September parish councillors approved the plans and they have been submitted to Derwentside District Council Planning section for consideration.

A further update will be provided in the next newsletter.

Lanchester Parish Council Involvement in Planning Decisions

Lanchester Parish Council is a consultative body in planning matters from Derwentside District Council. The Parish Council is able to view planning applications and make constructive and appropriate comments back to the district council. The Village Design Statement, a document produced by the Parish Council and Lanchester Partnership in association with the community, provides guidelines on all aspects of planning and design. The purpose of the Village Design Statement is to provide guidance that will conserve the valued aspects of the village and the land around it, by managing the changes that the future may bring. Derwentside District Council has approved the Village Design Statement as supplementary planning guidance.

Lanchester Locality Map

The Lanchester Locality Map is a document which provides a framework for actions to safeguard farming, the environment and wildlife.

It complements both the Parish Plan and the Village Design Statement and recognises the need to shape the future of the countryside within the whole parish.



The document is due to be published in the new year. The full document will be able to be viewed at the library or Park House. A summary of the document will be printed and distributed to all households.

Look out for your copy.

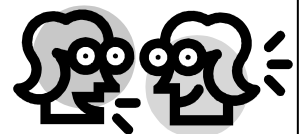
Public Participation

Lanchester Parish Council meets regularly at Park House, Station Road. Notice of all meetings can be found in the Library and the Parish Council notice board at Park House. Meetings are open to the press and public and attendance and participation is welcome.

Need to speak to your Councillor?

Lanchester Parish Council has introduced open sessions to allow time for residents to speak to their councillors about issues that concern or affect them. The next sessions will be at Park House on:

Tuesday 11 November
Tuesday 13 January
6.30 pm – 7.00 pm.



Lanchester Parish Councillors

Neil Fleming	11 Broadoak Drive,	520987	
Ossie Johnson	Stella House, Durham Road,	521937	CHAIR
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	VICE CHAIR
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	
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