

Minutes of the meeting of Dinnington Parish Council held on Wednesday 15 April 2026 at 6.37 pm.

Members Present: Cllrs D. Brown, J. Douglass, P. Hitchenes, S. Phelps, J. Porter, R. Thompson, J. Toward Wright, M. Wood.

Dr J. Mansfield, LD Focus Team

Minute No.	Agenda Item	Action required
153.	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Cllrs Bulpitt and McKenna.</p>	
154.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>None were declared.</p>	
155.	<p>CIL Funding</p> <p>Matthew Storey and his colleague James Cowan attended for this item. The PC were now up to date with their CIL allocation. There was no more residential development coming forward at the moment to generate any further funds. The allotments programme was with colleagues at the City Council and some improvements works had already been done at Big Waters, with £4,500 spent to date. The allotments programme would now be sorted before any further work was done at Big Waters.</p> <p>The Chair reminded members that the specification for the allotments programme was being revised given the cost which had come in. Matt had been able to identify an additional £20,000 in funding, but there was still a gap to fill.</p> <p>James advised that health provision had not yet been progressed from the CIL funds available. Any development of healthcare provision would have to commence with a proposal from a GP practice, who would have to provide the required capital.</p> <p>Matt advised members that the City Council had committed a large chunk of overall strategic CIL funding to a leisure development in the west of the City.</p> <p>In respect of healthcare provision in the village, members were advised that any GP practice would need to make a formal request to the CIL Board for the allocation of strategic funds.</p>	
156.	<p>Minutes of previous meeting</p> <p>RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18 March 2026 be agreed as a true record.</p>	

157.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Cllr Toward Wright reported that she had no update yet from the Housing Officer on the messy area which had been reported.</p> <p>Cllr Hitchenes asked that Ponteland Medical Group be asked whether they intended to actively pursue the provision of a GP surgery in the village, and that they be invited to the next meeting. Also, he had made attempts to collect the rent for Quarry Cottages without success. He would follow up.</p> <p>Cllr Wood reported:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past Chairman’s Board - the order had been placed, a convenient time when the room was not being used would be arranged. • Litter bin at the Persimmon estate – he had contacted Persimmon about litter bins beside the park. Their Adoptions Engineer was on holiday at the moment, but his contact would catch up with him on his return and would be in touch. • Patchy grass cuts - he had spoken to NCC, the work should all be done now, it was just they had cut different areas with different machines and they were out of sync at the time. • Kids causing a nuisance at the Electricity Sub Station on the path between Main Road and Elm Ave, with bottles everywhere - the tidying up work had been completed. • Data from the speed sign on March Terrace - NCC Traffic signals were progressing this and would report back. • A summer social event needed to be arranged. • Permissive footpath in the field from Gardners Houses entrance to connect up with the wooded section - Matthew Williamson (Blagdon Estate Land Agent) had been out to site to look at the proposed path since their meeting. He felt it might be better to take out a row of trees next to the road to give a more obvious route for the path. He didn't think a fence was needed and would get his arbour team to get a price for removing the trees and then report back. 	Clerk/ Cllr Hitchenes
158.	<p>Litter Pick</p> <p>The date was agreed as Saturday 13 June 2026. Meeting point – car park at Rec Ground.</p>	
159.	<p>Clerk Recruitment</p> <p>The Clerk updated members on advice from the SLCC that the salary range for the post should be advertised at LC1 (substantive benchmark range). Members agreed this. The Clerk would action the advert.</p>	Clerk
160.	<p>Updates</p>	

	<p>Village Hall – Cllr Porter reported that there was no further progress on the new Pilates class yet.</p> <p>Newsletter – Draft being progressed</p> <p>Library – Nothing to report</p> <p>Development of field adjacent to the allotments known as the Pleasure Grounds to facilitate additional Allotments - NCC had now sourced some additional funding internally (as mentioned above) and were looking to get some proposed savings re-costed by the subcontractor.</p> <p>The Chair advised members that the PC might need to set aside £20,000 to help get the new allotments project over the line, given the increase in costs.</p> <p>Cllr Hitchenes felt that the PC needed to push NCC as much as possible on the allotments project as it was their CIL funding which was being used. At this stage, he was reluctant to endorse any further funding from the PC, until further discussions had been held.</p> <p>Allotments – nothing further to report.</p> <p>Website - nothing to report.</p> <p>Dinnington Surgery – efforts were continuing to press Emma Foody to get her to use her influence to progress this. She had held meetings with Northumbria Health Care and Dr Twelves, and had written to both the Integrated Care Board and Newcastle City Council. She had a further meeting due with senior officials at the Integrated Care Board and following this she would provide the Parish Council with a full update. She had also questioned the Section 106 and CIL funding with Newcastle City Council, and was due an update shortly.</p>	
161.	<p>Village Projects</p> <p>A new village map - deferred until the GP surgery has been built and then a more detailed map sourced.</p> <p>Possible additional grass cuts - If the need arises.</p> <p>Turn the area of the Old School Field remaining after construction of the Doctors into a small simple park – The surveyor Cllr Wood had been working with had advised that he was leaving NCC in a few weeks, but would hand over to a colleague shortly. The next step would be for NCC to forward Heads of Terms for the agreement, this should happen in the next month.</p>	

	<p>Re-Decorating the changing rooms at the Rec Pavilion – On a joint walk around with the Football Foundation representatives, they had advised they would require separating dividers fitted in the showers, which NCC were not aware of. NCC were getting prices for this and then hopefully everything could proceed.</p> <p>Recreation ground and Play Area Chicane at Sycamore Ave entrance - No progress had been made, due to lack of resources and continued work required on the allotments, progress should re-commence soon.</p> <p>Improvements to Footpath down to Big Waters - No progress had been made, due to continued work required on the allotments, progress should re-commence soon.</p>																					
162.	<p>Highways Repairs/Maintenance Cllr Toward Wright reported:- Garage: pending an update from Housing, they're looking to have it removed but no updates as the Housing officer was on holiday. Fly tipping around had been reported.</p> <p>- Fly-tipping: 2 open issues on Horton grange and Prestwick Carr road – escalation contact was also out of office.</p> <p>- Highways: Had no updates on anything – she had a call at the end of April with Pamela Holmes for her quarterly update.</p>																					
163.	<p>Financial Matters</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="336 1196 1126 1559"> <tr> <td>K. Hadfield</td> <td>March salary</td> <td>15.04.26</td> <td>£219.97</td> <td>BACS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NCC</td> <td>Litterbin servicing Dec 2025</td> <td>15.04.26</td> <td>£184.80</td> <td>BACS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NCC</td> <td>Litterbin servicing Jan 2026</td> <td>15.04.26</td> <td>£218.40</td> <td>BACS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TP Jones</td> <td>Payroll services</td> <td>15.04.26</td> <td>£63.40</td> <td>200320</td> </tr> </table>	K. Hadfield	March salary	15.04.26	£219.97	BACS	NCC	Litterbin servicing Dec 2025	15.04.26	£184.80	BACS	NCC	Litterbin servicing Jan 2026	15.04.26	£218.40	BACS	TP Jones	Payroll services	15.04.26	£63.40	200320	
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164.	<p>Members Items of Concern Cllr Phelps – reported a pothole to be picked up by Cllr Toward Wright.</p> <p>Cllr Thompson –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the old school field fence was falling down. Cllr Wood would look at this. • Old Stables – a big block of concrete at the entrance needed to be removed. • Rubbish at Brenkley Lane. 	<p>Cllr Toward Wright</p> <p>Cllr Wood</p> <p>Cllr Toward Wright Cllr Toward Wright</p>																				

165.	Planning 1) 2026/023/APPEAL Planning Application 2025/0729/01/HOU PLANNING APPEAL at The Carriage House Horton Grange Road, Dinnington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 7AA – this appeal was Noted .	
166.	Correspondence – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycle parking for Parish and Community Councils – Noted • RunThrough Newcastle half marathon & 10K- Sunday 12th July 2026 – Noted, and for inclusion in the newsletter. 	Cllr Wood
167.	Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 20 May 2026 at 6.30 pm. Agenda items – PMG, Path between rec and lonnen	Clerk

The meeting finished at 20.12 pm

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Chairman

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Date