



Annual Parish Meeting for Shinfield Parish

Wednesday 29th April 2026



Welcome
From Cllr Nigel Boyer,
Chair of Shinfield
Parish Council

Agenda

Welcome

Becky Walsh

- An Amusing look at life in parish councils

Review and Preview by Cllr Nigel Boyer

- A look back at the last council year and a look ahead to what is coming in 2026 and beyond

Community Awards

- Introducing our first community award winners

Becky Walsh



Some basics about Shinfield Parish Council



Who we are



Parish and town councils are the bottom rung of government and we are entirely focussed on our parish



We have 15 councillors but after a review will be increasing to 18 from May 2027



We have a team of 7 full-time and 14 part-time staff plus 9 café staff



Out of 10,250 town and parish councils in England we are in the top 250 in terms of population

Council Finances



Where does the council get its money from?

Figures relate to 2025-26



Income from hiring out rooms, rental income and bank interest
£293.4k



Precept
£667.2k

What do we spend it on?

Figures relate to 2025-26



Operating our facilities inc. allotments, open spaces, playgrounds, and buildings
£639.3k



Supporting Community development, youth initiatives and public events
£66.3k



Clerk and other Office Staff

£181.1k



Running the parish council inc. IT, insurance, community engagement and statutory duties
£98.5k

A review of
2025 and a
look ahead



Governance

Doing the right things the right way



A new Chair
of the
Council



Contested
elections and
new
councillors



58 Council
and
committee
meetings in
the council
year



Updated
Standing
Orders



Updated
Financial
Procedures



Certificate of
Higher
Education in
Community
Governance
for the Parish
Clerk

Buildings

Using community assets well



High Copse fully in use with cricket starting in the next few weeks



School Green utilisation highest since it opened (10,251 hours of bookings or 28 hours of bookings per day over multiple rooms)



Room Bookings

Spencers Wood (2,336 hours or 6.4 hours per day)



Taking over the café at School Green Centre - The Tin Roof café opened for business on 13th October and we are currently trialling extended opening Monday to Thursday



Long Term Maintenance Plan - We've developed our first maintenance plan that looks up to 20 years in to the future to make sure we financially plan for what lies ahead

Arts Culture and Community Life

Making the parish an interesting place to live

VE80th anniversary
commemoration

2nd Arts Showcase
held in February
2026

Our busiest ever
community Litter
Pick in Easter 2026

Remembrance
Sunday

Continuing
Community Grants
including three new
defibrillators for the
parish

Being a good
neighbour - Hosting
Share at School
Green Centre

Arts Culture and Community Life

Making the parish an interesting place to live

Supporting coffee mornings and baby & toddler sessions

Continuing Friday Fun Days and cheap film days

National Theatre Live

New community events - photography, art, miniature gardens, easter egg decorating

Thriving youth club

Planning & Advocacy

Shaping where we live

Objecting to Body
Farm proposed
Development

Loddon Garden
Village
representation

Clarification on the
DEPZ as a concept

Education in the
parish

Annual Grant Scheme



Annual Grant Scheme



Every year we set aside a budget of £30,000 for our community Grant Scheme



The 2026 round is now open for applications



We will be publicising through all our usual channels but please do tell anyone you think may be interested in applying



The maximum award is £5,000 and our preference is to use the funds to help launch new initiatives ahead of ongoing funding



In 2025 we introduced small awards of up to £150 for people under the age of 18 to support arts or sports. These awards will continue in 2026



Closing date is Friday 3rd July 2026 with a view to announcing the award winners towards the end of that month

The Future



The Future



**Poppies for
Remembrance Sunday**



**Future for the
Neighbourhood Plan**



**Future sports provision
at Millworth Lane and
High Copse**



**New staff with new
objectives**



**May 2027
Elections**

The Future



Public Art at School
Green Centre

Public Art

Original Design Proposal One "Abundance" (Working Title)

Height 4m



Leaf form to inspire the concept of Shinfield's origins and growth



Materials will be durable, low maintenance stone



Six parish outline to be landscaped into
The paving with six sitting "Seeds"



Each "Seed" seat will have a carved word
To represent each parish. The word will be derived
via public engagement

Public Art

Design Proposal Two "Sowing the Seeds" (Working Title)

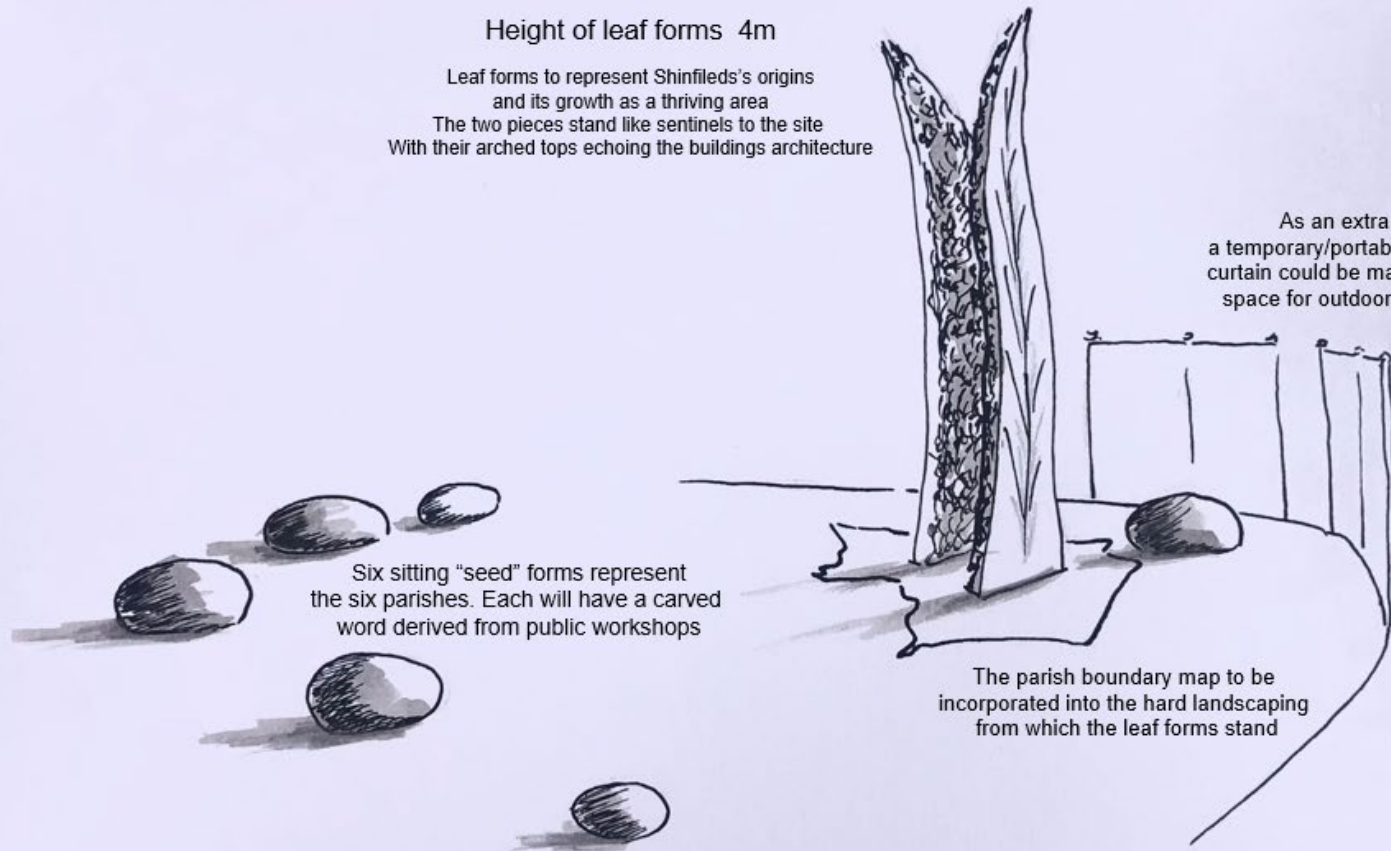
Height of leaf forms 4m

Leaf forms to represent Shinfield's origins
and its growth as a thriving area
The two pieces stand like sentinels to the site
With their arched tops echoing the buildings architecture

As an extra feature
a temporary/portable "wind brake"
curtain could be made to create a
space for outdoor performance

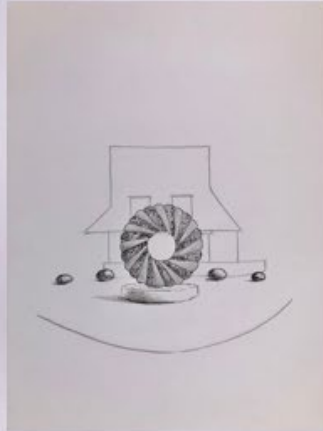
Six sitting "seed" forms represent
the six parishes. Each will have a carved
word derived from public workshops

The parish boundary map to be
incorporated into the hard landscaping
from which the leaf forms stand



Public Art

Design Proposal Three "Continuum"



Height 2.5m

Textured carved kinetic surface twinkling and polished represents the ever moving and growing area.

In abstract terms Shinfields's agricultural roots and its more modern expansion through film studios, and museum collections

Inner portal ring could be lit at night or for special Events by LED light



Public Art

You will have a chance to view the models of the proposals after the meeting



Any
Questions?



Community Awards



Community Awards

Award

Award for best Community
Minded Business

Nominees are:

Happy Trails Play
Micka's Training
Shinfield Studios

Community Awards

Award

Award for best Community
Minded Business

WINNER

Happy Trails
Play

Community Awards

Award

Award for Community Organisation

Nominees are:

Aldergrove Parent Carer and Staff
Association

Shinfield Volunteer Service

Shinfield Running Club

Community Awards

Award

Award for Community
Organisation

WINNER

Shinfield
Running Club

Thank you for
attending
tonight

