

Minutes of the January Meeting of **SHINCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL** held in Shincliffe Primary School, High Shincliffe, Durham on **TUESDAY 19th JANUARY 2010** at **7.00 pm**.

PRESENT: Councillor J Hudson (in the Chair) and Councillors Cook, P Hudson, Lightley, Milburn, Morgan and Storer.

126. NOTICE OF MEETING

Public notice of the meeting was taken as read.

127. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

128. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

129. MINUTES

It was **AGREED:** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8th December 2009 (copies previously circulated and publicised) be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

130. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Salt Bin Provision

After consulting residents, Councillors J Hudson and Morgan had decided the final location of an additional salt bin in Whitwell Acres. Email to be sent to County Council asking them to contact Councillor J Hudson prior to siting the bin.

There have been several requests for additional salt bins in the Parish following the recent bad weather. The Parish Council needs to consider how many can be afforded and discuss their siting with the County Council.

(b) Removal of Parish Noticeboard – Meldon/Mitford Close Entrance

Marc is now back at work so this will be done once the weather improves.

(c) Missing Perspex Panel – Bus Shelter A177, High Shincliffe

The County Council has a replacement panel but is awaiting parts to hold Perspex panel in place. Councillor Storer to check progress.

(d) Traffic Problems – A177 Shincliffe Village

The County had responded to our concerns about traffic blockages on the A177. Green light time for traffic entering the A177 from Mill Lane was 30% less than the time allowed for northbound traffic on the A177. The traffic lights system also automatically adjusts its timings to deal with increased traffic flow. The County is currently reviewing the timing of the traffic lights at the New Inn to see whether alterations could improve the traffic flow on the A177.

Councillors J Hudson and P Hudson had met County representatives to discuss possible traffic calming measures in the Village. The County agreed to send representatives to our meeting on 16th

February to discuss alternatives (which included the possible closing of the southern access from the A177).

(e) Benches

Councillor Milburn felt that the bench in Strawberry Lane was superfluous but all the other benches were regularly used. The cost of replacing the wooden benches with benches made from plastic materials would be about £300 per bench. It was decided to keep the wooden benches, with regular maintenance and inspection.

(f) Sweeping of Bus Shelters

Councillor Morgan reported that the bus shelter opposite The Avenue public house had still not been swept out. Councillor J Hudson to remind County of the need to clean it.

(g) Durham Biodiversity Partnership

It was suggested that the Parish Council should invite an office from County Council to talk about this at a Parish Council meeting. Chairman to investigate further.

(h) Shrubs – Hill Meadows Steps

Marc Platts had some holly bushes that could be planted there, and Councillor Cook could also provide shrubs, Councillor Milburn to liaise with Dean and Chapter as to what shrubs are acceptable, before arranging planting.

(i) Eco Project –School

Councillor Milburn had spoken to Mrs Lowes who is keen to develop the school's involvement further. Another meeting to be scheduled after 19th February. Information about the project is now available on Parish Council website.

(j) Firesmart, Playground Safety Matting

Councillor Milburn had mentioned this at the Parks United meeting. It is very expensive and permission would be needed from Durham County Council and Dean and Chapter before installing. No further action to be taken.

(k) Houghall College – Proposed Theme Park

The December open days had been cancelled. No further information was available.

(l) Love Lane

Councillor Cook reported that the clearance and maintenance work on Love Lane would be done shortly.

(m) Dogs – Recreation Ground

Councillor J Hudson had still to inspect the recreation grounds signs about prohibition of dogs prior to contacting County Council.

(n) Broken Fence on A177

Councillor J Hudson to inspect and ask County Council to replace.

(o) Surface Water on Shincliffe Lane

This is due to drainage from the bordering fields which the County Council does not control.

(p) Cyclists on road at Manor Farm

Councillor Morgan had twice emailed Parish Paths Partnership about this. No response to date. Councillor J Hudson would send a further request for the County to provide appropriate signs.

(q) Photo Competition

Councillor Cook reported that the competition had been mentioned in the school newsletter and is on the Parish Council website. The deadline for entries has been extended to end of February.

131. ADOPT A RED TELEPHONE KIOSK – SHINCLIFFE VILLAGE

Councillor J Hudson had spoken to Elaine Hogg at County Council. She advised that as it is a grade II listed building it is highly unlikely that Durham County Council or English Heritage would consent to BT removing it. There was no mention in the letter from BT of intention to remove the kiosk!

BT has confirmed that as these kiosks are no longer manufactured, costs of maintenance can be high. There may also be legal costs in the transfer of ownership.

It was **AGREED**: Not to purchase the kiosk. Should the situation change and BT apply for planning permission to remove the kiosk the Parish Council would strongly oppose the application.

132. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MONTH'S CORRESPONDENCE

1. Fieldwork newsletter – hedgerows, maintaining biodiversity. Councillor Cook to find out more.
2. It was mentioned that Parish Council elections were likely to be 2013, but Steve Ragg thought that a change of date could not be ruled out.
3. Clerks National Conference – Clerk to attend as a day candidate. Additional information has been requested.
4. Consultation on school admissions, Councillor P Hudson had discussed this with Mrs Lowes (Head Teacher).
5. Community Initiative Support Scheme – Councillor Milburn to review for Youth Club.
6. Email about Shincliffe Walks Leaflet historical inaccuracy.
7. Email regarding Shincliffe Village being used as a "rat run", Councillor J Hudson to respond and mention the discussion of traffic calming in the Village, planned for the February meeting of the Parish Council.

133. CORRESPONDENCE TO CIRCULATE

Non urgent items of correspondence to be circulated to Councillors for discussion and decision as necessary at the February meeting.

134. CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE

1. LINK – coffee morning, Old Elvet Church Hall, Saturday 23rd January.
2. Planning Applications outcomes for Parish.
3. Invoice for Durham Cathedral regarding back rent for recreation ground. Councillor J Hudson to check with new lease agreement before paying.
4. CE Electric –leaflets. Clerk to request leaflets and posters.
5. Email from Age Concern enquiring about activities for older people in the Parish.
6. Emails requesting additional salt bins in the Parish.

7. Land Registry Booklet on registering land.
8. DCC Chairman charity fundraising events
9. Next Meeting Area Action Partnership Board – 28th January at West Rainton, Councillor J Hudson and Mr Purvis to attend.
10. Durham City Neighbourhood Police Team newsletter, meetings to be held in February where residents can raise any concerns about policing.

135. 2010/11 BUDGET AND PRECEPT

The Horticultural budget for 2010/11 was set at £5000; this included all maintenance costs on the Old Mine Site.

It was **AGREED**: to raise the Parish precept by £1000 to provide a precept of £12000.00 for 2010/2011.

136. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

4/09/00945/DRC	Dr E Llewelin 4 Robson Terrace Shincliffe	Discharge of planning condition 2 pursuant to 4/09/00684/FPA (4/09/00684/FPA - Erection of replacement pitched roof garage (revised and resubmitted))
4/09/00972/FPA	Mr & Mrs Wilson 1 The Mews Shincliffe Village	Erection of two storey pitched roof extension over existing garage and rear yard to east elevation, and insertion of 2 no. rooflights to front and 7 no. rooflights to rear
4/10/00013/LB	Mr B Quayle Laxey Cottage High Street South Shincliffe Village	Alteration and extension of listed building including erection of single storey flat roof extension with rooflights to rear incorporating covered porch and alterations to internal subdivision
4/10/00015/FPA	Mr B Quayle Laxey Cottage High Street South Shincliffe Village	Demolition of existing flat roof offshoot and erection of single storey flat roof extension with rooflights to rear of existing dwelling

It was **AGREED**: That the Parish Council raised no objection to the above planning applications

137. HORTICULTURAL MATTERS

1. Two small beds still to be planted; these will be done as soon as possible.
2. Old Mine Site – brambles need cutting back.
3. Northumbria in Bloom, inaugural meeting to take place on 8th March at Wynyard Hall.
4. Councillor Lightley reported that path between Quality Street-Langton Lea may need clearing, Councillor Milburn to check.

138. AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP

Councillor Lightley reported that the last meeting had been cancelled. He is involved in the Clean and Green group, which is presently looking at improving the riverbanks in Durham City.

139. ACCOUNTS

H Simpson (January salary)	£332.50
DCC Hire of School Hall	£30.36
CPRE Subscriptions	£29.00

Darlington Borough Council Autumn Plants	£496.76
J Hudson – refreshments Dec meeting	£16.20
J Hudson – stamps, salt/grit	£6.85

It was **AGREED**: that the above accounts be paid.

140. RECEIPTS

Awards for All Grant	£6383
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141. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th February 2010 at 7.00 pm in St. Mary’s Church Hall, Shincliffe Village, Durham. It will include a discussion about traffic calming in Shincliffe Village.

142. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Cook

1. Local Council Charter Signing – well organised event.
2. Website - Clerk to ensure Parish Council Minutes for the past two years are on website, and to remove old Minutes when updating. Councillor J Hudson to let Councillor Cook know the date of the next Litter Pick for inclusion on the website. County Council contacts need updating but we still await information.

Councillor J Hudson

3. Heathways – parking on the pavement, possibly install bollards to prevent this?
4. Councillor J Hudson to report damaged street sign in Heathways.

Members of the Public

56. Website – in reply to a query from the public, Councillor Cook explained how to use the “contact us” section of the Parish website.

The meeting terminated at 9.00 pm