

Minutes of the October Meeting of **SHINCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL** held in **Shincliffe Primary School, High Shincliffe, Durham** on **TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2012** at 7.00 pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Cook (in the Chair) and Councillors Hudson, Lightley, Milburn, Shearer and Storer.

#### **75. NOTICE OF MEETING**

Public notice of the meeting was taken as read.

#### **76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Cook declared an interest in the item on Love Lane and did not partake in the discussions.

#### **77. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Morgan, County Councillor Williams and PC Cockburn.

#### **78. MINUTES**

It was resolved: that the Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (copies previously circulated and publicised) be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **79. POLICE MATTERS**

There had been 1 crime incident which was theft of a motor bike. This was taken from a driveway in Pond Street, High Shincliffe and later abandoned near to Whitwell Acres.

#### **80. MATTERS ARISING**

##### **(a) Noticeboard**

The noticeboard has been installed. It needs some additional bolts to attach to secure the noticeboard, It was **resolved:** to purchase the new bolts.

Discussion took place on who should hold a key, a key be passed to Councillor Lightley for the History Society, and keys are available for the WI and Community Association, parish council to keep a spare key.

##### **(b) The Bracken – planning application**

The planning conditions are standard planning conditions and nothing specific to the property.

##### **(c) Arriva Buses**

Councillor Milburn said that last week a bus did not stop again last week. Clerk now has a contact at DCC as well to report any issues, however need the bus number, time and date of incident to report issues.

##### **(d) Stile at bottom of bank**

The stile has now been installed.

**(e) Hill Meadows – Highways Work**

County Councillor Williams reported that the road will be assessed by DCC highways as part of the capital improvement scheme 2013/14 if funding is available.

**(f) St. Marys Close – cobbles**

County Councillor Williams reported that it is intended to undertake further works next year if funding is available.

**(g) Gate at Telford Close to A177**

Clerk responded to DCC letter to say we were happy for the gate to be removed.

**(h) Speed Visor**

County Councillor Williams reported that DCC are still awaiting delivery of the visor.

**(i) Boundary Change**

Councillor Cook spoke to Steve Ragg regarding this; we may lose a councillor however it is not yet known.

**(j) Walks leaflets**

Councillors Cook and Milburn have distributed some walks leaflets to The Avenue.

**(k) St Mary's Close ramp access to St. Mary's Close**

This has been discussed at a recent PCC meeting, and is now being dealt with. No further action required.

**(l) Benches**

Two benches down in the village have been painted.

**(m) Standards Protocol**

Councillor Cook attended this session and it was useful and has the information that was presented in terms of the changes that have been made, this will be circulated in the current correspondence.

**(n) Love Lane – reinstatement**

Councillor Milburn has confirmed that he spoke to the resident who has confirmed that the shrubs will be planted soon. The electricity company that has carried out the works has not reinstated the Lane to its previous condition.

Councillor Milburn proposed writing to the electricity board to ask them to come and have a site visit, Councillor Milburn will attend. Clerk to send email to electricity company.

The safety barrier has been replaced at the end of Love Lane.

**(o) Quality Street**

County Councillor Williams reported that the road will be assessed by DCC highways as part of the capital improvement scheme 2013/14 if funding is available.

As it is not a residential area, DCC do not provide road markings and restrictions. If vehicles are causing obstructions, residents need to contact the police, passed onto PC Cockburn.

**(p) Overgrown nettles – Langton Lea and Quality Street**

This has been sorted.

**(q) CDALC meeting**

A meeting has been provisionally set for 1 December 2012. Councillor Lightley to liaise with Clerk.

**(r) Footpath on the A177**

Councillor Storer confirmed that most of the rubbish has been cleared away.

**(s) A177 Steps to St Marys Close**

Councillor Milburn spoke to highways at DCC; there is no highway in St. Marys Close which belongs to DCC. The landowner is responsible for repairing the footpath. Councillor Milburn is to write to Dean and Chapter regarding this and to speak to Michelle Shearer at DCC to check why the highway wasn't adopted.

**(t) Manor Farm Track**

County Councillor Williams reported that this is not an adopted highway and is detailed as a public footpath and the Access and Rights of Way team will be contacting the landowner to explain that as a gesture of goodwill, DCC will provide appropriate signs.

**(u) Autumn Litter Pick**

There were 16 volunteers, who collected about 20 bags of rubbish; the Hartlepool Road was the problem area.

**(v) Community Association**

Councillor Morgan is going to be the parish council representative on the Community Association.

**81. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MONTH'S CORRESPONDENCE**

This will be discussed at the November parish council meeting

**82. CORRESPONDENCE TO CIRCULATE**

Non urgent items of correspondence to be circulated to councillors for discussion and decision as necessary at the November meeting.

**83. CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) CDALC AGM on 3 November, Shincliffe to be awarded the Quality Parish Council certificate. Councillors Hudson and Lightley to attend.
- (b) Community project funding Think Big Programme from O2 for youngsters aged 13-25, passed to Community Association for the youth club.
- (c) Wind farm Working Group meeting – does not affect the Parish, no-one to attend.
- (d) Small and Medium Local Councils Meeting – 16 November 2012. Councillors Hudson and Lightley to attend.
- (e) National Tree Week
- (f) Proposed changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme, consultation, if this is approved, the double taxation grant will be removed, Councillors to read.

## 84. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

CMA/4/89                      Empirica Investments Ltd      Temporary siting of a 50m meteorological mast  
Approximately 360m  
South of Low Grange,  
A177 between High  
Shincliffe and Bowburn  
Durham

Discussion took place on the above planning application, members of the public were invited to comment, and it was **resolved**: that the parish council write seeking clarification on the planning application, it's future implications, (given that the company specialise in wind farms) and object to it at this stage until we know possible future implications

4/12/00873/FPA              Mrs Slowe                              Rear Conservatory  
5 Hillcrest  
High Shincliffe

It was **resolved**: that the parish council raised no objections to the above planning application.

## 85. HORTICULTURAL MATTERS

- (a) Last delivery of plants is 18 October, 2 beds and tubs need completing.
- (b) Durham in Bloom awards, High Shincliffe won Best Village. Would like the trophy to be placed in The Avenue. Won £40 worth of garden centre vouchers, this will be rolled forward to the spring garden competition.
- (c) Community Awards for Northumbria in Bloom take place next Thursday, the wildflower haven at Langton Lea and St Marys Close community garden have been entered.

## 86. AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP

Councillor Lightley updated the AAP.

- (a) Speed visor, some parishes did not know they had to insure them.
- (b) Next meeting is the forum meeting in November.

## 87. SEVERE WEATHER VOLUNTEER SCHEME

A village in West Sussex started their own scheme, to ensure elderly people in their parish were in contact with people during severe weather.

Councillor Hudson asked do we want to set up the scheme in the parish. It was agreed to include a note prepared by Councillor Judson in the next newsletter to see if people need this help or are prepared to help with the scheme.

The DCC Warm Homes Campaign has also released which aims to help residents keep warm and reduce their fuel bills; this is to be placed on noticeboards.

## 88. ACCOUNTS

H Simpson (October salary)	£282.96
HMRC income tax payment	£70.60
DCC hire of school	£30.36
H Simpson – printer cartridges	£46.97
M Platts – horticultural	£515.00
M Platts – maintenance	£247.82
M Platts – Old Mine Site	£95.00
BDO External Auditors	£162.00
Lavender Web Design – annual fee	£63.83

It was **resolved**: that the above accounts be paid.

## **89. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The November parish council meeting will be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2012 in Shincliffe Primary School, High Shincliffe, Durham at 7.00 pm.

## **90. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### *Councillor Lightley*

1. Enquiries about trees being felled in Hillcrest, the company did have planning permission however the parish council were not aware of this. Clerk to email planners to ask if they can inform us of any future applications
2. Cars are parking on gardens in front of houses on corner of Whitwell Acres. They are damaging the grassed area. Councillors to keep a check on this.
3. Gutters on the Bank Foot – no response received, Clerk to chase up.

### *Members of the Public*

4. Crocus bulbs available from DCC.
5. Footpath along the Hartlepool Road is in a poor condition. Councillor Cook to report to HAL.

### *Councillor Cook*

6. Disabled access on the pavement at the bottom of High Street, High Shincliffe is being blocked by parked cars, have passed to PC Cockburn.
7. Attended small and medium councils forum, a presentation by Stuart Timmis, Head of Planning, on the County Durham Plan is in the correspondence.
8. Complained about shrubs on Low Road, which is making the footpath narrow to HAL
9. Reported the path between the two entrances to High Shincliffe, trees overhanging to HAL.

***The meeting terminated at 8.45 pm***