

Shincliffe Parish Council

Notes of Horticulture Committee Meeting

Thursday 20 April 2017: 7 pm at Whitwell Acres

1	<p>Present: Cllr A Lee, Cllr N Cook, M Platts (Parish Gardener) P Matthews (Community Representative)</p> <p>Apologies: None</p>	
2	<p>Notes of 9 Feb 2017/ matters arising (not on agenda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Love Lane bin: Parish Council to write to resident. 	
3	<p>Update from Parish Gardener</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 13 fruit trees have been planted in mini orchards, including 3 trees donated by a resident and a tree to be planted on 28 April in Hill Meadows with Pat Hudson and John Lightley in attendance. The two trees planted by Durham County Council (DCC) on a bend near the Avenue Pub need to be moved to the opposite side of the road at the end of the year. AL to remind the council in November. MP suggested updating the PC website with photos of the sustainable beds at peak season. NC agreed to take photos. (AL to cover if NC is away) Bench at Durham entrance to High Shincliffe has been damaged. MP agreed to repair asap. The planned wild flower area near the bus stop needs sowing soon. The likely delay by DCC in installing the gateways poses a problem with this so agreed that Marc will plant half the planned area soon and a further area, closer to the gateways, next year. AL to provide MP with the exact position of the installation. MP produced a paper: Ideas for Horticulture Development which included suggestions for projects, community involvement and structural planting for flower beds. AL agreed to explore costs of standard holly, fuschia and bay. Committee members to consider the suggestions on the paper for discussion at the next meeting. 	<p>AL</p> <p>NC</p> <p>MP</p> <p>MP</p> <p>AL</p> <p>AL</p> <p>AL</p> <p>All</p>
4	<p>Front Garden Competition</p> <p>AL reported a quick turn-around of judging this year, with the presentation of awards at the May Parish Council Meeting.</p>	
5	<p>Traffic Calming/Gateway on A177</p> <p>NC reported that, following protracted discussions with DCC about restrictions of location and permitted signage, we have settled on white fences either side of the A177, near the bus stop, with just a directional sign to High Shincliffe. The entire process has to be managed through DCC which has led to a potential delay and increased costs. Noted that a generous donation from Cllr David Stoker has enabled the project to go ahead.</p>	

6	<p>Hill Meadows Mini Orchard 28 April</p> <p>The planting of the mini orchard is in recognition of the considerable contribution made by Pat Hudson and John Lightley to Shincliffe Parish over a number of years. Pat and John are attending, together with some local school children and the local press will be invited (AL to do a press release). Timing: 2.30pm for a 2.45 start. Finish at approx. 3pm</p>	AL
7	<p>Any other business/updates from members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PM suggested rearranging the contents of the Parish notice boards to allow information items/dates to be lower down for easier reading and larger items, such as certificates, to be at the top. Agreed this was a good idea. AL to inform Parish Clerk of the request. • MP asked about the proposed flower bed at Sherburn Hospital bus stop. Agreed to postpone this item pending the significant building work shortly commencing at the site. • AL reminded colleagues that we have £80 of gardening vouchers to be spent (£40 each for Shincliffe Village and High Shincliffe). • PM raised the issue of the Leylandi branches left in Love Lane and the general state of overgrown shrubs. AL agreed to explore the potential for removal and shredding of the Leylandi branches Agreed that a gardening day for Love Lane is needed – preferably early in June to clear the area ready for the school children to replant the wild flowers and possibly other plants, late June or early July. Suggested dates: 3rd, 10th or 17th June, depending on committee members' availability. Publicity needs to be out at least a month ahead of the day through: website, notice boards and emails to those on the gardening days list. (Post meeting note: SCAN next edition is too late for this) 	AL AL AL
8	<p>Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 11 May 3pm at Whitwell Acres. (Apologies received from NC)</p>	

A Lee
30 April 2017