

Minutes of the annual meeting of Dinnington Parish Council held on Wednesday 17 May 2023 at 6.30 pm.

Members Present: Cllrs P. Hitchenes, G. McKenna, S. Phelps, J. Porter, R. Thompson, J. Toward Wright, M. Wood

Cllrs A. Avaei and T. Campion (Newcastle City Council)

Minute No.	Agenda Item	Action required
1.	Election of Chairman Resolved that Cllr M. Wood be elected Chairman for the ensuing year. Cllr Wood welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	Election of Vice Chairman Resolved that Cllr P. Hitchenes be elected Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.	
3.	Election of City Councillor to the Castle Ward. Members noted the election of Cllr Ali Avaei.	
4.	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from City Cllr Laverick.	
5.	Declarations of Interest The Chair reminded members to declare any interests as they arose.	
6.	Appointments to Outside Bodies (a) Village Hall Management Committee (up to 4) (JP, MW, GM, one vacancy) (b) Airport Consultative Committee (1) (SP, GM sub) (c) Allotments (1) (MW) (d) NALC (1) (PH, SP sub) (e) Appointments Sub Committee (RT, MW, PH, JP)	
7.	Minutes of previous meeting RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 19 April 2023 be agreed as a true record.	
8.	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Campion reported that the Executive Director for Local Services had confirmed the site visit but there was no date for that yet. One or two parish cllrs could be involved and he would let the PC know when the date was agreed. He also reminded members that the ward committee meeting was open to every resident in Castle Ward. 	
9.	Parish Council Vacancies	

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	<p>It was noted that there were some vacancies on the parish council following the recent election. Members were asked to consider possible candidates who could attend a meeting to see whether co-option was something they were interested in doing. Being a parish cllr was a responsible role and often unacknowledged. Members needed to complete training and to be able to make a positive contribution to the work of the parish council as a body. The Clerk would circulate a draft protocol to guide members in future co-options, which could be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	Clerk
10.	<p>Village Projects</p> <p>Tree replacement and maintenance programme NCC were providing an updated plan of the existing trees in the village, so the PC could mark up any new trees for the future. This would be used for future grant applications. In the first instance replacement trees were needed for the ash trees recently cut down opposite North Mason Lodge.</p> <p>A new village map Deferred until the GP surgery has been built and then a more detailed map sourced.</p> <p>Additional litterbins Cllr Wood had contacted NCC for up to date pricing and asked them to look at a replacement bin at East Acres, adjacent the footpath entrance down to Seaton Burn. This location had been approved subject to discussion with adjacent property. The costs were:</p> <p>£567.63 supply and install new 240 housing £24.15 supply wheelie bin £137.55 install hard stand (if required) £138.70 install sensor (currently out of stock) propose weekly collection without sensor Yearly servicing charge of £711.90 per bin including waste disposal, for weekly collection.</p> <p>Members agreed to the purchase and to ask for fortnightly collection, as per the recreation ground bins.</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. Although agreed in principle by NCC, this could not proceed until the Doctors' land purchase had been finalised.</p> <p>Reduction in speed limit to 20mph on Main Road. NCC had now appointed a new Highways engineer and he had provided an initial budget cost of circa £15,000 for a 20 mph traffic calming scheme for Main Road. This could include installing speed humps to all of Main Road, plus signage and part of Front Street to join up with the section already installed, including a roundabout at the T junction adjacent the</p>	Cllr Wood

	<p>shop. He still had to visit site before this could be finalised, but planned to do this in the near future.</p> <p>Money towards New play park equipment in recreation ground This was on track for erection of new play equipment in June</p> <p>Improvements to Footpath down to Big Waters No progress, due to lack of NCC resources.</p> <p>Electronic Traffic Speed signs in the Village New signs on Front Street on the North side of the road - Awaiting installation of light column to mount DFS signs on. One sign delivered in NCC stores.</p>	
11.	<p>Updates Persimmon Homes -The house construction was now more or less complete, so no need for further updates. Remove from agenda updates.</p> <p>Village Hall – the community coffee morning for 31 May would not now take place. There was a gold valuation event on 5/6 June and Bloom Baby were leaving the VH and moving to bigger premises. Work was ongoing on the photo display Panel for the Open Day.</p> <p>Development of field adjacent to the allotments known as the Pleasure Grounds to facilitate additional Allotments - Awaiting return comments and documents from Allotment Association, before Planning Application can be finalised.</p> <p>Cllr Wood suggested that the current NCC standards for allotments use should be adopted and put into the planning application as this would speed matters up. He would source these from Allison McLeod. He would also ask her whether the wildflower meadow was still to be cut for hay and talk through the map, and would report back.</p> <p>Newsletter - Nothing to report</p> <p>Library - Nothing to report</p> <p>Website - Nothing to report, other than the meeting times would be changed to a 6.30 pm start.</p> <p>Dinnington Surgery - Argon Health's highways consultants were liaising with NCC Highways to confirm the entrance position and design, before putting in their formal pre-application.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Wood</p>
12.	<p>Neighbourhood Plan When Argon Health submitted their Pre App the PC would be able to make the decision on whether to withdraw the plan or not. The plan was temporarily on hold.</p>	
13.	<p>Financial Matters The following payments were approved:-</p>	

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	K. Hadfield	Salary (April 2023) and expenses	17.05.23	£234.88	200255	
	L&S Printers	Newsletter	17.05.23	£260.00	200256	
	Roam Distribution	Newsletter	17.05.23	£300.00	BACS	
	The statement of accounts for the 2022-23 year had been circulated. Members noted the year end position.					
14.	Members Items of Concern <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Porter reported that the Post Office had been closing without notice lately so she would follow this up. • Cllr Toward Wright had reported that the recent pothole repairs were not good. She had now established two contacts in Highways and had suggested that the Horton Grange Road be completely resurfaced. • Cllr McKenna commented on the raised walkway over the pond at the top end of Dinnington Green which was damaged. Cllr Wood would try and get a name at NCC for Cllr McKenna to report it to. • Cllr Phelps had reported a couple of potholes at Horton Crescent so would liaise with Cllr Toward Wright to co-ordinate efforts. He had been approached by a resident of Holmes Court sheltered accommodation to see whether a Royal Mail postbox could be requested for nearby. The Clerk would see what the process was for this. • Cllr Hitchenes queried whether Prestwick Road was to be resurfaced once the construction traffic had stopped using it. Cllr Wood would raise this with Steve Pagett. • Cllr Thompson provided an update to members on the sub letting he had highlighted to the land agent. He asked if the City Cllrs could get the grass cut in the old school field. 					Cllr Wood/McKenna Clerk Cllr Wood Cllr Campion/Avaei
15.	Newcastle City Councillors' Items Cllr Campion reported that the conversations were still ongoing regarding the 342 bus service. Nexus were renegotiating a number of contracts with Go NorthEast but the situation was not looking very positive. The PC was still very keen that the 342 bus should loop through the village, as part of its route, to create a link to Kingston Park.					
16.	Reports Cllr Phelps had sought clarification from the Airport Consultative Committee regarding the sharing of reports from their meetings. He hadn't had a response to this yet, but public versions of reports were available on the airport website. He would check whether these were the same.					Cllr Phelps
17.	Items for June Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planters/village maintenance • Memorial to mark Parish Cllr service 					Clerk
18.	Date of Next Meeting					

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	Wednesday 21 June 2023 at 6.30 pm	
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CHAIR.....
DATE.....

The meeting finished at 8.15 pm.

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