

Shadforth Parish Council

Shadforth Parish Council
Sherburn Hill Community Hub
Front Street
Sherburn Hill
DH6 1PA

Dear Councillor,

You are duly summoned to attend the meeting of Shadforth Parish Council at 6pm on
Tuesday 11th November 2025 at Sherburn Hill Community Hub.
Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Minutes

01-1125 Attendees: **Councillors Herbert, Thompson, Heron, Jobling and Nixon.**
County Councillors Taylor and Brown.

02-1125 Apologies: **Annette Simpson (Clerk).**

03-1125 Declarations of Interest:
To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature:
Councillors Herbert, Nixon and Thompson declared an interest in Sherburn Hill Hub;
Councillor Jobling declared an interest in allotments;
Councillor Heron declared an interest in allotments and garages.

04-1125 To receive an update from the Chair:

- All questions and discussions to be made through the Chair, Cllr Herbert.
- Discuss the new signage in Shadforth and the possibility of similar signs for Ludworth and Sherburn Hill: **Parish Council to ask DCC if Sherburn Hill and Ludworth can have similar gated entrances to the villages as Shadforth so that all three villages are the same.**

05-1125 To receive an update from County Councillors: **County Councillors Taylor Brown had attended Remembrance Sunday services at Shadforth Church and also Ludworth Cenotaph.**

06-1125 **Actions and carried forward items from previous agenda:**

- Cllr Jobling returned Pecuniary of Interests form and this has been filed by the Legal & Democratic Department. **Completed.**
- We have visual evidence that there have been non complimentary conversations had on social media between several allotment tenants regarding Parish Councillors. Does the Parish Council wish to respond? **No response at the present time.**

- c. The Clerk is waiting for a reply on room hire prices so we may be able book and hold the Parish Council meeting in all 3 villages on a rota basis. **Completed.** Clerk will organise the Parish Council to hold it's meeting over the year at Ludworth Community Centre and Shadforth Village Hall.
- d. The Clerk is hoping to meet with the secretary from the NCAA in November: **Now postponed until January.**

07-1125 To receive an update from the Clerk:

- a. We have received £3,600 from DCC as a full refund of the P3 cuts to Paths and Bridleways in Sherburn Hill, Shadforth and Ludworth. **Completed.**
- b. A local Funeral Director has confirmed emails received from a person living abroad that enquired about the possibility of installing a memorial bench in Shadforth Cemetery are true. Do the Councillors agree that a bench could be installed? Suitable base required and who will upkeep the bench? **Agreed.**
- c. Mr Oliver's application for a worker's dwelling in Shadforth: **Everyone (the PC) are happy with this.**
- d. Paradise Cottages - a field shelter has been erected without planning permission: **The Planning Department have advised that it needs to be partially clad in wood.** Councillor Herbert feels that the shelter should be fully clad so that it is aesthetically pleasing in a conservation area. Clerk to contact the Planning Department with our concerns.

08-1125 To agree any payments that need to be made: **All agreed.**

Clerks Salary	£568.29
HMRC	£142.00
Ludworth Memorial groundworks	£ TBC

09-1125 To receive an update on the creation of a mining memorial in Sherburn Hill: **No update at this present time.**

10-1125 To receive an update on the Community Woodland Walk in Sherburn Hill:
The woodland walk is more or less completed. The second bench should be installed soon.
Lantern Workshops have been held to teach making the lanterns ready for a lantern parade which will be held in conjunction with the Hub's Christmas celebrations.
We will continue to introduce trees and seats in the future, as well as monitoring the seed planting next year to help remove thistles and dock leaves.
Taylormade are to be approached to donate plantable christmas trees for either end of the walk.

11-1125 Update on the pollution into Shadforth beck issue: Councillor Herbert advised that there has been a small amount of pollution recently as there's still an issue with the old sewage system. Councillor Herbert to contact Northumbrian Water

12-1125 To discuss an advertisement for the recruitment of new Parish Councillors. There are 3 seats available in Ludworth, 3 seats in Shadforth and 1 seat in Sherburn Hill. These seats can be filled by the co-option process: **Advertisement approved by Councillors - subject to the removal of the deadline. Advert to be placed on our notice boards, community centres as well as the Cart House cafe, the PC's Facebook page and also in the Farmers Arms.**

13-1125 To consider approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 7th October 2025: **Minutes approved.**

14-1125 To agree a notice to allotment tenants regarding bonfires at allotments: **Approved. A letter to be issued to each allotment tenant.**

15-1125 To discuss correspondence received from a tenant that wishes to trim bushes on their allotment and the access required to carry out this work: **No discussion required as this is now a police matter.**

16-1125 To discuss the comments of Cllr Jobling's emails, received 7th and 10th October: **Councillor Joblings emails to be minuted as part of the months meeting so that there is a formal record of them.**

17-1125 To discuss allotment code of conduct and alleged recent graffiti and offences: **Councillor Jobling would like some amendments which he will forward to the Clerk.**

18-1125 To receive updates from Parish Councillors, 5 minutes max: **NONE.**

19-1125 Public questions or comments, 10 minutes max: Public questions received:

- a. Why has the cemetery in shadforth not been maintained - broken pinstones as an example. Is the contractor qualified?
- b. Gate from Shadforth graveyard to the cemetery - agreed 5 years ago by previous council, why hasn't it been done?
- c. Ludworth cenotaph - who is caring for it? We explained our position and also the investigation we are making to find out who owns it. Stressed that it was very important to the PC and if need be it would become part of our budget and responsibility
- d. Allotments - previous council agreed allotments could be installed at Ludworth as at the time, there were 17 people who would like to have one. We will ask the clerk to investigate
- e. David Banks - what is his involvement and is he a representative of NCAA as Mr Woods understood this not to be the case
- f. PC expenditure - wanted to see evidence of where we spend our money
- g. Can we rotate meetings between the three villages - plans for this already set in motion
- h. Worried about our impartiality - explained the pecuniary of interest forms
- i. Would like contact details of individual Councillors to be published

- j. Why does shadforth have a new village sign - explained that Durham County Council organised this
- k. Land at the top of Shadforth Bank - why hasn't the fence not been maintained?
- l. Ludworth skate park - why is it and the area surrounding it not maintained?
- m. Remembrance Sunday - why aren't the wreaths supplied by the PC

20-1125 Matters arising from previous minutes which have not been covered above:
NONE.

21-1125 To receive any items for the next meeting: The Precept calcs should arrive in December, so we should be able to start discussing the 2026-27 budget in January.

22-1125 Any other business: Future planned Parish Council meetings:

2nd December 2025 6pm – Cancelled

6th January 2026 – 6pm