

Shincliffe Parish Council

Chair of the Committee:

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Horticulture Committee of Shincliffe Parish Council held on Thursday 14 October 2021 at 6pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Shincliffe Village

1	Record of attendance: <i>Councillor Christine Warburton (in the Chair), Councillor Lizzie Pexton, Pat Matthews (Community Representative), Marc Platts (Gardener).</i> Also present: Richard Ormerod (Interim Clerk).	Action
2	Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Yvonne Collingham (Community Representative).	
3	Declarations of interest and dispensation requests: There were none.	
4	Minutes of the Meeting of the Horticulture Committee held on 14 August 2021: <i>The minutes were agreed as a correct record.</i>	
5	Matters arising from the minutes: It was noted that Yvonne Collingham had spoken to residents about organising another "Knit & Natter" event to create Christmas tree decorations. It was noted that Christine Warburton had liaised with Jan Moyes about receiving delivery of bedding plants on Monday 18 October. It was noted that the council had agreed the £1000 virement to the Horticulture budget. It was noted that the posters advertising the Autumn Tidy-Up needed correcting. It was noted that no residents had come forward offering to be "Enviro-Reps". It was thought that the poster should be changed.	CW
6	Report from parish gardener: Marc Platts explained that his work had mainly been the usual maintenance of flower beds. All beds had been cleared and prepared to start planting before things go quieter for winter. A small amount of weeding had also been done so that everything looks tidy for winter. A discussion took place on the possibility of introducing some wild flower beds in the parish. Marc Platts explained the types of areas that are best for this. <i>It was agreed that Marc Platts would identify</i>	MP

	<i>potential sites for wild flower beds.</i> <i>It was agreed to place the order for Spring bedding shortly.</i> The Chair thanked Marc Platts for his ongoing work.	CW/MP
7	Budget: It was noted that the committee will have spent £7,292.40 of its £7,000 budget for 2021-22. A discussion took place on the reasons for this. <i>It was agreed to note the current budget position.</i> <i>It was agreed to request that the council treat invoices in relation to Shincliffe Village Play Park as part of the Play Park Maintenance budget and not the Horticulture budget.</i>	RO
8	Other business: Autumn Tidy-Up: It was noted that there had been few offers of help. It was thought that publicity needs to be improved for future events, possibly involving the primary school. <i>It was agreed that Cllr Christine Warburton speak to school staff about a possible planting project.</i> Christmas trees: Cllr Lizzie Pexton explained that she had been in contact with the supplier. The tree lights have been tested and now only require batteries and cable-ties. <i>It was agreed that Cllr Lizzie Pexton follow this up and to ask that the council delegate spending of a suitable amount to the Horticulture Committee for this purpose.</i> Stiles: Pat Matthews initiated a discussion on stiles and walkways around Sherburn House. A discussion took place. <i>It was agreed to request that this be raised at the next meeting of the Council on 21 October 2021.</i> The Green, Shincliffe Village: It was noted that there was a large hole on the village green which could prove dangerous to those walking there, especially at night. <i>It was agreed that the Clerk raise the matter with Durham County Council.</i>	CW LP/RO RO RO
9	Date and time of next meeting: <i>The next meeting of the Horticulture Committee will be held on Tuesday 11 January 2022 at 7pm.</i>	