On behalf of all the members of the Parish Council, we would like to wish everyone who lives and works in the village a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Dinnington Parish Council Centenary Event

The Parish Council held a very well attended Centenary event to mark the 100th Anniversary of Dinnington Parish Council. The event took place in the Village Hall on Saturday 19 October. As well as information on Past Chairman over the years and Parish Council records there was also a large display of old photographs and memorabilia of the village from over the intervening years, which had been assembled and reproduced by Alan Proudlock and we would like to express our thanks to him for his considerable efforts. Miles Watson was also on hand selling copies of his book “A Short History of Dinnington” from which a number of the photographs were reproduced. Copies can be obtained from the Community Library. We are intending to repeat the event on Sat 14 March from 10.00 – 14.00 for people who could not get there last time.

Building work in and around the village

Dinnington First School, Bellway Homes (Augusta Drive) and Keepmoat (Sheraton Park) are all now substantially complete.

Persimmon Homes (Augusta Park) – They now have 42 dwellings occupied on site, 4 plots are reserved and 27 have been released for sale. They are continuing to progress further plots eventually totaling 206.

Xmas lights Competition

Just to add a bit of interest to the Xmas festivities and in an effort to encourage people to brighten up the village we have decided to judge the Xmas lights on properties and to award a prize for what we consider the best display.

Adopt-a-Planter and Northumbria in Bloom 2020

Having taken a year off from the competition to regroup and consolidate our position, we are once again re-entering next year. We have had considerable success in the past, winning a Silver Award in the large village category, Gold in the residential Communities category, Silver Gilt in the Private Gardens category and the Allotments won a Silver Award at the first attempt. We believe the competition lifts the floral displays around the village and improves it considerably.

We really need more volunteers to help with our continuing efforts to improve the flower beds and planters around the village, so if anyone can spare some time and would like to help, please contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

We once again thank our existing volunteers and the businesses who supported us in the past and hope they will continue to do so in the future.

Village Garden Competition

It has been suggested that we hold a best garden competition next year, as used to happen years ago in conjunction with the Village Show. If any keen gardeners are interested in entering, could they let the Parish Clerk know and we will include details of judging days and how to enter in our Spring Newsletter.
Neighbourhood Plan
The consultant is continuing to progress our draft plan. He has completed the draft of the Green Spaces information we forwarded to him and has the Policy documents drafted for Green Spaces and Community Facilities.

Dinnington Community Library
We would like to remind everyone, especially those who have recently moved into the village, that Dinnington has a Community Library run by volunteers and we encourage current members and new members to come along to use their great collection of books. There is no charge to join the library and everyone is welcome. Dinnington Community Library was set up in the summer of 2013 when Newcastle City Council closed the branch library in Dinnington. The Community Library is situated in the Memorial Institute which is next to Dinnington Village Hall and is open on Wednesdays 10.30 – 12.30, Fridays 2.00 – 4.00 and Saturdays 10.30 – 12.30.

Crime
From our monthly discussions with the police we know that Dinnington continues to have very low reported incidents of crime or anti-social behaviour. However, can residents when parking please leave enough room on pavements for users of wheelchairs and buggies and to ensure you do not cause an obstruction.

Newcastle Airport Drone Safety Information
On 13 March 2019 the drone flight restriction zone around airports and airfields changed. The government has introduced a new rule stating that the 1km restriction from the airfield boundary is replaced by a restriction using the airfield’s existing aerodrome traffic zone, which has a radius of either two or two and a half nautical miles and then five kilometres by one kilometre zones starting from the point known as the ‘threshold’ at the end of each of the airfield’s runways. Both zones extend upwards to a height of 2,000 feet above the airfield.

It is illegal to fly any drone at any time within these restricted zones unless you have permission from air traffic control at the airport or, if air traffic control is not operational, from the airport itself. Please be aware that the whole of Dinnington and the surrounding area are inside Newcastle International Airports “Aerodrome Traffic Zone”, making it illegal to fly a drone in the village without permission from the Airport. If you do intend to enjoy this hobby in Dinnington, please keep this in mind. For more information on the safe flying of drones, please visit https://dronesafe.uk/drone-code/

Proposed Royal British Legion local Branch
A few residents have been in contact with Cllr Phelps and the Royal British legion asking why there is no branch in the north of the city and suggested that a branch in the Dinnington, Brunswick, Hazlerigg and Ponteland area would be a good idea. He has been in touch with the Legion and they have asked that if people are interested can they contact him at steven_p_dpc@hotmail.co.uk and he will look into this in the New Year, if there are sufficient numbers. The British Legion think 10 members would be the minimum needed to make the branch viable.

Dinnington Village Indoor Bowls Club
Based in the Village Hall they meet every Wednesday evening at 6.45pm - 9pm. Make new friends, have a laugh and learn a new skill. They welcome all ages, no experience necessary as they are happy to pass on their knowledge and skills. This even includes a tea/coffee break, with biscuits.

Weekly fees are £2 but just come and give this gentle sport a try.

You could be their new secret weapon when they play other Clubs

They really look forward to meeting you on 12th Feb 2020 after their Christmas break.
Dinnington Village WI - Are you new to our Village?
Dinnington WI would like to invite you to come and join their wonderful group of ladies. As you can see they have a full program for next year. The second Thursday every month is their evening at the Village Hall, starting 7pm until approx. 9pm. There are many other WI events you could take part in at WI HQ, Cresswell House, and other WI's in our area, as well as day trips, supper club and more, connected to the WI. Why not come along to one of their evenings and see for yourself. Do you have a skill you'd like to share? Yearly fees are £43 and £1 per meeting, while a Guest visit is only £3 including tea/coffee and a treat.
We look forward to meeting you.

Dinnington Village WI Speakers 2020
Jan 9th - Belly Dancing ; Feb 13th - Retired Greyhounds ; Mar 12th - AGM & Quiz ;
April 9th - Seaglass Jewelry ; May 14th - Red Squirrels ; June 11th - Line Dancing ;
July 9th - Quiz night ; Aug 13th - Celebrant ; Sept 10th - Northumberland Villages by John Grundy ;
Oct 8th - North Tyne Acoustic Trio ; Nov 12th - Wrapping Xmas Gifts ; Dec 10th - Xmas Party.

Dinnington Village Hall Update
We sadly said goodbye to long standing Village Hall Management Committee member Philip Clarehugh who has retired after many years of service to the Village Hall, the last 8 as Chairman. Philip has always been supported and helped by his wife Mavis, herself a one time member of the committee. We extend to them both our good wishes for a long and happy retirement. We are delighted that Craig Parker has taken over as Chairman, following in his father John’s footsteps.

At the time of writing we have submitted an application to the Banks Community Fund for a grant towards the cost of some maintenance work on the Main Hall: replacement of bargeboards at either end, new flooring, window and cooker for the kitchen and a new boiler room door.

Following the sudden closure of the Playgroup last July we are delighted that Mrs Doreen Carins is to open a new one, Jellytots, subject to Ofsted approval, in January on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Doreen is happy to take enquiries. Please call her on 07702 589333

The Northumberland Theatre Company is paying us their annual visit with this year’s Christmas Production, The Snow Queen, on Thursday 2 January 2020. We again have generous support from the Masons Arms, Dixon and Thompson, James Anthony Workwear and Challenge Northumberland, all Dinnington based businesses. The production is suitable for all ages. Admission is by ticket only, £8 Adults £4 Children, to include a glass of wine or juice, available from Joyce Porter (Tel. number below)

To find out more about the Village Hall or make a donation please contact Treasurer Mike Wood 01661 825358 or Secretary Joyce Porter 01661 821041

St Matthew’s Church
A warm welcome awaits you at St. Matthew’s - Please come and join us for our special services at Christmas.

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER AT 3.00PM – TRADITIONAL CAROL SERVICE BY CANDLE LIGHT FOLLOWED BY COFFEE, TEA AND MINCE PIES.
SUNDAY 22nd DECEMBER - FAMILY SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION AT 9.30AM
TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS EVE
THE EVER POPULAR CHRISTINGLE SERVICE AT 4.30PM
MIDNIGHT MASS AT 11.30PM – THE FIRST SERVICE OF CHRISTMAS.
WEDNESDAY 25th DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS DAY.
CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY SERVICE AT 9.30AM.

CLOSURE OF THE WEST GATE. Please note that to preserve the integrity of the path the gate at the west end of the church will be locked for a 24 hour period from 6.00pm on Tuesday 31st December until 6.00pm on Wednesday 1st January. Our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. Warning notices will be posted on the notice boards and the main gate during the closure period.
Wishing you Peace and Joy this Christmas from all at St Matthews Church. Our thanks for your support of our village church at the heart of the Community.
City Councillors’ Surgery
Monthly – 2nd Saturday (except August)
10.30am-11.30am
Dinnington Social Club

Jellytots Playgroup
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur
Village Hall

Dinnington Community Library
Wed & Sat 10.30am-12.30pm
Fri 2.00pm-4.00pm

Karate - Mon 7.00 – 9.00pm
Junior Karate – Wed 5.00 – 6.00pm
Village Hall

Leanne Dance Class
Thursday
5.00pm – 6.00pm
Village Hall

Old Peoples’ Treat Fund
Bingo
8.30pm Thursdays
Dinnington Social Club

Beaver Scouts
Mondays
5.45pm-7.00pm
Scout HQ

Cub Scouts
Tuesdays
6.30pm-8.00pm
Scout HQ

Scouts
Mondays
7.30pm-9.00pm
Scout HQ

Rainbows
Tuesdays
5.00pm-6.00pm
Village Hall

Brownies
Tuesdays
6.00pm – 7.30pm
Village Hall

Handicrafts
Thursdays
7.00pm
Memorial Institute

Indoor Carpet Bowls
Wed 7.00pm-9.00pm
Village Hall

Dinnington Village WI
2nd Thursday of every month
7.00pm-9.00pm
Village Hall

Zumba Gold
Fridays
9.30 – 10.15am
Village Hall

St Matthew’s Church
Sundays 9.30am - Service and Holy Communion
Junior Church members meet during service
Wednesdays 10.15am - Holy Communion BCP

Bible Study Group
1st Wednesday of each month

Coffee morning
10.30am-11.30am Second Saturday of the month in Memorial Institute

Revd Mark Edwards, MBE
Tel: 01661 872320

Doctors at the Clinic, Main Road, Dinnington

Ponteland Medical Group
Mon – Fri 8.15am-12.15pm
Tues – No Doctor. Nurse in attendance 9.00am-12.15

Parish Councillors: Cllrs Raymond Thompson (Chairman) Tel: 0191 2363379; Mike Wood (Vice-Chairman) Tel: 01661 825358; Audrey Dellow; Sylvia Hood Tel: 01661 823382; Steven Phelps; Joyce Porter Tel: 01661 821041; Keith Oliver; Danielle Dowd Tel: 07516815454;
Paul Hitchens Tel: 07590 533525

For more information visit the website at: www.spanglefish.com/dinnington
Clerk to the Parish Council – Karon Hadfield
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