

Minutes of the Meeting of <b>Shincliffe Parish Council</b> held in <b>Shincliffe Primary School, High Shincliffe, Durham</b> on <b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b> at 7.00 pm.
<b>Present:</b> Councillor Olechnowicz (in the Chair) and Councillors Duell, Hudson, A Lee, G Lee and Lightley. County Councillor Stoker was also in attendance. There were 3 members of the public present.
<b>129. Declarations of Interest</b>
There were no declarations of interest.
<b>130. Apologies for Absence</b>
Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor Lovell and PC Cockburn.
<b>132. Issues Raised by Members of the Public</b>
<p>(1) Footpath (Shincliffe Hall) – This was still closed and the gate locked. In addition the path which was very steep was becoming increasingly difficult to walk up and down as it was very slippery.</p> <p>(2) Plaque (Hall Lane) – A resident from Shincliffe Village expressed her concerns about a plaque being displayed directly opposite people’s houses in memory of a man who had sadly lost his life and explained that some residents found this extremely upsetting. Whilst the Dean and Chapter had agreed that the plaque could be displayed, the parish council felt that the public should have been consulted in relation to this matter.</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> that: the Chairman write a letter to the Dean and Chapter and that Councillor Stoker investigate whether there was a protocol for displaying memorial plaques in particular, in relation to conservation areas.</p>
<b>133. Police Report</b>
<p>In the absence of PC Cockburn the Clerk advised that there had been three incidents since the last meeting:</p> <p>29/12/14- Break in to a house in Telford Close, High Shincliffe where jewellery and cash were taken.</p> <p>03/01/15 - Four males had had a meal at the Seven Stars, Shincliffe Village and left without paying.</p> <p>15/01/15 - A car was broken into whilst parked at the Avenue Inn, High Shincliffe and a handbag stolen.</p> <p>In response to a request from Councillor G Lee the Clerk agreed to find out the times in which these crimes had been committed and report back.</p>
<b>135. Minutes</b>
It was <b>resolved</b> that: the minutes of the last meeting be approved as a true record subject to the final resolution number being amended to 128.
<b>136. Matters Arising</b>
There were no matters arising.
<b>137. Report of the Clerk to the Parish Council</b>
The Clerk had no issues to report.
<b>139. County Councillor’s Update</b>

Councillor Stoker provided the following update:

- Traffic calming on A177 before the entrance to village nearest to Bowburn – the first two traffic calming measures would be implemented in February. These being broad white lines being painted at the side of the road and also blue dragon’s teeth. The effect of these would be monitored and further measures implemented if necessary.
- County Plan – The large development included within the County Plan was discussed.
- Student Housing – Planning applications continued to be received for student housing.
- Student Safety – Following the recent deaths of 3 students from Durham University a review was underway to improve student safety.
- Low Burnhall Woodland Trust – A sign would be erected for the car park entrance this year.
- Sherburn Hospital – Councillors were advised that the Chief Executive was retiring.
- Lumiere – Confirmation had been received that Durham would be hosting another Lumiere event and this had been well received.

**140. 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) Neighbourhood Protection Team Update (Durham Area Performance Report (November 2014)
  - (2) Neighbourhood Protection Team Update (Durham Area Performance Report (December 2014)
  - (3) The Clerk Magazine (January 2015. Vol 46. No.1)
  - (4) SE Landscaping
  - (5) Greenbarnes Leaflet
  - (6) Clerks and Councils Direct (January 2015. Issue 97)
  - (7) Spaldings Leaflet
  - (8) Glasdon Brochure
  - (9) Durham APP agenda and reports
  - (10) Local Council Working Group December 2014

(c) Current Correspondence  
There were no issues to report.

**141. Planning Applications**

<a href="#">DM/15/00015/FPA</a>	Mr M Fessey	3 Hall Farm Shincliffe Durham DH1 2UE	Alterations to existing garage, study and conservatory including alterations to elevations and roofline. Alterations to existing detached garage
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It was: **resolved** that there were no objections in relation to the above planning application.

**142. Horticultural Committee Update**

Councillor A Lee provided the following update:

- Entrance Beds – Whilst plans had been received for underground services within the area the parish gardener had come across a pipe during his excavation works. Several calls had been made to the County Council who had confirmed that no damage had been done and did not find this to be of any danger.
- It’s Your Neighbourhood Funding – An application would be made for monies to enhance the Old Mine Site with the help of school children for community engagement.

**143. AAP Update**

No issues were reported.

**144. Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – Shincliffe Village**

The Chairman advised that he had attended a meeting with Steve Ragg (CDALC) and Michele Shearer (Highways Department) to discuss the following:

- Whether the parish council had a legal obligation to pursue a TRO and whether the Highways Department had the right to expect the parish council to fund it;
- Costs amounted to approximately £20,000 and the Highways Committee would require a detailed investigation in relation to the precise wording of the TRO. This would cost approximately £1,000 in addition to an annual maintenance charge;
- Whilst the police were on board to enforce a TRO, five or more officers would be required with more being necessary should traffic numbers increase. The Police were willing to attend a meeting to discuss this; and
- A parish meeting would be required for consultation purposes not just a village meeting with an appropriate venue being sought to accommodate these numbers. This would take place locally in order to maximise attendance.

Upon discussion Parish Councillors acknowledged that if a parish meeting was to be held, facts and figures needed to be presented to the public. The Chairman therefore proposed that the detailed study/survey be undertaken at a cost of £1,000.

Speaking to residents it was felt that views in relation to the extent of the problem were mixed. Should a decision be taken to implement a TRO at a cost of £20,000, whilst Councillor Stoker would contribute to half of the funding, £10,000 would need to be generated by the parish council over a 2 year period. Given the substantial sum of money, the parish council did not feel that they were able to make a decision at the present time without hearing the views of the public and also understanding the long term impact.

Parish Councillors then considered whether £1,000 should be spent on commissioning a detailed study and it was agreed that the Chairman would ascertain exactly what information would be received for this charge.

Upon being put to a vote with 4 in favour and 2 against, it was **resolved** that: £1,000 be used from the 2014-15 reserves to commission a detailed study, subject to satisfactory confirmation of what information would be obtained.

**145. Accounts**

K Cuthbert (January Salary)	£249.91
K Cuthbert (1/2 yearly electricity allowance)	£50.00
HMRC Income Tax	£62.40
M Platts (Sustainable Planting Project)	£456.00
K Cuthbert (Petty Cash)	£100.00
K Cuthbert (Printer Cartridges)	£42.98

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

**146. Precept 2015-2016**

The Clerk circulated the budget position as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 and explained the current expenditure of £20,031.43. Looking ahead to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, it was estimated that income would amount to £19,998.33 and expenditure £25,027.54. Overall balances at year end were anticipated to be approximately £6,969.70.

The Clerk then circulated the estimated expenditure for 2015-2016 for consideration when setting the precept. This amounted to £14,237.52.

The Chairman reiterated the potential costs of £10,000 which would need to be generated, should a decision be made to implement a TRO in Shincliffe Village and suggested that this could be done by increasing the precept by £5,000 in each of the next two financial years. Should a decision be made not to implement a TRO, the precept in future years could be reduced accordingly.

Upon discussion some parish councillors expressed their concerns about raising the precept to fund a TRO when no decision had yet been made in relation to this and felt that if the precept was to be increased, it should not be earmarked for this purpose.

As parish councillors felt that some additional time was needed to consider the 2015-16 precept, it was **resolved** that: An Extraordinary Meeting take place on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015 @ 7.00pm to discuss solely this item of business.

Councillor Duell submitted his apologies for this meeting and commented that although he would not be present to cast his vote on the 2015-16 precept, he was in favour of raising the precept to increase reserves to cover part of the costs of any TRO. His view was therefore that the precept should be raised by £5,000 in 2015-16 and £5,000 in 2016-17 and should a TRO not be implemented, the precept could be reduced in 2016-17 to repay the collected surplus back to the electorate.

**147. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

An Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015, 7.00 p.m. at Shincliffe Primary School, High Shincliffe, Durham.

**148. Any Other Business – Councillors**

No issues were raised.

*The meeting terminated at 8.50pm*