

Minutes of the Meeting of **Shincliffe Parish Council** held in **Shincliffe Primary School, High Shincliffe, Durham** on **Tuesday 17th June 2014** at 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Olechnowicz (in the Chair) and Councillors Duell, Hudson, A Lee, G Lee, Lightley and Lovell.
County Councillor Stoker was also in attendance.
There was one member of the public present.

The meeting began with a presentation for the winners of the Spring Garden Competition. Mrs Pat Guy presented vouchers for Mr and Mrs Brook, and also Mr and Mrs Allan. Mr Jolly decided that he would like to kindly donate his prize. The Parish Council agreed that this would be used for horticultural purposes. Mrs Pat Guy was also presented with a voucher, as a gratitude from the Parish Council for judging the competition at short notice.

21. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

22. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was submitted to the meeting on behalf of PC Cockburn.

23. Appointment of Chairman

It was **resolved** that: Councillor Olechnowicz be appointed as Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

24. Appointment of Vice Chairman

It was **resolved** that: Councillor P. Hudson be appointed as Vice Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

25. Minutes

It was **resolved** that: the minutes of the last meeting be approved subject to the following amendments:

Item 15 – delete ‘and the potential views of residents be discussed against each of the proposals’.

Item 15 – delete and replace with ‘ Councillor Stoker agreed to write to residents updating them on the issue.

26. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

27. Police Report

In the absence of PC Cokburn the Clerk reported on the following incidents:

10/6/14 – Coat and mobile phone stolen from the coat hooks in the bar area of the Seven Stars pub.

26/5/14 – a spat of shed/garage burglaries where five addresses were targeted. Three addresses were in the Stockton Road area of Shincliffe Village and the other two in Hill Meadows, High Shincliffe. Items such as Strimmers, Stihl Saws and tools were taken.

Enquiries were ongoing in relation to the shed burglaries regarding any forensic evidence found. CCTV was being checked for the theft of the coat from the Seven Stars regarding any potential suspects.

It was **resolved** that: the Police report be noted for information.

28. Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council

The Clerk to the Parish Council circulated a report.

It was **resolved**: that the suggested actions be undertaken.

29. County Councillor's Update

County Councillor Stoker reported on the following:

(a) Love Lane – As requested Councillor Stoker had established land ownership. Half of it (the half nearest Quality Street) isn't owned by anyone. The other half (nearest Ancroft Garth) is owned by the Developer of the Bungalows. Councillor Stoker reported that he had a copy of the relevant Land Registry documents which he would forward to the Parish Clerk.

Cllr Stoker recommended that we proceed with the landscaping and split the cost between the Neighbourhood Budget and the Parish Council.

(b) St Mary's Close – Phase 2 to lay new paving to begin this week. An on site meeting with the Dean and Chapter, County Council Highways and Councillor Stoker, had agreed on all main areas in terms of ownership and maintenance responsibilities. Further research with the Diocese was needed to resolve the final few ambiguities

(c) Trees in Churchyard – The PCC had commissioned (in 2013) a report on all its trees and can now monitor potential remedial work.

(d) High Shincliffe Playing Park – Estimates are being sought to ascertain whether the middle third of the football pitch could be done with artificial turf.

(e) Speeding on A177 – The County Council will not support a crossing at the Old Railway Station. Alterations to the verges were now being considered.

(f) Meldon Way – 5 faulty street lights had been replaced and the street sign was also being changed.

30. 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
(1) Campaign to Protect Rural England (North East Newsletter Summer 2014)
(2) Durham Community Action Volunteering Awards 2014
(3) Durham Community Oil
(4) Invitation to take part in a Rural Sounding Board
(5) Durham Community Action (Community News June 2014 Edition)
(6) Spaldings (June 2014)
(7) LCR (Summer 2014)

- (8) Vice President Vacancies, the Associations Secretariat from 1 April 2016
- (9) County Durham Environment Awards 2014
- (10) Bulletin from Finance Committee, and Executive Committee and Improvement and Development Board (NALC)
- (11) Police and Crime Plan
- (12) Planning in County Durham (30th July 2014, County Hall)
- (13) Heritage Open Days 2014
- (14) PCC Newsletter 2014
- (15) Village Green & Common Land Seminar (Tuesday 3rd June 2014, County Hall, Durham)

Current Correspondence

(1) Please investigate plant beginning to grow rapidly out of waste soil tipped along right hand side of farm track at 'the mine' High Shincliffe. This plant has established itself rapidly since the soil was tipped in spring. This plant looks very much like Japanese Knotweed and should be hastily destroyed if it proven to be. Please investigate plant beginning to grow rapidly out of waste soil tipped along right hand side of farm track at 'the mine' High Shincliffe. This plant has established itself rapidly since the soil was tipped in spring. This plant looks very much like Japanese Knotweed and should be hastily destroyed if it proven to be.

(2) I would like to ask if the council could raise a couple of points on my behalf at the next council meeting.

1. The No Cycling sign at Shincliffe Hall has been removed. I have had a couple of encounters with rather rude and arrogant cyclists who are travelling at speed through the wood and along by the river bank beyond Shincliffe Hall. It looks like the 'No Cycling' signs have been forcibly removed again. Can they be replaced?

2. The public footpath which runs from the lights (opposite st Mary's churchyard), through the wood, along a disused rail line is impassable at the far end. It has been made impassable by the farmers tractor eroding the path. Very large puddles now sit where the path once was. Is it possible to have some gravel or some such suitable surface tipped into these large puddles to make the path usable again.

and finally, the hedges at Chapter Cottages, Low Road in Shincliffe Village has encroached so far over that there is barely one paving slabs width of pavement left to walk on. With so many cars parked on the road here it is very difficult to pass on the footpath, especially with a pram and toddler. Can the residents be asked to cut the hedges back so that the footpath becomes two slabs wide again. Many thanks for addressing these points.

31. Planning Applications

DM/14/01534/FPA	Mr E Ranns	9 Foxton Way High Shincliffe Durham DH1 2PJ	Erection of single-storey extension at rear of dwelling and flue to side.
---------------------------------	---------------	--	---

It was **resolved** that: The Parish Council did not have any objections to the above planning application.

32. Horticultural Committee Update

Councillor A Lee reported that a sustainable bed had been planted near Thropston Close. This consisted of trees, shrubs and bedding plants.

33. AAP Update		
The next meeting had been postponed.		
34. Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – Shincliffe Village		
A discussion ensued in relation to both 'sleeping policemen' and a TRO between 8am-9am. It was resolved that: the Chair draft a letter and that Councillor Stoker have a meeting with the Police.		
35. Requests for Financial Assistance		
It was resolved that: financial assistance be awarded to the following: Brass Band - £50.00 Mayor's Appeal - £100.00 Shincliffe Show - £100.00 Co. Durham School Benevolent Fund - £400.00 The decision for the Benevolent Fund went to a vote, and whilst all Councillors supported it, the amount given was felt to be higher than normal by some.		
36. Earmarked Reserves		
It was resolved that: a meeting would take place at Councillor Hudson's house on Tuesday 8 th July at 7.00pm.		
37. Accounts		
North Tees Waste Management	£5,000.00	
Oliver's Tree Services	£468.00	
DCC Hire of School Library	£30.36	
Ray Lawson Building Services	£2,300.00	
Cllr A Lee Reimbursement of Garden Competition Vouchers	£50.00	
K Cuthbert (Printer Cartridges)	£44.98	
K Cuthbert (1/2 Yearly Electricity Allowance)	£50.00	
Shincliffe Community Association	£1,000.00	
K Cuthbert (June Salary)	£249.91	
HMRC (Income Tax)	£61.40	
M Platts (Horticulture)	£78.00	
M Platts (Horticulture)	£278.50	
M Platts (Old Mine Site)	£50.00	
M Platts (Horticulture)	£50.00	
M Platts Horticulture	£435.00	
Resolved: that the above accounts be paid.		
38. Date and Time of Next Meeting		
The July Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th July 2014, 7.00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, Shincliffe Village, Durham.		
39. Any Other Business – Councillors		
No issues were raised.		

40. Any Other Business – Members of the Public

+No issues were raised.

The meeting terminated at 8.45 pm