

Chair of the Committee:
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High Shincliffe
Sherburn House
Shincliffe Village

Shincliffe
Parish Council

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Clerk:
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Horticulture Committee of Shincliffe Parish Council held on Tuesday 4 June 2024 at 7pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Shincliffe Village

1	Record of attendance: Cllr Bill Clatworthy (in the Chair), Cllr Stephen Ashfield, Cllr Ann Callaghan, Cllr Brian Fairlamb, Yvonne Collingham (Co-opted member). Also present: Richard Ormerod (Clerk), Marc Platts (Gardener).	
2	Apologies for absence: None.	
3	Declarations of interest and dispensation requests: There were none.	
4	Minutes of the Meeting of the Horticulture Committee held on 5 March 2024: The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.	
5	Chair's report and correspondence: Cllr Clatworthy informed the meeting that the wet spring had adversely affected the flower beds and that this had delayed planting of spring bulbs. It was noted that the planting of summer bedding would begin on 5 June. It was noted that a small number of residents were carrying out weekly litter picks. It was noted that there would be no Beautiful Durham competition this year. Resolved: To receive the report.	
6	Report from parish gardener: Marc Platts gave a report. Beds at High Shincliffe had been cleared. All beds had been prepared for summer bedding plants. It was noted that Marc Platts now had use of his van again. It was recommended that winter bedding be reduced. It was noted that Durham County Council had been leaving large amounts of grass behind after cutting. The Clerk informed the meeting that he had already been in contact with DCC about this. It was noted that 8-15 June was "volunteering week" (a national initiative). A discussion took place on the council's use of purchase orders to	

	commission Marc's work. Resolved: That the Clerk issue a purchase order to Marc Platts for the remainder of the current financial year for up to £3,972 of horticultural work. Resolved: That the Clerk issue a purchase order to Marc Platts for the maintenance of Love Lane and strimming under benches. Resolved: That the Clerk issue a purchase order to Marc Platts for the annual inspection of trees on parish council land.	RO RO RO
7	Summer bedding: Covered under earlier items.	
8	Sustainable planting and root ball planting of perennials: Covered under earlier items. It was noted that the herb garden would be in place by the next meeting of the committee. Resolved: That the committee review the matter at its next meeting.	All
9	Shincliffe Colliery Nature Reserve (Miners' Wood): It was noted that Japanese Knotweed was growing at present. Resolved: That it be recommended to council that Airedale Forestry be commissioned to remove the Japanese Knotweed. Resolved: That Marc Platts be asked to strim and clear the paths. Resolved: That the Clerk attempt to find information leaflets relating to the nature reserve and supply to Cllr Ashfield. Resolved: To recommend to council the funding of a new sign to replicate the old one regarding the Turkey Oaks.	RO RO RO RO
10	Events: It was noted that the litter pick had been successful. A discussion took place on how to involve more residents. Resolved: To hold the autumn litter pick on 26 October 2024.	All
11	Front Gardens Competition and judging: A discussion took place. Resolved: That judging should take place in the week beginning 9 July 2024, with prizes awarded as in previous years.	All
12	Rights of Way: It was noted that DCC's Rights of Way team had written to residents asking them not to obstruct rights of way in Shincliffe Village. It was noted that Cllr Moon-Schott was in contact with the Open Spaces Society regarding rights of way policy. Resolved: That the Clerk write a letter to residents on the High Street requesting that no parking take place on the grass verges, and thanking those who are already complying. (Draft version to be approved by Cllr Clatworthy first).	SM RO/BC
13	Other business: None.	

14	Date and time of next meeting: <i>The next meeting of the Horticulture Committee will be held on Tuesday 10 September 2024 at 7pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Shincliffe Village.</i>	All
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Signed as a correct record:

Date:
