

Minutes of the Meeting of Shincliffe Parish Council held in St. Marys' Church Hall, Shincliffe Village, Durham on Tuesday 21st April 2015 at 7.00 pm.
Present: Councillor G. Lee (in the Chair) and Councillors Duell, Hudson, A Lee, Lightley, Lovell and Olechnowicz. County Councillor Stoker and PC Cockburn were also in attendance. There were no members of the public present.
187. Resignation Chairman
Councillor Olechnowicz had notified the Clerk, in writing, of his intention to resign as Chairman to enable other Parish Councillors to gain this invaluable experience. It was resolved that: the resignation of Councillor Olechnowicz be noted and agreed.
188. Appointment of Chairman
The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman. It was moved by Councillor Lovell, and seconded by Councillor Duell, that Councillor G. Lee be nominated for Chairman. No further nominations were received therefore it was resolved that: Councillor G. Lee be appointed as Chairman. Councillor G. Lee duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.
189. Declarations of Interest
Councillor Duell declared an interest in relation to item 12 – Panning Application (Mrs Connor, 3 Heathways, High Shincliffe) as a neighbour to the applicant.
190. Apologies for Absence
There were no apologies for absence.
191. Issues Raised by Members of the Public
There were no members of the public present.
192. Police Report
PC Cockburn advised the Parish Council of the following incidences:- Between 23/03/2015 and 27/03/2015 4 gardens had been entered by persons unknown with property being taken. The property included planters, hanging baskets and solar lights. The addresses targeted were: 1 in Heathways, 1 in Thropton Close and 2 in Ancroft Garth. The incidences in Ancroft Garth took place between the hours of 12.30pm-6.30pm and 4.00pm-8.00am, in Thropton Close around 4pm and in Heathways between 2.30pm-4.30pm. In addition, on 07/04/2015 damage had been caused to a vehicle whilst parked at The Green, over a parking dispute. The person responsible had been interviewed and enquiries were still on-going. It was resolved that: the police report be noted and that any resident witnessing suspicious activity would be urged to call the 101 police incident number. PC Cockburn was thanked for attending the meeting.
193. Minutes
It was resolved that: the minutes of the meeting held on 17 th March 2015, be approved as a true record subject to the removal of the sentence that DCC had recommended speed humps in relation to the proposed traffic regulation order.

<p>194. Matters Arising</p>
<p>(1) Grass Verge (opposite the Rosetree Inn) – Due to the parking problems previously discussed, Councillor Stoker agreed to contact the County Council to ascertain whether a sign could be erected enforcing that parking was prohibited.</p> <p>(2) Shincliffe Play Park – Councillor Olechnowicz suggested that a network be assembled to discuss the proposed developments of Shincliffe Play Park. The Chairman agreed to contact Shincliffe Community Association, regarding the current progression.</p> <p>(3) Fly-tipping – the Clerk reported that she had contacted Pitlington Parish Council regarding sharing the cost of a CCTV camera, however Pitlington Parish Council had since decided not to pursue this however install a sign as a deterrent. The Clerk was therefore gathering further information in relation to cost and effectiveness of this alternative.</p> <p>(4) Village Signs – Councillor A. Lee reported that some of the signs around the village had been cleaned as part of the litterpick, which took place on 21st March. This being something which would continue to be part of future litterpicks, to ensure that signs remained as clean as possible.</p> <p>(5) Bin on Farm Track – Councillors acknowledged that whilst the bin had been emptied, as it resides on a popular route it had filled up again very quickly. The Clerk agreed to contact DCC in relation to more frequent collections or even a replacement with a larger bin. Details in relation to ownership, were also to be established.</p>
<p>195. Clerk’s Update</p>
<p>The Clerk had no issues to report.</p>
<p>196. County Councillor’s Update</p>
<p>Councillor Stoker provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Calming Measures A177 – Road markings were scheduled for the following week. • High Shincliffe Park – An opening event took place on 17th April which had been extremely well received. An article had featured in the Northern Echo and hopefully there would be a similar feature in the Durham times, in due course. A date for the laying of the ‘all weather pitch’ was awaited. It was agreed that the Clerk would send a letter of congratulations to the Community Association for this outstanding achievement. • Shincliffe Park – Councillor Stoker had agreed to fund £12,500 to the Community Association, from his 2014/15 budget for play/recreation. A further £7,500 being planned for the current financial year. Councillor Stoker suggested that Shincliffe Park be a substantive agenda item to explore the assistance that the Parish Council and Community Association could commit in 2015/16 and 2016/17 to establish the possible scale of the development. • Superfast Broadband – Existing connections in the slip road would not affect delivery in either of the villages however the exact implications of the new cabinet insulation would not be known until installation had taken place later in the year. • Footpath Repairs – St Mary’s close would be completed this year. New paths had also been agreed for South Road and at the new roundabout on A167 junction with Browney Bank. • Trees (opposite entrance to Whitwell Acres) – the County Council had agreed to move these trees to a safer location however because the growing season had started, this would not be carried out until autumn. The Parish Council requested that an informal discussion take place in future, with both the County Councillor and also the Chair of the Horticulture Committee relating to the location and planting of trees.
<p>197. Correspondence</p>
<p>(a) <u>Matters arising from last month’s correspondence</u> Councillor Lovell commented on the information relating to adopting a Kiosk as there was one currently located in Shincliffe Village. It was agreed that the information be displayed in the</p>

village notice board.				
<p>(b) <u>Correspondence to circulate for discussion/decision at next parish council meeting</u></p> <p>(1) Meeting Bulletin – National Council 31 March 2015 (2) Local Council Working Group – 27 February 2015 (3) County Durham Plan – Latest Press release from DCC (4) Notification of next Smaller Local Council Forum Meeting (5) Durham Plan meeting – Friday 10th April 2015 – Note of Proceedings (6) Durham Constabulary – Officers Report (April 2015) (7) NALC announce new Star Councils Awards 2015 (8) Neighbourhood Protection Team Update (February 2015) (9) Welfare Assistance Scheme (10) Letter received from the Learning Library (11) Public Appointment – Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committee (12) Countryside Voice – Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) (Spring 2015) (13) CRPE – Field Work (Spring 2015)</p>				
<p>(c) <u>Current Correspondence</u></p> <p>(1) Letter from a resident in Shincliffe Village – A copy of the letter had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Parish Councillors discussed the letter and agreed that this was not a Parish Council responsibility.</p> <p>Whilst approvals from BT and the Dean and Chapter had been sought, the Parish Council acknowledged that there was value in gaining definitive ownership and permissions for BT poles in the Parish. This information would be available to the Parish.</p>				
198. Planning Application				
<table border="0"> <tr> <td>DM/15/01031/FPA</td> <td>Mrs Connor</td> <td>3 Heathways High Shincliffe Durham DH1 2PG</td> <td>First floor side and two storey rear extension (resubmission)</td> </tr> </table>	DM/15/01031/FPA	Mrs Connor	3 Heathways High Shincliffe Durham DH1 2PG	First floor side and two storey rear extension (resubmission)
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It was: resolved that there were no objections in relation to the above planning application.				
199. Horticultural Committee Update				
<p>Councillor A Lee provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans were underway to utilise the £500 from 'It's your Neighbourhood Fund' to enhance the Old Mine Site. Children from the Primary School would be participating in the planting of flowers/bulbs within Love Lane, on Thursday 30 April, 2015 between 1pm-3pm. A local Civic Pride Officer was also expected to attend this event. Parish Councillors were nominating properties for the Spring Front Garden Competition. Marc Platts (Parish Gardener) had agreed to judge this, on behalf of the Parish Council. Works were ongoing in relation to the entrance beds and positive feedback had been received in relation to the spring bulbs. Residents had very kindly planted flowers around trees and road signs. Hopefully this would be continued in the Autumn. Unfortunately a flower tub had been stolen on Avenue Street, and it was agreed that this would not be replaced. 				
200. AAP Update				
A meeting of the Area Action Partnership had not taken place since the last meeting, due to the Prudhoe Period.				
201. Local Council Award Scheme – Quality Gold (Standing Item)				

The Chairman reminded Parish Councillors of the commitment from the Parish Council to undertake the Quality Gold Award. The Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, had analysed the criteria required, and approximately 50 tasks needed to be undertaken to achieve this prestigious award. Around 37 of these would be undertaken by the Clerk, and for the remaining tasks, a Working Group was proposed.

It was **resolved** that: a Working Group be established to formulate the evidence and documentation, required for the Quality Gold Award, with involvement from all members of the Parish Council. A copy of the criteria for the award would be circulated to all members of the Parish Council.

202. Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – Shincliffe Village

The Parish Council acknowledged that the draft report was still outstanding.

It was **resolved** that: the report be circulated as soon as possible.

203. Budget Update as at 31st March 2015

The Clerk referred to the previously circulated budget position, as at 31st March, 2015.

Councillors were advised that expenditure at year end totalled £22,716.48 and Income £19,984.97. Opening balances as at 1st April 2014 totalled £11,998.87 and closing balances as at 31st March 2015 totalled £9,267.36.

204. Accounts for Approval

The following accounts had been signed by two authorised signatories within the 2014-15 financial year, and prior to the meeting: -

K Cuthbert (March Salary Underpayment)	£5.47
HMRC Income Tax (March)	£63.80
Hire of Church Hall	£22.00
Hire of School Library	£30.36
In addition, the following accounts were submitted for approval:-	
K Cuthbert (April Salary)	£264.86
NALC	£15.00
Cllr A Lee (Horticulture Reimbursement)	£339.74
Cllr A Lee (Horticulture Reimbursement)	£592.70
HMRC Income Tax (April)	£66.20

Resolved: that the above accounts be paid.

205. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 19th May, 2015, 7.00pm at Shincliffe Primary School, High Shincliffe, Durham.**

206. Any Other Business – Councillors

(1) Litterpick – As Councillor G. Lee had been elected as Chairman and also wished to remain on the Horticulture Committee, an invitation was extended for a Councillor to co-ordinate future Litterpicks. As no expressions of interest were received, this would be discussed again at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

The meeting terminated at 8.05pm