

Chair of the Committee:
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Horticulture Committee of Shincliffe Parish Council held on Tuesday 16 May 2023 at 7:30pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Shincliffe Village

1	Record of attendance: <i>Cllr Bill Clatworthy (in the Chair), Cllr Stephen Ashfield, Cllr Ann Callaghan, Cllr Brian Fairlamb, Yvonne Collingham (Community Representative).</i> Also present: Richard Ormerod (Clerk).	
2	Apologies for absence: <i>Apologies were received from Marc Platts (gardener).</i>	
3	Declarations of interest and dispensation requests: There were none.	
4	Minutes of the Meeting of the Horticulture Committee held on 28 February 2023: <i>The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.</i>	
5	Matters arising from the minutes: It was noted that a request had been made to the Land Registry to determine the ownership of land next to the Old Mine Site. Cllr Ashfield informed the meeting that he was still investigating grants available. <i>It was agreed that the Clerk chase Savill's for further information on repairs to the riverside path.</i> <i>It was agreed that the Clerk request information from the Environment Agency about footpath erosion and flood risk in Shincliffe Village by the River Wear.</i> <i>It was agreed that the Clerk request from Durham County Council additional road safety signage on the perimeter road.</i>	SA RO RO RO
6	Chair's report and correspondence: Cllr Clatworthy informed the meeting that the barrel planters installed for the Coronation had received good feedback from residents. <i>It was agreed to thank Yvonne Collingham formally for her work on this.</i> It was noted that Marc Platts had submitted invoices several months after work was carried out. It was agreed to request that invoices be submitted within one month of work being carried out. It was thought that there should be regular communication between Marc and the	BC MP/BC

	Chair of the committee. Two turkey oaks were planted in the Old Mine Site on Bank Holiday Monday by volunteers. Concerns had been expressed by residents about the height of trees by Shincliffe CE Primary School. <i>It was agreed that the Clerk write to the school to notify the Headteacher of the concerns.</i>	RO
7	Report from parish gardener: None.	
8	Shincliffe Colliery Nature Reserve (Miners' Wood): The Chairman notified the meeting that Japanese Knotweed was spreading in the Old Mine Site. It was agreed to contact companies who could eradicate it. <i>It was agreed to recommend to council that a professional company be used for this and that this be funded from general finances (proposed by Cllr Clatworthy, seconded by Cllr Callaghan).</i> <i>It was agreed to recommend to council that the parish council's remaining picnic bench be sited in the wood (proposed by Yvonne Collingham, seconded by Cllr Fairlamb).</i>	RO RO
9	Proposed ecology project with Shincliffe CE Primary School: It was noted that Nicola Clayden was leading on this project at the school.	
10	Storage shed, Shincliffe Village play park: A discussion took place. <i>It was agreed to recommend to council that a suitable shed be purchased from Cllr Stoker's Neighbourhood Budget.</i>	RO
11	Beautiful Durham 2023: A discussion took place. <i>It was agreed that the council enter the competition this year.</i>	RO
12	Allotments in Shincliffe: A discussion took place on the possible provision of allotments. <i>It was agreed that the Clerk put an item on the parish council's website asking for expressions of interest.</i>	RO
13	Events: It was noted that the judging of Beautiful Durham would take place on 12 and 13 July 2023. <i>It was agreed to hold another front gardens competition this summer, with judging taking place during the week commencing 11 July. Judges will be Ann Callaghan, Stephen Ashfield and Brian Fairlamb, with judging by photograph by Michael Banks.</i>	BC
14	Other business: It was noted that the receipts for purchases in connection with the turkey oaks were available to be processed.	RO
15	Date and time of next meeting: <i>The next meeting of the Horticulture Committee will be held on Tuesday 12 September 2023 at 7pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Shincliffe Village.</i>	All

Signed as a correct record:

Date:
