

Dinnington St John's Town Council

Minutes of the Community Committee Meeting held on 3rd November 2025 at 7.00pm in The Lyric, Laughton Road, Dinnington

Present: Cllr L Clarke (Chair), Cllr D Booth, Cllr Z Lowe, Cllr K Smallwood, Cllr D Smith, Cllr F Walden,

Apologies: Cllr J Hall

In attendance: A. Wilson (Locum Town Clerk), L. Warne (Asst Clerk), C. Radford (Administrator),
E Stanger (Lyric Manager)
1 member of public attended.

C56/25 **Members are asked to answer questions from the last meeting: and to allow for questions from electors of Dinnington to ask one question only in respect of business itemised on the agenda or on a pertinent issue that may arise; followed by the formal meeting**

None received.

C57/25 **Members are asked to receive and consider any reasons for absence.**

Resolved: That the Council received and accepted reasons for absence from Cllr J Hall.

C58/25 **Members are asked to receive and record any declarations of interest and if necessary, to receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests and grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate**

No declarations

C59/25 **Members are asked to identify any agenda items which may be considered following the exclusion of the press and public, due to the confidential nature to be discussed. Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1 (2))**

No items were identified for the exclusion of the press and public.

C60/25 **Members are asked to approve the minutes from the Community Committee meeting held on Monday 6th October 2025**

The approving of the minutes prompted a discussion about providing larger fairground rides for the older children in the community at the Christmas Festival. Members reminded each other that decisions like this should be taken as a committee. See item: C62/25

Resolved:- That the minutes of the Community Committee meeting be approved as true record and to be signed by the Chair and kept on file.

C61/25 **Members are asked to note the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday and discuss any matters related to the event.**

The Assistant Clerk confirmed to the committee that all plans are place for Remembrance Sunday and the moving road closures are also arranged. No further action needed.

Chairman Signature:



- **Report from Locum Town Clerk on proposed amendments to the Christmas Event**
- **Update on the arrangements for the visits of children to see Santa on the Thursday and Friday before the switch on event**
- **Report and update from Assistant Town Clerk**

The Locum Clerk updated members that with delegated authority from the last meeting 100m of new, commercial Christmas lighting has been ordered for use in Coronation Park. Blachere are unable to install these so DSJTC staff will need to do this.

Having spoken with staff that normally organise the Christmas Festival, the Locum Clerk explained that concerns have been raised that ending the festival at 6pm is too early. In previous years, children have followed Father Christmas to the Lyric from Coronation Park after the light switch on and queued for the grotto. Clarity is needed on the event timings in order to plan for Maltby Lions to attend, they have confirmed that they will be unable to attend before 5.00pm.

Resolved: Members resolved that the lights are switched on at 5.30pm in Coronation Park and that the festival remains open until 8.00pm.

Further discussion took place regarding the provision of larger fairground rides. Historically there have regularly been issues around anti social behaviour. Security has been booked for the event and council staff and Councillors will be around and in high viz jackets as a deterrent too.

Resolved: Members resolved that the Asst Clerk request the fairground also provide some larger rides if possible and still available. Consideration will need to be given on where they will be located on the High Street.

Members agreed it would be a good idea to invite RMBC's Youth Worker team to the event to engage with teenagers attending the event.

The Locum Clerk reminded members that for insurance purposes, all staff, volunteers and councillors are not to drink alcohol at the event until after the event has finished at 8.00pm.

A rota will be prepared by the Asst Clerk but there have not been many offers of help from councillors at this point. The Asst Clerk will be emailing out to Councillors again requesting help at the event.

The Locum Clerk was asked by a member if the Volunteers policy was in place and they were assured that this will be effective in time for the Christmas Festival. Members are aware that there have been regular volunteers at the event in the past and they have been put on hold until the policy becomes effective.

Resolved: Members resolved for larger fairground rides if available.

Resolved: Members resolved to provide Volunteers, staff and Councillors at the event with free tea and coffee at the event. No alcohol is to be consumed by staff and Councillors and that this information is to also be passed onto bar staff working at the event.

Cllr Smallwood is to speak with Newman School regarding their visit on Thurs 4th Dec.

The Asst Clerk confirmed that she will liaise with Dinnington Primary School regarding some of their SEN children coming to see Father Christmas on the Thursday or Friday when the environment is more relaxed and quiet.

An update on stalls was provided, the Lyric can hold 12 stalls and the Methodist Church have said they can accommodate 6. The council has received an extra application to the limit, so the Asst Clerk will ask the church to see if they can accommodate one more stall.

Members were asked to review the draft poster for the Christmas Festival and this was accepted for printing and distribution to shops and schools.

Dinnington Operatic Society have requested permission from the committee to attend the festival and walk round in their panto costumes or society t.shirts to promote their January show and hand out flyers and interact with members of the public. The Asst Clerk will liaise with DOS to check on numbers and ensure that they stay on the move so as not to cause areas of congestion.

C63/25 Members are asked to:

- **Receive feedback on the Halloween Event in the Lyric Theatre**
- **To discuss November, December and January's Community Club events**

Members discussed that the children's Halloween event had been successful with great feedback on the day. Members considered the positive effect that charging a minimum of £1.00 per ticket for these type of events as 140 tickets were given out but only 93 tickets were handed back in leaving the committee frustrated that people were turned away yet there would have been space. Although the Community Club was set up to be free for these events, the payment of even a small amount would hopefully reduce the amount of no shows.

The Lyric Manager confirmed that if an event is all seated then the limit on numbers would be 140, for a children's event such as Halloween where there is no requirement to provide seats for children, just a dancefloor space, then more tickets can be issued. The maximum number inside the venue, including staff and entertainers would be 290.

Resolved: Members resolved that at the next event like Halloween, 160 tickets should be sold at £1.00 each.

More Halloween themed decorations are needed for next year and more help to decorate the Lyric in advance of the event would be appreciated. Funds built up from the monthly raffle could be used to purchase more decorations and the Asst Clerk will let the committee know how much is available to spend at the next meeting.

Members were informed that the Bar Manager came and opened the bar due to requests from those attending and did seem popular for the purchase of tins of pop and crisps.

November's Community Club event is supposed to be a film but the film has not been purchased and the event hasn't been publicised. It was decided that coffee/cake and board games would be a better idea due to such short notice and transfer the film licence over to an event next year that will hopefully be well attended.

Committee members confirmed that 3 councillors will attend the Community Club on 05/11/25 with staff only required to open and close the venue.

December's event will be mince pies and carol singing. Cllr Clarke is to approach the Salvation Army to see if they could attend.

It was agreed that it would be helpful for the Locum Clerk to prepare a Terms of Reference for the committee that designates individual responsibilities for the committee, the organising of events eliminating the query of staff involvement and where it is/isn't needed.

No Community Club event is scheduled for January 2026.

C64/25 Members are asked to discuss and note any matters for inclusion on the next meeting.

As per the minutes

C65/25 Members are asked to note that the next meeting of this Committee will be held on Monday 24th November 2025 at 7 p.m.

Meeting Closed 20:12hrs

Chairman Signature:  24/11/25

