

Shincliffe Parish Council

Chair of the Council:

Cllr Michael Banks
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Shincliffe Village
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Clerk:

Richard Ormerod
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Minutes of the Meeting of Shincliffe Parish Council held on Thursday 21 July 2022 at 6pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Shincliffe Village, DH1 2ND.

1	Record of attendance: <i>Councillors Michael Banks (in the Chair), Stephen Ashfield, Ann Callaghan, Bill Clatworthy & Brian Fairlamb.</i> Also present: County Councillor David Stoker, Richard Ormerod (Clerk).
2	Apologies for absence: None.
3	Declarations of interest and dispensation requests: Councillors Ashfield and Clatworthy declared an interest in Item 14 in respect of Shincliffe Juniors FC. Councillors Banks and Callaghan declared an interest in Item 14 in respect of Friday Friends at 10.
4	Minutes of the Meeting of the Council on 16 June 2022: <i>These were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</i>
5	Public Participation: None.
6	County Councillor's report: A verbal report was received from Cllr David Stoker. Subjects included parking in the village, village paths and rights of way, and the impact of the Bent House Lane development on parking in the village.
7	Planning applications received: A discussion took place on the proposed dormer bungalow at Heathways. <i>It was agreed to make no objection but to monitor future developments in regard to how they might inform a Neighbourhood Plan.</i>
8	Chairman's update: Cllr Banks gave a report. It was reported that the informal gathering of members and Clerk had gone well. It was reported that there was training available from CDALC on 9 November on play/sport/fitness area management. <i>It was agreed to receive the report.</i>
9	Correspondence: Cllr Banks reported on correspondence received and responded to since the last meeting. Topics included the possibility of a major housing development at Houghall, the finding of a lost pet, timing of minutes/agenda going on the parish council website, noise from Durham City Amateur Rowing Club and the cutting back of hedges by the play park.
10	Meeting of the Finance Committee on 5 July 2022. <i>It was agreed to split members' training and Clerk's training into separate cost codes.</i> <i>It was agreed to increase the budget for members' training to £2100.</i>

	<i>It was agreed to increase the budget for training of the Clerk to £800, funded in part by a virement of £500 from the insurance budget.</i>
11	Meeting of the Horticulture Committee on 14 June 2022. It was noted that Pat Matthews was going to send maps of stiles unsuitable for dogs to Cllr Clatworthy.
12	Financial update. The Clerk reported that the council currently has £36,638.61 in its main account, £5,980.88 in its reserve account and £7,868.79 in its savings account. <i>It was agreed to receive the report.</i> <i>It was agreed to pay the outstanding bills.</i>
13	Love Parks Week 2022: The Clerk gave a report. <i>It was agreed that the council sign up to Love Parks Week 2022 and use its branding for posters and an article on the website (proposed by Cllr Ashfield, seconded by Cllr Callaghan).</i>
14	Requests for funding. Friday Friends at 10. Cllrs Banks and Callaghan left the meeting. <i>It was agreed to donate £250 but not to make any ongoing commitment. (proposed by Cllr Clatworthy, seconded by Cllr Fairlamb).</i> Cllrs Banks and Callaghan rejoined the meeting. Shincliffe Juniors FC. Cllrs Ashfield and Clatworthy left the meeting. <i>It was agreed to donate £250. (proposed by Cllr Callaghan, seconded by Cllr Fairlamb).</i> <i>It was agreed that the Clerk look into access to use of pitches at Maiden Castle for the club.</i> Cllrs Ashfield and Clatworthy rejoined the meeting. Mayor of Durham's Appeal (Durham Samaritans). <i>It was agreed to donate £100. (proposed by Cllr Fairlamb, seconded by Cllr Clatworthy).</i>
15	Website. It was noted that the new website could go live soon. A discussion took place on getting content onto it. <i>It was agreed that the Clerk and all members check proposed content and report back to the Clerk.</i>
16	Planting on land by The Mews, Shincliffe Village: <i>It was agreed that the Horticulture Committee take over responsibility.</i>
17	Co-option of members to Shincliffe Parish Council: <i>It was agreed to revisit the issue when there are expressions of interest. It was agreed that there be ongoing encouragement of interest via the website and notice boards.</i>
18	ICT classes for unemployed and retired people. It was noted that Durham County Council was offering free training. <i>It was agreed to include the matter in the annual survey to see if there are expressions of interest.</i>
19	Carbon Reduction Group. <i>It was agreed to create a Carbon Reduction Committee of the council, with Cllr Ashfield to come up with proposals.</i>

20	Team building. A discussion took place. <i>It was agreed to use more informal gatherings of members for this.</i>
21	Shincliffe Village play park: A discussion took place on the cutting of the grass and associated closures of the park. <i>It was agreed that the council keep to the current arrangement whereby Marc Platts cuts the grass.</i> <i>It was noted that three quotes had now been received for the feasibility study into access. It was agreed that the quote from Lynas was the council's preferred bid, but it was noted that all three quotes would have to be provided in order to apply for a grant from the Durham AAP.</i> <i>It was agreed that the Clerk book the annual safety inspection from RoSPA.</i> <i>It was agreed that the Clerk create a poster for the noticeboard including the phrase "please use the play equipment appropriately" in the interim.</i> <i>It was agreed that the Clerk check with Kompan regarding recommended age limits for the play equipment.</i> Discussions took place on the policy on dogs in the playground and the picnic table still in storage.
22	Traffic matters: A discussion took place on a proposal to introduce 'no waiting at any time restrictions' on: • Both sides of the junction from the A177 to Low Road • Both sides of the junction from Low Road to St. Mary's Close • Across the access to Low Green, replacing the keep clear marking • Both sides of the access to Poplar Tree Garden Centre • Both sides of the junction from High Street to Hall Farm <i>It was agreed to support the proposals, on the understanding that there will be further consultation with residents.</i>
23	Civility & Respect Pledge. A report from the Clerk had been received on the pledge, which had been formulated by the National Association of Local Councils. <i>It was agreed to sign up to the pledge (proposed by Cllr Callaghan, seconded by Cllr Ashfield).</i>
24	Motions: None
25	Date and time of next meeting: <i>The next meeting of Shincliffe Parish Council will be on Thursday 15 September 2022 at 6pm in St Mary's Church Hall.</i>

Signed as a true record:

Cllr M Banks (Chair)

Date:
