

Minutes - Shadforth Parish Council Meeting

In accordance with Paragraph 7 & 10 (2)(b) of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972, Members are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Shadforth Parish Council, Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 6.30pm at Sherburn Hill Hub.

S1 Attendees: Cllrs Thompson, Martin, Beattie, Flude, Nixon, Parish Clerk

S2 Apologies: None

S3 To receive disclosures of interest in any matters on the agenda: Cllrs Martin, Beattie and Flude disclosed an interest in allotments. Cllrs Beattie and Flude disclosed an interest in garages. Cllr Martin and Nixon disclosed an interest in Sherburn Hill Hub.

S4 To agree that the minutes from the last ordinary meeting of October 10th 2023 are a true record: Agreed. No minutes from PC meeting November 14th as meeting was not quorate and no decisions could be made.

S4 To receive an update from the Clerk: We need to prepare for our annual Precept submission and it has been agreed to increase this by 5%. An allotment plot has become available and the Clerk will contact the next person on the waiting list.

S5 To agree any payments that need to be made:

- Clerks Salary £399.28
- MS Invoice £437.50
- SH Hub Room Hire £30.00
- Wave £56.94

S6 To discuss a request from Durham Area Youth to fund youth work across the three villages, and to agree an amount: Agree a donation of £1000 grant per year. As with all donations the Parish Council would like photos and short description of activities etc so we can let the parish know how the money is being spent via our website.

S7 To receive an update on Shadforth Cemetery: Correspondence received from a parishioner regarding the Cemetery. A response will be provided shortly. Maintenance to the Cemetery extension will be added to 2024-25 to keep the area under control. Bins to be emptied regularly; Clerk to speak to contractor.

S8 To agree any extra cemetery maintenance needed and agree costs for this: Agreed up to £1000 emergency fund for weather damage etc.

S9 To discuss current cemetery charges and agree any changes: Agreed an increase of all Cemetery related charges by 50% from 1st April 2024. Clerk to inform local Funeral Directors.

S10 To discuss allotment / garage annual rent charges and agree charges for 2024: Postponed until next month's Agenda

S11 To discuss correspondence received from CDALC regarding NJC's salary increase: Agreed to backpay to April 1st 2023 as recommended by CDALC.

S12 To agree costs for creating a path on the allotments to join the central path to the carpark: Clerk to contact contractor regarding repairs.

S13 To discuss and agree a policy regarding flammable materials in allotments and garages: To discuss at next meeting. Clerk to make enquires to National Allotment Association and report to Cllrs before next meeting.

S14 To receive an update on communications received: We have received £5000 from CDCF towards creating a Woodland Walk in Sherburn Hill. Many thanks to Cllr Thompson for all her hard work and dedication to secure the funding.

S15 To receive an update on creating a mining memorial in Sherburn Hill: Cllr Thompson explained that the project has sought the bricks required and a local metal work business is going to donate the materials and expertise for railings etc. This is excellent news. The land still requires approval by DCC.

S16 To receive an update on creating a community woodland walk on a piece of land owned by DCC in Sherburn Hill: We have already mentioned we have secured £5k funding from County Durham Community Foundation. Cllr Thompson will be seeking further funding in the New Year. A meeting will take place to look over the design of the designated area. The area will be available for all to use, so community engagement is vital to the project. Cllr Thompson will meet with different groups to seek community feedback and ideas.

S17 To receive updates from Parish Councillors: None.

S18 To receive updates from County Councillors: None.

S19 Public questions or comments, 5 minutes max: None.

S20 Matters arising from previous minutes which have not been covered above: New lighter noticeboard to be sourced for Shadforth, to affix to wall of Village Hall.

S21 To receive any items for the next meeting: I&E report, updated budget.

S22 Any other business: Future planned Parish Council meetings - 9th January, 13th February and 12th March 2024