Minutes of a meeting of Dinnington Parish Council held on Wednesday 20 December 2017 at 7.00 pm in Dinnington Memorial Institute

**Members Present:** Cllrs R. Thompson (Chairman in the Chair), A. Dellow, P. Hitchens, S. Hood, K. Oliver, S. Phelps, J. Porter, M. Wood.

**In Attendance:** Cllr I. Graham (Newcastle City Council)

One member of the public was present.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minute No.</th>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Action required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110.</td>
<td>Apologies for Absence</td>
<td>Apologies were received from Cllrs Scratcherd and Lower (NCC).</td>
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<td>111.</td>
<td>Declarations of Interest</td>
<td>Members were reminded of the need to declare interests at relevant items.</td>
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<td>112.</td>
<td>Police Issues</td>
<td>PCs Lee Maddison and Lee Parker were present. The previous month there had been six reported crimes, which included two shed burglaries and a dwelling burglary. There had been a couple of reported incidents and youth disorder remained a problem. A zero tolerance approach was now being taken with persistent offenders. A pilot on a new policing style was being run involving an increase in the number of PCSOs, who would be involved in community engagement and anti-social behaviour, leaving police officers to deal with police issues. This approach allowed problem offenders to be targeted and appeared to be successful so far.</td>
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<td>113.</td>
<td>Minutes of previous meeting</td>
<td>RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15 November 2017 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</td>
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<td>114.</td>
<td>Matters Arising</td>
<td>100.2 – the Clerk advised that a response had been received from the City Council about the garden waste price increase, which was read out. 100.3 – Cllr Graham reported that the Airport had been aware of the fuel tanker journeys through the village and had already stopped them. 104.6 – Cllr Wood had remedied the temperature problems in the library. The heating controls had been advanced to allow the building more time to reach temperature before the library opened.</td>
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<td>115.</td>
<td>Members' Items of Concern</td>
<td>115.1 Cllr Hood – the school path shortcut was very untidy with broken glass and dog fouling, and the path on Ash Avenue needed to be swept. Cllr Porter commented that the Johnson did not sweep the area outside The Paddock. Cllr Graham advised that Steve Charlton was aware of the problem and this would be attended to when the team could do it. He would follow up on the second issue.</td>
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Cllr Porter – commented that there was still no bin at the top of East Acres. Cllr Wood advised that Paul Cooper was aware of the need for bins at the bus stop on Front Street and at East Acres.

Cllr Phelps – the bank coming off The Green was no longer being gritted by any residents and he queried whether the City Council would be liable if anyone fell. Cllr Graham advised that they wouldn’t.

Cllr Hitchens – the state of Main Road between the Church and the Keepmoat estate was very poor and needed complete resurfacing. Cllr Wood advised that this would not be done by NCC until the Keepmoat estate had passed its peak of construction. The road had been measured by NCC for costs to be included in a future budget. Cllr Oliver queried whether anything could be done by the PC about this as the main roads through Hazlerigg and Brunswick had had resurfacing work and traffic calming works done recently. He felt traffic calming measures would be good for Dinnington to keep traffic speeds down once the road was resurfaced. Cllr Graham advised that the works in Hazlerigg and Brunswick had been tied into developments and assistance provided by North Tyneside. Agreed that the Clerk write to Head of Highways, NCC to advise about the number of complaints, to identify where Main Road fitted in the list of priorities and to determine a timescale for repairs.

Cllr Wood – Mrs Tracy Miller at Quarry House had been in contact about her dissatisfaction over the way Bellway had finished off the fence between the new houses and hers. At planning stage there were concerns raised over the closeness and overlooking issues of the proposed new houses and hers i.e. the new houses would be higher than hers and there would be privacy issues because of this. However, planning had been granted. Bellway had now erected a low, open type estate fence between her property and the nearest house, allowing sight directly into her lounge window and all of the car headlights from the street above into her windows. Bellway would not do anything as this fence was on the planning drawings and the person who had now moved into the house would need to agree to a higher close boarded fence. Planning at NCC had advised that she could erect a fence on her own property, but she felt it was grossly unfair to put this expense on her and she asked if the PC could offer any assistance. Agreed that Cllr Graham pursue with NCC Planning.

Cllr Thompson – a resident from Curlew Cottage had complained that the road from Curlew Cottage to Horton Grange was not being gritted. Cllr Graham advised that the transponder had been checked and the road had been gritted at 4 am.

Correspondence
The Clerk reported a response from Woodlands Park Surgery advising that the surgery were to review the concerns raised in the PC’s letter and would respond within 10 working days. She also reported a telephone call from a Mrs Adamson regarding the removal of the litter bins in the village.

Planning Applications
Councillor Graham reported that the planning application in relation to Dinnington First School had been agreed on 1 December.

Neighbourhood Plan
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Cllr Wood reported that the Questionnaire had been delivered around all the houses in the village along with the Newsletter. The "Drop-in" event had been held on Sat 9 December in the Village Hall, although attendance at the event had been very poor. Consideration was being given to repeating the "Drop-in" event again on Sat 13 January, after trying to spread the word again around the village. The Survey Monkey on-line version of the questionnaire had been made live when the paper questionnaires were delivered. To date, there had been 38 completions on line and about 6 paper returns. The questionnaire was open for completion until 20 Jan 18.

Cllr Wood referred to an email from Kingston Neighbourhood Forum seeking assistance with the development of a neighbourhood plan. The Parish Council did not feel able to support this.

### 119. Updates

#### 119.1 Keepmoat Homes – Cllr Wood reported as follows:-

**Construction traffic access:** the separate access/egress for construction traffic and site operatives was operational and well-signed. The main access into the development should only be used by residents/visitors from now on. To reinforce these arrangements there was a sign a little way into the estate with a reminder that there was no construction traffic beyond that point.

**Street signage:** there were some street name signs within the estate now to aid navigation around it.

**SUDS:** trees had been planted in some locations around the periphery of the SUDS ponds, although these would take some years to mature.

**Sales:** current position - 40 homes had been sold, 7 were reserved and a further 11 had exchanged contracts.

**Broadband Issues:** new residents on the Keepmoat site had been in touch complaining that although Keepmoat had allegedly promised high speed fibre connection from their new houses, this was not the case and they were only able to get standard broadband, which was not good enough. Having checked with Keepmoat, they said that at the time of planning & construction, they could only get copper wire connections to the estate, which was the same as the rest of the village. BT/Openreach were apparently considering upgrading to fibre in the next couple of years, but may improve on this date if pressured by local councillors. The site would be closed over Xmas from Thurs 21 Dec until Tues 2 Jan. **Agreed** that Cllr Graham raise with Cllr Lower, and the Clerk write to BT/Openreach on behalf of the Parish Council.

#### 119.2 Persimmon Homes – Cllr Wood reported that Persimmon were planning to commence on site mid to end January.

#### 119.3 Bellway Development – Cllr Wood reported that over 30 houses were now roofed and 10 houses were occupied, with more expected towards the end of the month. Completion of the development was now expected in late 2018. The site would be closed for Xmas holidays from 22 Dec until 2 January 2018. Missing public seat:- Martin Nichols from Bellway had visited the site and was awaiting confirmation from planners to either replace the seat or give the PC a seat for re-use elsewhere in the village.

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Cutting hedge adjacent allotments: Bellway were in discussion with their proposed ground maintenance contractor to see if he could include cutting the hedge within their contract in the future. He would reply when the issues were resolved.

119.4 Village Hall
Nothing to report.

119.5 Newsletter
Cllr Thompson thanked everyone for their input on the newsletter.

119.6 Library
Nothing to report.

119.7 Northumbria in Bloom/Adopt a Planter
Cllr Wood commented that the NIB initiative was having a positive effect on the appearance of the village and new residents had been advised about the competition in the newsletter.

119.8 Allotments
Cllr Porter reported back on a meeting of the Association from 4 December 2017, commenting that some allotments were in a poor state of repair and there was a waiting list. She would be in closer liaison with Bill Armstrong, the Chair of the Association, in future.

119.9 Website
This was up to date.

119.10 Dinnington Surgery
Nothing further to note.

120. Reports
Cllr Porter reported that Banks had eighteen months of funding left and local groups were being encouraged to submit applications.

Cllr Graham reported back on a recent Airport CC meeting which involved a report about security, an award for best international small airport and funding to develop the security areas.

121. Financial Matters

121.1 Members approved and authorised the signing of cheques in payment of invoices received and presented at the meeting:-

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Cheque No.</th>
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<tr>
<td>K. Hadfield Salary Nov 2017</td>
<td>191.50</td>
<td>101067</td>
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<tr>
<td>HMRC PAYE</td>
<td>143.80</td>
<td>101068</td>
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<tr>
<td>L&amp;S Printers Newsletter and NP Leaflet</td>
<td>290.00</td>
<td>101069</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. Phelps Refund</td>
<td>47.85</td>
<td>101070</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. Thompson Refund</td>
<td>75.00</td>
<td>101071</td>
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<tr>
<td>M. Wood Refund</td>
<td>70.00</td>
<td>101072</td>
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122. Precept
It was noted that the precept had not been increased for two years and that there were now a significant number of additional houses in the village. Agreed unanimously that the precept be increased by 3% to £10,300.
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| **123.** | **Items for next agenda**  
None were reported. |
| **124.** | **Date of Next Meeting**  
Wednesday 17 January 2018 at 7.00 pm. |
| **125.** | **Conclusion of Meeting**  
The meeting closed at 8.40 pm |

CHAIR………………………………………

DATE………………………………………

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