

# Lanchester Parish Council

## Annual Report 2010 / 11



Welcome to Lanchester Parish Council's Annual Report. This report outlines the main achievements and services offered by Lanchester Parish Council during 2010 / 11

### Overview by Chair

The Annual Report provides me with an opportunity to review the last 12 months. This year has been another busy year with work undertaken on several major projects.

The year began well with the news that Kitswell Park Bike Track and Play Area had won the community Partnership Award at the County Durham Annual Environment Awards. The judges were impressed with the community partnership working which made the project a reality. The awards ceremony took place at the Gala Theatre on 24 May. In February further works took place at the Bike Track and Play Area greatly improving the entrance area.

In May the official launch of the Locality Map Document took place on the Village green. The document which provides a framework of actions to safeguard farming, wildlife and the environment in the Parish recognised the need to value the rural community and was produced by representatives from the Parish Council, Partnership, farming, wildlife and environment groups. A funding package of £73,000 was finalised in the summer to employ a Development Officer to carry out the actions. A Development Officer was appointed and commenced work in November for an 18 month period. Funding was made available from Rural Development Programme for England, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Lanchester Parish Council.



Following consultation with the community on improvements to the village green, work commenced in December on phase one which includes; the installation of a path along the beck, seating, tree works, a new Parish notice board and surface improvements. The project was made possible through a grant from County Durham Environment Trust, funding from Lanchester Dairies and the Parish Council.

The summer saw the start of the Gateway project which aims to introduce physical features at the entrances to the village to slow the speed of traffic. Funded through the Area Action Partnership, a working group comprising of Parish Councillors, County Councillors, Partnership, Area Action Partnership Co-ordinator, Police, Durham County Council Highways Officers and school representatives drew up suggestions and consulted with the community in November. Work on the approved features will commence in May 2011.

The second edition of the DIAL (Directory of Information About Lanchester) was printed in October 2010. The document produced by the Parish Council and Partnership offers a guide to public services, local societies, clubs and organisations in the Parish and was distributed to households in December. Copies are still available from the Parish Council office (01207 521957).



This year saw the resignation of two valued Parish Councillors. Following her election as MP in May, Pat Glass found it difficult to continue as a Parish Councillor and Neil Fleming, moved out of the Parish. The vacancies led to a By-election in February which resulted in Malcolm Clarke (The Labour Party) and Alan Myers (The Labour Party) being duly elected following a turnout of 28%.

The Council has continued to produce the Annual Report and the quarterly Council Newsletter both of which have been distributed widely throughout the community. Within the Village, the Christmas lights and summer hanging baskets once again showed off the Parish to its best.

**Councillor Ossie Johnson, Chair of Lanchester Parish Council 2010 / 11**

## Receipts and Payment Account

Year ended 31 March 2011

### Payments

General Admin	£34,857.05
Donations / Grants	£1,150.00
Rec. / Envir. Facilities	£10,676.45
Leisure Amenities	£21,700.99
Development Projects	£15,334.65
Contingencies	£330.00
VAT	£6698.26

**£90,747.40**

### Receipts

Contribution from DDC	£6,001.00
Precept	£48,185.00
Interest Received	£243.72
Garage Rent	£180.00
Bus Shelter Maintenance	£1,751.00
Sundries	£114.74
Wayleaves	£14.58
Grants	£20,029.46
VAT	£4180.36

**£80,699.86**

Balance at 1 April	<b>£96,177.71</b>
Add Total Income	£80,699.86
	<b>£176,877.57</b>
Less Total Expenditure	£90,747.40
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>£86,130.17</b>

This statement represents fairly the financial position of the Council at 31 March 2011 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 2010 / 11 were:

- **Planning Committee**
- **Recreation Committee**
- **Finance, Development & 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 on the Village Green. The Parish Council have in place a Public Participation Policy. 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 2010 / 11 the Parish Council awarded the following grants / donations:

Lanchester Brass Band	£60
Royal British Legion	£30
Lanchester Lions	£400
Lanchester Parochial Church Council	£170
Lanchester EP Primary School	£75
Lanchester RC Primary School	£75
Churches Together	£100
Lanchester Lawn Tennis Club	£100
North East Air Ambulance	£100
Finchale Training College	£100

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, a Handyperson and a Development Officer (18 month post).

Ossie Johnson	Stella House, Durham Road,	521937	<b>CHAIR</b>
Colin Burton	15 Deanery View,	520840	
Malcolm Clarke	14 Briardene	07542 342352	
Elizabeth Cook	46 Manor Grange,	529334	
Bob Glass	2 The Paddock	295765	
Bill Gray	27 Foxhills Crescent,	520656	
Margaret Gray	27 Foxhills Crescent,	520656	
Keith Harrison	Colepike Home Farm,	529522	
Paul Jackson	Stonebeck, Front Street,	521208	
Kevin Leary	60 Deanery View,	521627	
David Lindsay	13 Foxhills Crescent,	520102	
Alan Myers	10 Ashdown Grove	07502 163913	
Alasdair Nairn	1 St Bedes Court,	529384	
Stuart Walker	2 St Bedes Court,	520790	
Mike Wardle	8 Ornsby Hill,	521622	

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

<b>Staff</b> Lead Officer / Clerk	Sally Laverick	521957
Handyperson	David Maddox	
Development Officer	Sue Charlton	07585 001355



### Services and Activities

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
- Locality Map project
- Partnership working

