

Minutes of the April Meeting of **Shincliffe Parish Council** held in **St. Mary's Church Hall, Durham** on **Tuesday 15 April 2014** at 7.00 pm.

**Present:** Councillor Duell (in the Chair) and Councillors Hudson, A Lee, G Lee, Lightley, and Olechnowicz.  
County Councillor Stoker was also in attendance.  
There were no members of the public present.

#### **186. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Duell declared an interest in relation to Item 8 as he had personally responded to Mr Baker.

#### **187. Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor J Lovell.

#### **188. Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 18 March 2014 (copies previously circulated and publicised) be confirmed as a correct record.

#### **189. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **190. Police Report**

The Clerk reported on the following incidents:

20/02/14 – Minor assault at the Green where a youth had grabbed a female resident.

8/03/14 – Garage broken into in Overman Street where some tools were taken.

21/3/14 – Treetops Guest House, Bankfoot. Whilst the building was under renovation Combi Boiler and tools had been removed.

30/3/14 – Shincliffe Station Cottages. Forced entry to a metal shed and stolen two mountain bikes.

31/3/14 – Metal drinking trough stolen from Moor House Cottages.

9/4/14 – The Orange Tree, High Street. Five hens removed from an insecure coop at the bottom of the garden.

It was **resolved** that: the Clerk to the Council speak with the Police to ascertain the outcome of these crimes.

#### **191. County Councillor Update**

Cllr Stoker updated the Parish Council on the following:

##### 1) County Council News

The Durham County Plan had been approved by Council. It was likely that this would be used as an opportunity to create a new free school comprehensive in the South East of Durham.

Proposals to create a junction at North Road were both long overdue and ambitious however due to a lack of funding this would remain within a long term plan to remove the roundabout and also some of

the Charity Shops.

The Play Strategy had now been postponed to October 2014.

## 2) Planning

Houghall College had two planning proposals. One for an Equestrian Centre and another for a new entrance. Discussions had been high level and related to the limited number of vehicles per day and also traffic on the A177 being very quickly gridlocked.

A resident from Moss Cottage had requested to talk to the Planning Committee regarding the overhanging tree in his garden being taken down. Parish Councillors had also received an email from the resident asking for support with this proposal.

## 3) Village Rat Run

A count of the number of cars had been organised for after the Easter holidays.

## 4) Speeding on A177

A repeated survey had been re-arranged due to a glitch.

## 5) Love Lane Update/Suggested Actions

The Clerk had written to County Hall to request that the debris from Love Lane be removed. Councillor Stoker also suggested that adult volunteers from the Avenue Football Team be asked to clear the area on the litter pick scheduled to take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

## 6) St. Mary's Close

Photographic evidence had been requested in relation to the damaged hedge by the Insurance Company. Residents were willing to maintain this once it had been replaced.

Land ownership issues had been resolved . A detailed ownership plan could be circulated. The Dean and Chapter were prepared to take ownership of the path to the Lower Green and the Church.

Remedial works to footpaths were to be completed.

## 7) Hill Meadows:

Remedial works to footpaths had now been completed.

## 8) Play Parks Update

In total, £82,500 funding had been generated.

A grant of £50,000 had been awarded from Impetus however Environmental Companies ask for 10% of the total grant awarded. This was because the Landfill company can only claim back 90% of the grant as tax credit therefore the 3rd party contribution makes up the 10% short fall so the Landfill company suffer no loss.

It was: **resolved** that the Parish Council receive a cheque amounting to £5,000 from the Community Association and in turn, pay £5,000 to Impetus in principal, subject to approval with its appointed Auditor. Funds from the Parish Council would not be forwarded to the Community Association until their monies had been cleared. A presentation would also be delivered to a future meeting to discuss the Play Strategy and its proposals.

Councillor Stoker commented that equipment in the Village Recreation Park could also be considered, in consultation with the public.

Councillor Stoker then made a request to purchase the unused slide from High Shincliffe Park.

It was **resolved** that: the Parish Council had no objection to this.

## 192. Correspondence

(a) Matters arising from last month's correspondence

There were no matters arising

(b) Correspondence to circulate for discussion/decision at next parish council meeting

- (c) email regarding election of Vice President for County Association
- (d) DCC (Reorganisation of Governance Order 2013)
- (e) LCR Spring 2014 (The Voice of Local Councils)
- (f) Minutes for Shincliffe Show Community Association Forum – 25 February 2014
- (g) Countryside Voice (Spring 2014)
- (h) CPRE Fieldwork (Spring 2014)
- (i) Products for Local Councils (Glasdon)
- (j) Spaldings (February 2014)
- (k) Neighbourhood Protection Team Update (February 2014)
- (l) Durham Area Action Partnership – April 2014
- (m) Durham Police & Crime Commissioner Newsletter (April 2014)
- (n) Civic Pride Newsletter (January – March 2014)
- (o) Community News March 2014 Edition

### Current Correspondence

1) The Clerk had received a letter from Durham County Council that Mr Whitley had appealed against his refusal for planning permission.

It was **resolved** that: the Parish Council did not withdraw the comments previously made and that the Clerk would respond accordingly.

2) At their last meeting the Community Association asked for financial support from the Parish Council for hire of the school for Shincliffe Show.

It was **resolved** that: the Clerk to the Council would liaise with the Community Association to ascertain costs.

## 193. Planning Applications

DM/14/00125/FPA	Mr A Whitley	1 Beaumont Court Bank Foot Shincliffe Durham Dh1 2PD	Garage with Balcony to Serve Unit to.1	Tim Del
DM/14/00431/ TPO	Mr P Baker	The Garth High Street South Shincliffe Durham DH1 2NN	Fell 1 no. Scotts Pine Tree	Del

A discussion ensued in relation to the first planning application and a vote was taken with 2 against, 2 in support and 2 abstentions. It was **resolved** that: the Chair would have the casting vote and the planning application would be refused.

With regards to the second planning application it was **resolved** that: the Parish Council had no

objections and supported the application.

#### **194. Horticultural Committee Update**

Councillor A Lee reported that sustainable planting had been agreed at a discounted rate of 20%.

In addition to this, judgement of the Garden Competition would take place within the next few weeks. Nominations had been made.

Councillor A Lee had had discussions with Elaine Crow regarding the 2014/2015 P3 Grant and whilst this could not be awarded for the Old Mine Site it could be used for the Village Interpretation Boards. It was anticipated that £1,000 funding would be received.

#### **195. AAP Update**

No update was given.

#### **196. Revised Standing Orders**

The Clerk to the Council circulated a proposed set of revised Standing Orders.

It was **resolved** that: Councillors would review these and notify both the Chairman and the Clerk of any proposed amendments within two weeks.

#### **197. Remedial Pruning of Trees – Shincliffe Village**

The Clerk had been notified of a proposed date for remedial pruning of trees in Shincliffe Village.

It was **resolved** that: these works be undertaken on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

#### **198. Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - Shincliffe Village**

This item of business had been discussed within the County Councillor's report.

#### **199. Earmarked Reserves**

The Parish Council acknowledged that they had a prudent level of reserves and that these should be earmarked however not ringfenced.

Councillor Stoker offered to do an open session on criteria and prioritising suggested spend.

Councillor Duell had received emails from Councillors with suggested ideas. These included Paths Notice Boards and maintenance of village benches.

It was **resolved** that: this item of business would be discussed again at the June meeting.

#### **200. Accounts**

CDALC	£236.48	
K Cuthbert March Salary	£249.91	
HMRC Income Tax	£62.40	
K Cuthbert (Petty Cash)	£100.00	

**Resolved:** that the above accounts be paid.

#### **201. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The May Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at Shincliffe Primary School, High Shincliffe, Durham at 7.00 pm.

**202. Any Other Business – Councillors**

No issues were raised.

**203. Any Other Business – Members of the Public**

No members of the public present .

*The meeting terminated at 8.50 pm*