

Chair of the Council:
Cllr Stephen Ashfield
3 Geoffrey Avenue
Durham
DH1 4PF



High Shincliffe

Sherburn House

Shincliffe Village

Shincliffe

Parish Council

www.shincliffeparishcouncil.org.uk

Clerk:
Richard Ormerod
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Minutes of the Meeting of Shincliffe Parish Council held on Thursday 18 January 2024 at 6pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Shincliffe Village, DH1 2ND.

1	Record of attendance: <i>Councillors Stephen Ashfield (in the Chair), Ann Callaghan, John Charters, Bill Clatworthy & Brian Fairlamb.</i> Also present: Two members of the public.
2	Apologies for absence: None.
3	Declarations of interest and dispensation requests: There were none.
4	Co-option of members to Shincliffe Parish Council: Standing Orders were suspended whilst Janice Gorlach and Sunny Moon-Schott gave presentations to the council. Vacancy 1: Janice Gorlach was proposed and seconded. This was put to a vote by secret ballot. The result was five votes in favour, none against and no abstentions. Resolved: That Dr Janice Victoria Gorlach be co-opted to Shincliffe Parish Council. Vacancy 2: Sunny Moon-Schott was proposed and seconded. This was put to a vote by secret ballot. The result was two votes in favour, two against and one abstention. This resulted in a tied vote. The Chairman's casting vote was in favour. Resolved: That Sunny Peter Moon-Schott be co-opted to Shincliffe Parish Council. Both new members signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.
5	Public Participation: A member of the public gave a traffic update. Another made comments on parking, footpath on Hall Lane and also locked gates by Shincliffe Hall. Resolved: That the Clerk organise a meeting on site with a Rights of Way officer from Durham County Council to look at options for signage and the gate.
6	Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Council on 21 December 2023: Resolved: The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
7	County Councillor's report: No report received. The Chairman advised members that Cllr Stoker was to provide £300 from Neighbourhood Budget for sustainable planting and that Cllr Stoker had requested that DCC Neighbourhood Wardens visit the area around the playground in High Shincliffe

	to check for irresponsible dog owners.
8	Planning applications received: None.
9	Licensing applications: None.
10	Chairman's update: Cllr Ashfield explained that he had not been able to put a question to DCC on traffic. Resolved: To receive the report.
11	Correspondence: Cllr Clatworthy had received correspondence in relation to the planning permission given to the holiday lets in Shincliffe Village. Resolved: That the Clerk clarify the position on permissions given.
12	National Association of Local Councils: Foundation Award: A discussion took place. Resolved: To defer the matter until after the Annual Meeting of the Council.
13	Financial update: The Clerk had circulated a report on the council's current financial position. At the 14 January 2024 the council had £28,373.62 in the current account and £14,104.01 in the reserve account. Resolved: That the council pay the outstanding invoices, though payment to Netpower not to be released until email issues are resolved. Resolved: That changes to the document prepared by Cllr Callaghan on council expenditure be made and the document then put on the council website.
14	Financial regulations on buying: A discussion took place. Resolved: That no changes were needed to regulations but that prepaid debit cards be purchased by the Clerk under the scope of the existing regulations.
15	Shincliffe Village Play Park: It was noted that the annual safety inspection from RoSPA was imminent. Resolved: That the Clerk inform members of the date and time of the inspection when known. It was noted that the resurfacing of the matting would be done by DCC under the service level agreement. It was noted that the swing was classed as medium risk in the recent DCC report.
16	Council email issues: It was noted that problems still persisted with the council's .gov.uk email addresses and that the council had now been forced to revert to using the .yahoo.co.uk address. It was noted that the Clerk and Peter Graham had been in extensive discussions about a solution. Resolved: That the Clerk and Cllrs Callaghan, Ashfield and Moon-Schott follow up the issues with Peter Graham from Netpower. Resolved: That new councillors be given.gov.uk email addresses and added to

	<i>the council WhatsApp group.</i>
17	Traffic matters: Councillor Clatworthy proposed that SPC oppose the work indicated in the document 'A177, Shincliffe Road Safety Improvement Report' and that the document circulated to members be sent to Durham County Council as a complaint. Cllr Fairlamb proposed (seconded by Cllr Callaghan) that the council establish a Safer Shincliffe Committee with a remit of dealing with road and traffic safety. It was noted that four sites had been secured for the speed campaign banners. <i>Resolved: That the Clerk submit the Creating a Safer Shincliffe document as a complaint to DCC.</i> <i>Resolved: That the council establish a Safer Shincliffe Committee to deal with traffic issues in the parish, membership being Graham Hollingworth (community representative) along with Cllrs Clatworthy, Callaghan, Charters and Gorlach.</i> <i>Resolved: That banners be sited at East Grange, Wayside Cottage, on the hedge outside Woodside Cottage in Low Road and on the uphill of the bank.</i>
18	It's Your Neighbourhood funding grant: It was noted that up to £500 was available to community groups from the DCC Civic Pride Team. <i>Resolved: That the Clerk apply for £500 towards a replacement noticeboard in Sherburn House.</i>
19	Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Fairlamb briefed members on progress. <i>Resolved: To add Cllrs Gorlach and Moon-Schott to the working group which would be meeting on Fridays in February.</i>
20	Noticeboard, Sherburn House: It was noted that the noticeboard had been damaged. <i>Resolved: As per item 18 above.</i>
21	Stink pipes, High Shincliffe: The Clerk reported that Northumbrian Water had confirmed that the pipes are not in use and that they have no responsibility for them. A discussion took place. Cllr Fairlamb proposed (seconded by Cllr Ashfield) that the council resolve that it has no objection to the listing of the pipes by Historic England. A vote took place and there were three votes for, two against and one abstention. <i>Resolved: That the Clerk inform the Shincliffe Local History Society that the parish council has no objection to the listing of the pipes.</i>
22	Neighbourhood Watch: Not discussed.
23	80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings on 6 June 2024: A discussion took place on the possibility of a community event to mark the anniversary. Cllr Callaghan proposed (seconded by Cllr Moon-Schott) that the council arrange such an event. A vote took place and there were five votes for and one against. <i>Resolved: That the council organise a community event in the parish to</i>

	<i>commemorate the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings.</i>
24	Motions on notice: None.
25	Date and time of next meeting: <i>The next ordinary meeting of Shincliffe Parish Council will be on Thursday 16 February 2024 at 6pm in St Mary's Church Hall. A provisional timetable of meetings for 2024 was agreed.</i>
26	In private: Local representation: A discussion took place. <i>Resolved: That the council make appropriate representations.</i>

Signed as a true record:

Cllr S Ashfield (Chair)

Date:
