

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> October 2015</b> at 7.00 pm.	<b>Action By:</b>
<p><b>Present:</b> Councillor G. Lee (in the Chair) and Councillors Duell, Hudson, A. Lee Lightley, Lovell and Olechnowicz.</p> <p>County Councillor Stoker was in attendance.</p>	
<p><b>Presentation of Certificates and Prizes for the Summer Front Garden Competition</b></p> <p>Councillor A. Lee presented a certificate and prize to the following residents:-</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Prize – 32 Whitwell Acres  Highly Commended – Cornhill House  Highly Commended – 18 The Green  Excellent Use of Tubs and Containers – 18 Pond Street  Planting &amp; Maintaining Stunning Displays under Trees and Street Signs – to a Group of Residents from Heathways.</p>	
<p><b>73. Apologies for Absence</b></p>	
<p>There were no apologies for absence.</p>	
<p><b>74. Declarations of Interest</b></p>	
<p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
<p><b>75. Issues Raised by Members of the Public</b></p>	
<p>(1) Bus Services – A letter had been received raising concerns that the X12 bus would no longer stop at Shincliffe Village and the impact that this would have on service users. It was believed that this was a result of catering more to the needs of University Students. Whilst neither the Parish Council nor County Council had any powers in relation to this as it was an Arriva contract, it was proposed that a discussion take place with the University and Arriva to reach a compromise whereby stops were still made in Shincliffe Village and High Shincliffe.</p> <p>Cllr Lovell also commented that he was a member of the Durham University Residents Forum and agreed to raise the issue at this venue.</p> <p>(2) Safety on River Embankment – A dangerous incident had taken place involving a motorcyclist. Whilst safety railings could be erected similar to those outside the Avenue Inn, it was agreed that contact be made with the Police in the first instance.</p> <p>(3) Low Road – An issue was raised in relation to overgrown hedges obstructing the path at Low Road. Councillor Stoker agreed to raise this issue with DCC as maintenance was their responsibility.</p> <p>(4) Broadband – A discussion ensued in relation to a recent proposal in Countryfile for a Wi-Fi broadband amplifier to be erected at the Cathedral. It was agreed that further information would be sought in relation to this.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Stoker</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Lovell</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Stoker</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Stoker</b></p>
<p><b>76. Minutes</b></p>	
<p>It was <b>resolved</b> that: the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015, be approved as a true record.</p>	
<p><b>77. Matters Arising</b></p>	

<p>(1) Laxey Cottage – An amendment had been made to the size and structure of the proposed timber garage and workshop and this had been agreed with compromises from both sides. Councillor Stoker was discussing the 15 day “call in period” with DCC and a request had been made for a change in legislation.</p> <p>(2) Members’ Initiative Fund – Councillor A. Lee reported that Councillor Stoker had agreed to provide £2,500 funding over a two year period and proposed that the information derived from the survey to residents be used to inform decisions in relation to how this money was spent.</p>	
<p><b>78. Police Report</b></p>	
<p>In the absence of the Police, there was no Police report.</p>	
<p><b>79. County Councillor’s Update</b></p>	
<p>County Councillor Stoker provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Weather Play Area – Works were due to start in November 2015;</li> <li>• Bollards Opposite the Rose Tree Inn – A site visit had been arranged for later in the week to determine the positioning of the bollards, and to achieve a balance between enough space for agricultural machinery to access fields, yet insufficient space for cars parking illegally;</li> <li>• Speed Checks on A177 – A date for this to be undertaken was awaited;</li> <li>• Bus Service Reduction – As mentioned above, the X12 would no longer stop between Houghall/University Sports Centre and Coxhoe Church. This was partly due to buses running late and also to meet the University’s preference for an express service. A discussion would therefore take place with the University.</li> <li>• Switching off Street Lights – It had been agreed that street lights would not be switched off at Sherburn Hospital but they would be on the approaches to the hamlet.</li> <li>• AAP – Councillor Stoker advised that a request had been made for £500 from his Members’ Initiative Fund to provide equipment for the School’s Chess Club, as part of a pilot with Belmont and Neville’s Cross School. Councillor Stoker had agreed to provide this funding.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cllr Stoker</b></p>
<p><b>80. Correspondence</b></p>	
<p>(a) <u>Matters arising from last month’s correspondence</u> (1) No issues were raised.</p>	
<p>(b) <u>Correspondence to circulate for discussion/decision at next parish council meeting</u> (1) CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) NE Newsletter Autumn 2015 (2) Neighbourhood Protection Team Update (September 2015) (3) Winter Vehicle Health Check Leaflet (Durham County Council) (4) Letter of thanks from Cllr Jan Blakey (Mayor Durham) for £100 donation (5) Letter of thanks from NEPACS for £161.60 donation (6) Spaldings Leaflet (October – December 2015) (7) Neighbourhood Protection Team Update (August 2015) (8) Glasdon (Special Offers for Local Councils) (9) CDALC AGM – 24 October 2015 (10) Broxap Litter Bins &amp; Recycling Units (Autumn/Winter 2015)</p>	
<p>(c) <u>Current Correspondence</u> The letter received from a member of the public in relation to bus services had been discussed earlier in the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>81. Planning Applications</b></p>	
<p>The Clerk reported that the following planning application had been electronically</p>	

<p>circulated prior to the meeting, in order to comply with legislation in relation to the timescales in which to respond. No objections were raised.</p>			
<p><a href="#">DM/15/02764/FPA</a></p>	<p>Mr M Last</p>	<p>Beech Cottage 4 Beech View Sherburn House Durham DH1 2SF</p>	<p>Construction of widened vehicular access and new 1.745m high brick piers</p>
<p><a href="#">DM/15/02986/FPA</a></p>	<p>Mrs King</p>	<p>The Sycamores Grange Farm High Shincliffe Durham DH1 2FB</p>	<p>Erection of two storey and single storey extensions to rear.</p>
<p><b>Resolved that:</b> no objection be made in relation to the above planning application.</p>			
<p><b>82. Horticulture Committee Update</b></p>			
<p>Councillor A. Lee reported on the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shincliffe Village had been awarded Winner of the Beautiful Durham Garden and Environmental Garden Competition 2015. A £40 voucher had been received as a prize.</li> <li>• Winter Bedding plants had arrived and the village beds had been cleared ready for planting.</li> <li>• Information had been published within the latest edition to SCAN for residents to contact the Parish Council about the supply of bulbs, for volunteers willing to plant around the Parish. Some residents had already expressed an interest and the children from the primary school would be asked if they would like to plant any surplus bulbs.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>83. Finance Committee Update</b></p>			
<p>Councillor G. Lee provided the following update:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new budget spreadsheet was now in operation which provided a detailed analysis of spend against the budget.</li> <li>• The next Finance Committee would take place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November with a view of submitting a proposed budget for the next financial year, to the December meeting of the Parish Council.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>84. Shincliffe Village Rat Run (SVRR)</b></p>			
<p>The Chairman advised that an email had been received from Michelle Shearer responding to the data which had been forwarded in relation to the SVRR. It was agreed that an informal meeting take place immediately prior to the next meeting of the Parish Council, with Michelle Shearer being invited along to discuss these findings in greater detail.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that contact had been made with the Community Speedwatch Team, and they had agreed to conduct a voluntary survey. As soon as this date had been confirmed, this would be reported to the Parish Council.</p> <p>Confirmation had now been received that the 'local traffic only' sign at the entrance of Shincliffe Village is not enforceable.</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> that: an informal meeting take place at 6.30pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 to discuss the findings in relation to SVRR survey data with DCC.</p>			

An email would also be forwarded to the residents on the circulation list, advising them of the above outcomes.																
<b>85. Local Council Award Scheme – Quality Gold Award (QGA- Standing Item)</b>																
<p>The Clerk referred Councillors to the Grands Awarding Policy which had been previously circulated for consideration.</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> that: the policy be approved and formally adopted.</p> <p>The Chairman reported that he had undertaken a formal appraisal process with the Clerk in August. KPI's had been set for the forthcoming year, and a copy could be made available to Councillors, upon request.</p> <p>A discussion ensued in relation to the proposed Parish Council survey, which had been circulated. The Chairman asked for final comments by the end of the week with a view of having surveys printed and distributed to residents on or around 31<sup>st</sup> October. Respondents would be asked to complete the surveys by Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2015.</p>																
<b>86. Accounts for Approval</b>																
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<b>Resolved:</b> that the above accounts be paid.																
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<b>87. Date and Time of Next Meeting</b>																
The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on <b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2015, 7.00pm at Shincliffe Primary School, High Shincliffe, Durham. An Informal meeting will take prior to this at 6.30pm.</b>																
<b>88. Any Other Business – Councillors</b>																
<p>(1) Councillor Lovell reported that the Litterpick had taken place and had been a huge success. Thanks were extended to Councillor Hudson for agreeing for equipment to be delivered to, and rubbish collected from her home. Unfortunately the rubbish had not been collected until several days after the agreed timescale therefore the Clerk agreed to raise this issue with DCC.</p> <p>(2) Councillor Duell reported that the traffic at Heathways around school drop-off and collection times was still very problematic. The Clerk agreed to have further discussions with the Police in relation to this.</p> <p>(3) Councillor Duell confirmed that he would be attending the meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 to discuss the proposed refurbishments to</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>															

the Church Hall.	
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*The meeting terminated at 8.55pm*