

Minutes of the meeting of Dinnington Parish Council held on Wednesday 21 January 2026 at 6.30 pm.

**Members Present:** Cllrs D. Brown, R. Bulpitt, P. Hitchenes, J. Porter, R. Thompson, J. Toward-Wright, M. Wood.

Dr J. Mansfield, LD Focus Team

Public - 2

Minute No.	Agenda Item	Action required
110.	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Cllrs Douglass, McKenna, and Phelps.</p> <p>Cllr Avaei, NCC</p>	
111.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>None were declared.</p>	
112.	<p><b>EPiC Project</b></p> <p>Dee Roberts and a colleague attended for this item to explain what the EPiC project was about. The purpose was to engage with residents on anti-social behaviour issues and to rebuild community spirit and engage with statutory and non-statutory partners. The aim was to break down barriers for those residents who were reluctant to report things. Staff were also able to signpost people to sources of support. Members were encouraged to get in touch if they felt Dee and her colleagues could be of benefit.</p>	
113.	<p><b>Open Forum</b></p> <p>A resident asked if there was an update on the surgery. The Chair advised that there was a plan which had been subject to pre-application planning, but the issue was lack of funding from the ICB at the moment. He had been liaising with the Chair of NCC's Health Scrutiny Committee and she was pushing for some progress. Emma Foody MP was also involved.</p> <p>A resident raised the issue of a free trees offer through the Scouts, and asked if the PC wanted any. The Scouts would buy the tree protection and do the planting, and the order had to be placed by August. Hedges were also available. It was suggested that the new small park might be a suitable location which would be manageable going forward. Also, the gap in the Keepmoat hedge still needed filling in. It was <b>agreed</b> that the PC would stay in touch about it.</p>	

114.	<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17 December 2025 be agreed as a true record.</p>	
115.	<p><b>Matters Arising</b>  Cllr Down had reported 23 Sycamore Avenue.</p>	
116.	<p><b>Defibrillator</b>  Cllr Hitchenes had not yet been able to catch Eddie Dixon. It was noted that he had moved the cabinet but the issue was the need to connect to the electric supply to maintain the temperature for the battery. It might have to be reported out of action if it did not get connected soon.</p>	Cllr H
117.	<p><b>Updates</b></p> <p><b>Village Hall</b> – things remained busy. There was a booking for the election on 7 May and Emma Foody had a surgery booked.</p> <p><b>Newsletter</b> – nothing to report.</p> <p><b>Library</b> – Volunteers attended a successful joint Xmas buffet lunch with the Community Coffee morning group. A resident had enquired about becoming a volunteer for the library and Cllr Bulpitt had done a social media post seeking interest.</p> <p><b>Development of field adjacent to the allotments known as the Pleasure Grounds to facilitate additional Allotments -</b>  The tender package to carry out the works for the construction of the new allotments was currently being priced by prospective contractors and would be returned to NCC on 4 Feb.</p> <p><b>Allotments</b> – the hedges had been cut.</p> <p><b>Website</b> - Nothing to report</p> <p><b>Dinnington Surgery</b> – Wendy Taylor, Chair of Newcastle City Council Health Scrutiny committee had written to the ICB asking for an update on the proposed Dinnington Surgery, but had not had a reply yet.</p> <p>Emma Foody had not responded yet re her proposed meeting with the local doctors and the ICB.</p> <p><b>Permissive footpath in the field from Gardners Houses entrance to connect up with the wooded section</b> - Cllr Wood had proposed a meeting with Blagdon Estates to try to resolve matters concerning the fence. A reply was still awaited.</p>	
118.	<p><b>Village Projects</b></p>	

	<p><b>A new village map</b> - deferred until the GP surgery has been built and then a more detailed map sourced.</p> <p><b>Possible additional grass cuts</b> - If the need arises.</p> <p><b>Turn the area of the Old School Field remaining after construction of the Doctors into a small simple park</b> – NCC had responded to clarify the exact parcel of land. They were now getting this checked by their consultants as part of moving things forward.</p> <p><b>Re-Decorating the changing rooms at the Rec Pavilion</b> - The "Football Foundation" had confirmed they were happy to pay for some of the major works required and for the additional work they requested from NCC to meet FA/Sport England Guidance. Together with the PC contribution, this would now allow the refurbishment work to commence in the near future and be ready for next season.</p> <p><b>Recreation ground and Play Area Chicane at Sycamore Ave entrance</b> - Chicane at Sycamore Ave entrance - No progress had been made, due to the holidays and lack of resources, but NCC were hoping to drop back onto progressing the additional design work in Feb/Mar, when new staff had arrived.</p> <p><b>Improvements to Footpath down to Big Waters</b> - No progress had been made, due to holidays and lack of resources, but NCC were hoping to make progress on the drawings and tender package in Feb/Mar, when new staff had arrived.</p>	
119.	<p><b>Highways Repairs/Maintenance</b> Cllr Toward Wright provided an update:-</p> <p>Resolved Matters:</p> <p>Drains and gullies – resolved by Cllr D.Down Leaves – this was completed. Cllrs should let her know asap if there any other areas as they were due Wednesday 28th January. Grit bins communication – resolved. She had inspected all bins and were operational except for East/West acres, this would be inspected by NCC. There was a wider project in summer to inspect/replace/modernise all bins on the map. New bin near club, cost for this would be £400 to supply and install if the PC wanted to proceed, but she would try to get this covered by the new scheme first. She had replied to the resident who had raised it and she was happy this was now resolved. Potholes from North Mason Lodge to Prestwick Carr road – this would be closely monitored until the budget and timing was confirmed for resurfacing. The Vicar had been updated. Dumped mattresses (Nov 2025) – they were all picked up now.</p>	

	<p>Sheraton Park Hedges &amp; along the main road and the side of the park – done. Cones from the chicane installation – gone in Jan 2026.</p> <p>Other news:</p> <p>Resurfacing projects 26/27 – the village was on the list for resurfacing which would cover the North Mason Lodge to Prestwick Carr Road, and the Horton/Havannah/Brenkley Estate. She had also recommended the patch at the Raj and would ask if they would extend to “Front and back street” (behind the raj towards the Masons pub and back to the main road.) Parking next to 1 Horton – Raised to Highways &amp; traffic management, and they were to look into double yellow lines. Bollards or fencing would need a budget to resolve. She would report the response from traffic management to the next meeting. Next week she had her meeting with Pamela Holmes and would ask about the school transport and the paths progress. No other topics were raised.</p> <p>Matters raised at the meeting:-</p> <p>Front street next to the raj, resurfacing to the whole stretch where the bus comes. Resurfacing as part of persimmon on March Terrace needed chasing with planning / highways. Caravans in the village causing obstructions at March Terrace and Brenkley Close – she would report to council and/or police depending what Highways come back with. Fly tipping: First of 3 laybys on the right after Steve Smiths to Horton junction (9 black bags in the first one) and litter in the others – she would report this to fly tipping as this would not fall within Highways. Birds Mouth Fencing at the bottom of the runway needed replacing due to health and safety. She had checked but could not see any damage so would check the location and would report.</p>	Cllr Down															
120.	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="336 1585 1125 1771"> <tr> <td>K. Hadfield</td> <td>Dec salary</td> <td>21.01.26</td> <td>£220.37</td> <td>BACS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RW Lynn</td> <td>Allotment hedge cutting</td> <td>21.01.26</td> <td>£144.00</td> <td>200316</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TP Jones</td> <td>Payroll</td> <td>21.01.26</td> <td>£63.40</td> <td>200317</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Clerk explained the current level of CIL funds. More were expected shortly from NCC.</p>	K. Hadfield	Dec salary	21.01.26	£220.37	BACS	RW Lynn	Allotment hedge cutting	21.01.26	£144.00	200316	TP Jones	Payroll	21.01.26	£63.40	200317	
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120.1	<p><b>Budget Lines</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Litterbins needed a separate budget line. The Clerk would confirm what had been spent on this area this year.</li> </ul>																

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planters budget line needed to be increased to £1,000 and other lines adjusted accordingly. Consider further at next meeting.</li> </ul>	Clerk
121.	<p><b>Members Items of Concern</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Porter</b> – queried what had happened with the caddies from the bins. It was reported that they had been recycled. She also reported that she was still receiving complaints about the noise from the speed bump on the corner. The suggestion was that the survey should be redone and the speed bumps extended northwards to prevent motorists speeding up in between them. This would be monitored.</p> <p><b>Cllr Toward Wright</b> – the rec ground was a mess and the trees needed tidying. Cllr Wood would pick this up first with his officer contacts at NCC.</p> <p><b>Cllr Hitchenes</b> – Xmas lights on trees - he suggested that the batteries were simply removed from the three sets which had been working, and that they were left in place for next year. He proposed that some additional sets were purchased and more trees done on the village green and one in the village hall grounds. This was <b>agreed</b>. He also believed that the Prestwick Carr road was supposed to be resurfaced when the Persimmon estate was finished. Cllr Toward Wright would pursue this.</p> <p><b>Cllr Thompson</b> – reported a caravan parked up on Brenkley Close. Cllr Toward Wright would raise this with Highways.</p> <p><b>Cllr Wood</b> - a member of the public had contacted him about a number of black bags and other litter/rubbish in the parking bays, just before the Horton Grange T junction. Cllr Toward Wright would raise.</p>	<p>Cllr Wood</p> <p>Cllr Toward Wright</p> <p>Cllr Toward Wright</p> <p>Cllr Toward Wright</p>
122.	<p><b>Newcastle City Councillors Items</b></p> <p>There were no matters to report.</p>	
123.	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p><b>(1) 2025/1912/01/DET</b> Site Location: Masons Arms, Masons Arms North View, Dinnington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 7LG Proposal: Installation of ramp and steps to front entrance – <b>No comments.</b></p> <p><b>(2) 2025/1580/01/DET</b> Site Location: The Paddock Prestwick Road, Dinnington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 7AG Proposal: Demolition of existing stables and construction of 1No. detached bungalow -<b>No comments.</b></p>	
124.	<p><b>Newcastle City Councillors' Items</b></p> <p>Dr Mansfield reported to members on the forthcoming changes to the boundary of Castle Ward following the boundary review. This would put Dinnington as the only village in the newly named</p>	

	Kingston Park and Dinnington Ward. Each ward in the City area would retain its three councillors and there would be all out elections in May 2026 on the new boundaries.	
125.	<p><b>Correspondence –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email from resident re the speed bumps and the union jack flags – the Clerk had responded.</li> <li>• Email from resident re a community garden and planting. The Chair had responded to her.</li> <li>• Email from resident re safety issues connected with the speed bumps. A response had been drafted, which members endorsed, and would be sent to the resident.</li> <li>• Email from resident re parking on the grass. Cllr Toward Wright had raised this with Highways and solutions were being investigated. Clerk to respond.</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
126.	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b> Wednesday 18 February 2026 at 6.30 pm.</p>	

The meeting finished at 20.24 pm

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Chairman  
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Date