

Minutes of a meeting of Dinnington Parish Council held on Wednesday 21 February 2024 at 6.30 pm.

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

Four members of the public were present

Before consideration of the business on the agenda, Cllr Wood asked all members to stand for a minute's silence as a mark of respect to former Parish Councillor Audrey Dellow who had passed away recently. Audrey had served her community as a Parish Councillor for many years until she stood down in 2023. She would be sorely missed.

Minute No.	Agenda Item	Action required
132.	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from City Cllr Laverick.	
133.	Declarations of Interest The Chair reminded members to declare any interests as they arose.	
134.	Police Report No report had been received.	
135.	Open Forum Two representatives from Dinnington Football Club were present and reported problems they were having with the City Council regarding the state of repair of the pavilion, particularly problems with sewage. They were seeking assistance to put pressure on the City Council to get some improvements made. The Chair advised that he had already raised this with Noel Hanlon following their email. Noel had accepted that there was a problem and had already taken some action to get matters sorted. He believed that it would be possible to sort things out without having to take up the floor to access the manhole cover and that cameras should be able to identify what the issue was. Noel had also confirmed that the Club would not have to pay anything further for what was being done, and he was trying to get the away games played until matters were sorted. However, the Chair agreed that pressure would be maintained on the City Council. A member of the public raised again his long-standing issue with a large tree outside the front of his property at Mitford Way. Cllr Campion spoke to him outside of the meeting.	
136.	Minutes of previous meeting RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17 January 2024 be agreed as a true record.	
137.	Matters Arising	

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	<p>Cllr Wood reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The replacement noticeboard had been delivered and arrangements had been made with Les Bass to fix it to the wall and remove the old one in due course. This would be done next week. • Barriers at Sycamore entrance to Rec - NCC were going to remove the barriers, hopefully before the end of March. • Overgrown footpath - in the wooded section on the east of the road running north of the Vicarage towards Horton Grange - Blagdon Estates had agreed to resolve this. • Discussions had been held and a site meeting was being arranged with Blagdon Estates in the next few weeks to discuss a possible off road permissive footpath in the field from Gardners Houses entrance to connect up with the wooded section. • Keepmoat hedge - Keepmoat had again confirmed that they intend to carry out this work in the near future, but did not have a date at present. They would however get back with a date next week. • Cllr Porter reported that the hedge at Fenwick corner was still to be done by Les Bass but the grasses had been cut. • Some work had been done to the Vicarage bank hedge, but there was no new tenant in place yet. • Cllr Phelps had raised the rubbish dumping with the Airport and would follow it up at the meeting next week. The gate had still not been secured. 	
138.	<p>Local Government Boundary Commission for England Review Briefing The Chair and Clerk had attended an online briefing on the current position. The presentation on this had been circulated to members. The position was noted.</p>	
139.	<p>Newcastle Half Marathon and 10k Event Members remained concerned about the effects of this and agreed that the organiser should be invited to the next meeting.</p>	Clerk
140.	<p>New Planning Policy Consultation – Local Plan The Parish Council was asked to consider its response to this. A consultation event was planned for 29 February at Great Park Community Centre which Cllr Wood would attend. The documentation indicated that the village was destined for more development around its perimeter as land around it was owned by developers. However, Cllr Wood would report back.</p>	Cllr Wood
141.	<p>Village Projects 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.</p>	

	<p>Although agreed in principle by NCC, this could not proceed until the Doctors land purchase and site requirements has been finalised.</p> <p>Consider reducing the speed limit to 20mph on Main Road. Following last month's PC meeting, Cllrs Wood and McKenna had met with James Groombridge on site to discuss the PC's comments on the previous scheme layout and James had updated the scheme in line with those discussions. The updated scheme had been circulated to members.</p> <p>Another set of cushions had been added on Front Street adjacent the entrance to Dinnington Green and the most northern cushions adjacent the 20mph entry/exit moved to suit the proposed change in speed sign.</p> <p>Members agreed the revised scheme and the slightly increased costs. NCC would be advised to proceed.</p> <p>Money towards New play park equipment in recreation ground As the ground was still saturated where some of the new equipment had been installed, the Heras fencing had been left in place. NCC were inspecting it regularly and would remove as soon as conditions allowed.</p> <p>The Funders Panel had approved the trees, so the Community Tree planting could proceed and was organised with 1st Dinnington Scout Group for 16 March. There would be a contractor on site beginning of March to plant 64 standard trees.</p> <p>The mini goalposts were due to be installed early in March.</p> <p>Members agreed that the old play equipment should be painted to match the new and that a price be sought for the PC to fund this.</p> <p>Talks had been ongoing to get the additional bin located near the Sycamore Ave entrance. It had not been possible to locate it inside the park, because of emptying problems, but a possible location had been found on the grass near the school main entrance adjacent the bungalow. This would require the school's permission, as it was on their land. Members agreed that this should be sought.</p> <p>Improvements to Footpath down to Big Waters Work had commenced on tender documents, but were mostly on hold awaiting allotment planning permission being finalised. It was hoped to start on site end April/May.</p> <p>Urban Green had started on their section of works, down near Big Waters – crown lifting and shrub access pruning - with more programmed in for end of Feb/start of March.</p>	<p>Cllr Wood</p> <p>Cllr Wood</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>142.</p>	<p>Updates Village Hall – Cllr Porter reported that there had been a large bus parked outside the village hall from Saturday morning. She had raised this with the company and was monitoring the situation.</p> <p>Newsletter - nothing to report</p>	

	<p>Library - Nothing to report.</p> <p>Development of field adjacent to the allotments known as the Pleasure Grounds to facilitate additional Allotments - The Biodiversity Net Gain report had now been revised and reviewed by NCC ecologist. A minor amendment needed to be made and then it should be ok to sign off with recommendation to planner for approval. This should be done early March.</p> <p>Allotments - Nothing to report</p> <p>Website - Nothing to report</p> <p>Dinnington Surgery - Following completion of the Pre App process and the Road Safety Audit, Argon had confirmed their site requirements for the new doctor's surgery. This was slightly larger than what was currently in the NP, but they had confirmed that they were now confident the PC could proceed again with the NP using the slightly larger layout.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plan - Following the resolution of the Doctor's site requirements the PC could now proceed to update the NP and un-pause it. Cllr Wood would update the consultant and get him to alter the Local Green Spaces : LGS6 plan and update the document. This could then be submitted to NCC so the NP could proceed again.</p>											
143.	<p>Financial Matters The following payments were approved:-</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="236 1077 1209 1182"> <tr> <td>K. Hadfield</td> <td>Jan Salary</td> <td>21.02.24</td> <td>£204.85</td> <td>200284</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clavering Stationers</td> <td>Archives stationery materials</td> <td>21.02.24</td> <td>£33.55</td> <td>BACS</td> </tr> </table> <p>The CIL spending report and budget monitoring report would be made to the next meeting.</p>	K. Hadfield	Jan Salary	21.02.24	£204.85	200284	Clavering Stationers	Archives stationery materials	21.02.24	£33.55	BACS	Clerk
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144.	<p>Members Items of Concern</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Porter reported that she had been contacted about the lack of bus service to Ponteland, which she had referred to Cllr Campion. The resident present at the meeting earlier had spoken to Cllr Campion about his tree outside of the meeting. Another resident had had issues with a cherry tree, which was also sorted. Her main concern was communications with the City Council, and getting responses to calls and emails. • Cllr Toward Wright gave an update on reported potholes and had submitted a list of pavement defects to NCC. • Cllr McKenna reported that he had signed his volunteer agreement for Speedwatch and was now awaiting training. He also raised the issue of grass verges being churned up by vehicle tyres. Cllr Wood advised that the bin wagon, buses and people parking on the grass were the culprits. NCC would not do anything about this just yet and he suggested waiting until the weather improved. • Cllr Phelps had reported the sinkhole to NCC, however, the job was now marked as closed and it was only getting worse. He would send the "what three words" location to Cllr Toward Wright for her to chase 											

	<p>up. Also, there were numerous incidences of fly tipping on the Horton Grange Road going right to Brenkley. This would be picked up by Cllr Wood.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Hitchenes mentioned that the gates were not properly locked on the Old School Field, where the ponies had previously been tethered. Cllr Wood would ask NCC to secure the gates to prevent this happening again. • He also raised the issue of the recent Moorey Spot planning application and asked why the City Councillors had not objected to it. Cllr Champion responded that the City Councillors had to take all relevant factors into account and a lack of objection could not be implied as support. Regarding communications with the City Councillors, he reminded members that there were currently only two active councillors to represent a large city ward at the moment and they were doing their best. • Councillor Thompson reported that the paper shop had got the go ahead for an external cash machine from June, which was good news. 	<p>Cllrs Phelps/Toward Wright/Wood</p> <p>Cllr Wood</p>
145.	<p>Newcastle City Councillors' Items Cllr Champion reported that the City Cllrs had not been aware of the planned half marathon until the letter drop with residents had begun. The Head of Public Safety and Protection had since been in touch with him about it. He was also involved in issues related to anti social parking outside schools and the churned up green areas previously raised.</p>	
146.	<p>Planning Applications (1) 2023/0162/01/DET Moorey Spot Farm, Prestwick Road, Dinnington – the decision to refuse was noted. (2) 2024/0208/01/HOU Site Location: 37 Castleway, Dinnington, Newcastle Upon Tyne. Proposal: Erection of a first floor extension to side and a single storey extension to rear – No comments.</p>	
147.	<p>Correspondence An email had been received from Sue Wannop regarding the proposed Brunswick pavilion and cricket pitch. An application was being made to Sport England for funding and a letter of support was being sought from the PC. Members were minded to support this as it would be an asset to the local community and agreed that the Clerk would send a letter of support and invite Sue to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
148.	<p>Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 6.30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half Marathon • Sue Wannop 	

CHAIR.....

DATE.....

The meeting finished at 8.30pm.

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