Minutes of the meeting of Dinnington Parish Council held on Wednesday 15 January 2020 at 7.00 pm in Dinnington Memorial Institute

**Members Present:** Cllrs R. Thompson (in the Chair), A. Dellow, D. Dowd, J. Porter, S. Phelps, M. Wood.

Three members of the public were present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minute No.</th>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Action required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>132.</td>
<td>Apologies for Absence</td>
<td>Cllrs Hitchens and Hood, and Newcastle City Councillor Lower.</td>
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<td>133.</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>134.</td>
<td>Public Forum</td>
<td>A member of the public attended the meeting to seek advice from the City Councillors regarding a planning application but was advised that the matter was within Brunswick Parish. A resident raised the issue of ownership boundaries at the Bellway estate particularly with regard to responsibility for grass cutting. Cllr Lower had been hoping to secure some maps from the City Council to determine this. Cllr Wood advised that he may have some. He would have a look and get in touch with the resident concerned. Cllr Wood</td>
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<td>135.</td>
<td>Minutes of previous meeting</td>
<td>RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18 December 2019 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair, subject to Minute No. 127 being amended to read “February” instead of “March”. K. Hadfield</td>
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<td>136.</td>
<td>Matters Arising</td>
<td>Minute No. 118 – the Christmas lights competition had been judged. Members had found the decision very difficult as there were many different styles to choose from. It was obvious though that a lot of work had gone into the displays, which had made the village look very festive. After careful consideration, members had agreed the following:- 1st prize (£30 M&amp;S voucher) – 11 Bracken Close 3 x runner up prizes (£15 M&amp;S voucher) – 12 Poplar Avenue, 7 Cochrane Terrace and Havannah Lodge Members thanked all those who had taken part and made an effort.</td>
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<td>137.</td>
<td>Trees in the Village</td>
<td>Peter Boulton from Newcastle City Council was present for this item.</td>
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Members were seeking guidance about future tree planting by the PC in terms of location, species, carrying out the planting work and future maintenance. Mr Boulton informed members that he had worked with Woolsington Parish Council the previous year on tree planting. The bulk of the costs came from maintenance – to plant and maintain a tree for five years cost around £500. He had previously done some work to identify suitable sites in the village, and advised he could provide costings for supply and plant only if this was the PC’s preferred option. This would be around £200 per tree. A typical tree was around 3m tall. There could be some funding available for planting but he did not know what the criteria were yet for this funding. He agreed to put a plan together to give members some idea of what was involved and what the planting programme might look like. He advised some locations were clearly not suitable for planting, such as near power lines or under street lights.

Members raised the issues of diseased and overgrown trees in the village. Mr Boulton advised that the City Council would have to remove any diseased trees but they would not be replaced. He had carried out a survey of the trees on Main Street and they had been pruned last year as a result. Cllr Wood advised that complaints had been coming in regarding the trees on Dinnington Green. Mr Boulton advised that secondary trees (i.e. those not on the highway) would need to be logged through Envirocall. Trees which were blocking street lights would be responded to promptly, but not those blocking light to houses.

Cllr Phelps reported that a cherry tree near the Green was leaning right over. Mr Boulton agreed to look at this but was doubtful it could be righted without snapping.

Cllr Thompson reported that there were a lot of trees overhanging the grass verge down Coach Lane making it impossible for horse riders or walkers to use. Mr Boulton advised that if this area formed part of the Havannah Nature Reserve then this was within the remit of the Parks Trust. If not within the Reserve area and they were blocking the footpaths, then he would try and get them pruned though he did warn he had a significant amount of maintenance work on the books at the moment.

It was agreed that Mr Boulton would email the Clerk with prices and put together a planting plan for the PC’s consideration. He would also pursue the Havannah Nature Reserve issue with the Parks Trust to identify responsibility.

138. **Christmas Tree 2020**

Mr Boulton remained for this item. He advised that a Community Council in the City had done something similar and had sought permission from the City Council, who had connected the lighting in the trees to the electricity supply. He would check to see where permissions had to be sought from and let the Clerk know.

Cllr Phelps reported that the cost would be around £2000 per year for three years for three existing trees to be lit. The company did all of the work and set up the lighting at a date decided by the PC. Any costs incurred by the City Council were also included in the price.

Members were minded to support the idea but felt that more detail was
needed about all potential costs before a firm decision could be made. Cllr Phelps agreed to contact Newburn Community Council and Ponteland Parish Council to get information from them about what they did, and then a meeting could be held on site with the appropriate officer from the City Council with a report back to the next meeting.

| 139. | **Village Exhibition**  
This would follow the same format as in June 2019, taking place on 14 March 2020 10.00 am to 2.00 pm. Members agreed that they would have the same roles as previously. It was not felt that Banks needed to be involved this time. |
| 140. | **Past Chairs’ Board**  
Cllr Wood reported that the positioning of the Board in the MI main room had been discussed with the Village Hall Committee and they were happy for it to be located there, and for Cllrs Porter and Wood to liaise on the exact location in the room.  
The estimate for the price had been based on a photograph of the Past Vicars’ board in the church. To be manufactured in oak and factory polished, as the Church one, would be £580 plus VAT = £696. Including signwriting in gold leaf would make it around £750 total. Members agreed to proceed with the purchase. |
| 141. | **Update on Annual Rent for The Pond**  
The Clerk advised members that Sanderson Young had been informed of the Parish Council’s land ownership interest and a response received confirming that SY had also been made aware of this by the property owners. They had requested a plan from the owners to outline the land in question.  
The Clerk also reported that Ward Hadaway had been requested to carry out a Commons Registration search and she reminded members of the advice from Ward Hadaway regarding a potential lease with the new owner and the position regarding the length of time the Parish Council land had been incorporated into The Quarry House garden. Ward Hadaway were seeking information about when this might have taken place, but all the available evidence on this had already been sent to Ward Hadaway by the Chair before Christmas. |
| 142. | **Members’ Items of Concern** |
| 142.1 | Cllr Dellow asked for progress on the installation of the defibrillator in the village, as it was some time since it had been agreed and residents, understandably, were asking what was happening. Cllr Avaei advised that there was an issue with the cost of installation though he did not have any further detail. He would chase progress.  
She also reported that the pavement outside No.22 Mitford Way was quite badly damaged with tree roots coming up through the paving. |
| 142.2 | Cllr Porter reported that a number of half size empty vodka bottles had been found by the ladies in the village who picked up the rubbish, and a member of the public commented that she had also picked up 9 bottles on the way down to the White Swan recently. It was agreed that this should be reported to the Police and Cllr King would find out more information about the youth shelter which had been raised by Cllr Lower at a previous meeting. |
Cllr Phelps reported that there were more potholes in the road just before Greencroft Bungalow which he would report through Envirocall.

Correspondence
Members discussed the recent request from the City Council for expressions of interest in serving on the Standards Committee, and the minimal role parish councilors had on that.

Cllr Phelps advised that NALC had a meeting planned with senior police officers. There was a crime survey coming out which the Parish Council should be consulted on.

Planning Applications

2019/1270/02/NMA | Non Material Amendment (change to front bay window) to permission 2019/1270/01/DET dated 05.12.2019 | 8 North Mason Lodge Dinnington Newcastle upon Tyne NE13 7LH – No comments

K. Hadfield

Neighbourhood Plan
Cllr Wood reported that the consultant was continuing to progress the draft chapters of the NP and was currently finalising the section on the "Valued rural setting of the village". Work continued on the assessment forms for "Valued Village Amenities" in readiness to return them to the consultant. A further meeting would be required with the consultant and NCC planning and he would report back in due course.

Updates

146.1 Keepmoat Homes – Cllr Wood reported that all the houses had now been sold. The SUDS area in the south east currently occupied as a site compound by the groundworks contractor still needed to be tidied up and there was a small area on the open space/roundabout still to be reinstated. Works to both of these areas was in hand. The final tarmac top course was still required to some of the estate roads and some of the pavements (mainly Hutchinson Court). This work was scheduled to be completed towards the end of March.

146.2 Persimmon Homes – Cllr Wood reported that there were currently 51 occupations, 6 plots were reserved and 30 had been released for sale. Cllr Phelps queried whether the affordable housing had been completed yet and Cllr Wood confirmed that ten homes had been built.

146.3 Village Hall – Cllr Porter reported that the new playgroup was starting on 20 January for four mornings a week, with the possibility of extending to full days. A yoga group had also started a class on a Sunday evening. She expressed her disappointment at the level of support from the Parish Council for the recent NTC production in the village hall.

146.4 Newsletter – nothing to report at the moment.

146.5 Library – this was going ok at the moment. Hannah Sarson had resigned from being one of the two main co-ordinators of the volunteers, due to work commitments and Chris Wood had taken over from her.
| 146.6 | **Northumbria in Bloom/Adopt a Planter**  
The entry form had now been submitted. Cllr Dellow reported that more volunteers were needed to look after the planters – only eleven people were doing them and it just wasn’t enough. A meeting was needed to discuss things going forward. | Cllrs Wood/Dellow |
| 146.7 | **Allotments**  
Cllr Porter advised that the hedge had now been cut. |
| 146.8 | **Website**  
Nothing to report. |
| 146.9 | **Dinnington Surgery** — Cllr Wood reported back on the meeting of 14 January 2020 at Northumbria Health Care. It had been quite a large meeting with Newcastle and Northumberland CCGs, Northumbria Health Care (Dr Twelves), NCC planning and NHS properties etc, plus Argon Health developments.  
NCC planning had confirmed to Argon Developments that there would be no problem in using the site at Dinnington as a Doctors’ surgery, as it was effectively “White land”. However, the CCG had not completed their strategy for this area and were probably some time away from completing it, and NHS England also decided where doctors should be located.  
NHC and Argon were proposing a multi-use approach to the site and were pitching it at Great Park, Kingston Village, Woolsington as well as Dinnington. The general feeling was that everyone at the meeting was generally supportive of this.  
Argon confirmed that NCC were supportive of them and would give them an option on the site. Argon confirmed that the site would probably have to include residential use or something similar, in addition to a doctors’ surgery to fund a practice, i.e. to make the site viable.  
Argon would develop a scheme in the next 6 weeks for further consideration. If the site could be developed viably, Northumbria Health Care and Argon Developments were considering going ahead with a scheme in advance of CCG finalising their plans.  
Cllr King commented that Dinnington was reliant on future prescription services which were vital to the continued presence of Dr Twelves’ surgery in the village. All of the issues mentioned by Cllr Wood were a challenge to this continued presence. Dr Twelves could deliver an unlimited amount of healthcare services in the village due to the contract he had, but new contracts were no longer written this way. CCGs had no money, so were reliant on working with developers to deliver new services.  
Regarding development options for the site, he noted the Parish Council had a two storey limit on developments in its Neighbourhood Plan. If there was a three storey development, the likelihood was that the top floor would be residential. There was no money to be made from a nursing home.  
Newcastle CCG could not apply for S106 funding until they had a firm plan and they had only completed their first draft in December, which meant it was years away from completion. The only way to save the service in the |
Cllr Wood commented that Dr Twelves was struggling for space at the Ponteland Surgery currently, so if the Dinnington surgery was developed, the likelihood was that some staff, such as nurses, would be brought over to make the best use of the site.

It was **agreed** that this be discussed again at the March meeting.

### 147. Reports
There were no reports.

### 148. Financial Matters

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Reference No.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K. Hadfield</td>
<td>£214.65</td>
<td>200091</td>
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<tr>
<td>TP Jones</td>
<td>£57.60</td>
<td>200092</td>
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**K. Hadfield**

### 149. Items for Next Agenda
- Update on Trees

**K. Hadfield**

### 150. Date of Next Meeting
Wednesday 19 February 2020 at 7.00 pm.

### 131. Conclusion of Meeting
The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

CHAIR

DATE