

Dinnington St John's Town Council

Minutes of the Lyric Committee Meeting held on 23rd February 2026 at 5:30pm in The Lyric

Present: Cllr W Hall (Chair), Cllr L Clarke, Cllr J Hart, Cllr D Scriven, Cllr D Smith, Cllr J Hall

Apologies: No apologies were received. It was noted that Cllr Cruickshanks was not present.

In attendance: A Wright (Town Clerk), L Warne (Asst Clerk), C Radford (Town Council Administrator)

L15/26 **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**

No questions asked during the public session.

L16/26 **Members are asked to receive and consider any reasons for absence**

None received

L17/26 **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**

None received.

L18/26 **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 considered with the exclusion of the press and public.

L19/26 **Members are asked to receive and approve the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on Monday 2nd February 2026.**

A discussion was held between members and the Clerk regarding booking data taken and what can be shared with members so that they can see what type of private bookings the venue is being used for. The Clerk advised that she would look at the booking software to see if there is a different way of filtering the information provided whilst still protecting customers under GDPR.

Members also requested that the Clerk look at the Lyric booking facility on the council's website as they report that the links do not appear to be working properly.

An update on the drains work was requested and the Clerk advised that the drains to the rear side do still have standing water which requires further investigation. Cllr Mulholland and Cllr W Hall will arrange to look at this. The Clerk updated that RMBC have now completed their scheduled work to the Lyric toilet drains.

Resolved:- That the minutes of the Lyric Committee 2nd February 2026 meeting be approved as true record and to be signed by the Chair and kept on file.

Chairman Signature:



L20/26

Members are asked to:

- **Receive and note upcoming events at The Lyric and look at ways in which we can continue to move forward and increase bookings**

Members received and noted the schedule of confirmed Lyric bookings for the next 6 months from the Clerk which they will look through at a later time. Timings for set up and cleaning after events are still to be allocated on the system.

- **Consider any further action**

No further action to be taken at this time.

L21/26

Members are asked to:

- **Consider arrangements for New Year's Eve (NYE) 2026**

Members discussed that a big cost to NYE events is the act themselves so if there are cheaper alternatives such as providing a disco or singer rather than a large band that would be preferable. It was agreed that events held particularly on NYE should not just be the responsibility of sole members of staff being willing to work e.g Events Manager and Bar Manager but other members felt that working within the hospitality industry there would be an expectation that NYE is one of, if not the most significant night of the year for the venue to be open and there should be an expectation to work it.

The Clerk updated that the situation regarding the staffing of events for the Lyric is being considered by the Staffing and Complaints committee as part of the current staffing review and members will be updated on this in due course.

The use of volunteers at events was discussed along with the necessity of bringing in the Volunteer Policy as soon as possible, members were reminded that volunteers would not be permitted to carry out the work of paid staff and that Councillors cannot be paid to cover this work either.

The Clerk confirmed that she will check if Councillors can host their own NYE event at The Lyric as long as they are not due to personally benefit financially.

L22/26

Members are asked to receive a breakdown for the profit and loss of events held in The Lyric within January 2026. An update to be given at the meeting.

The Clerk presented members with a breakdown of events held in January with a breakdown on income and confirmed expenditure however, this information was incomplete due to the utility cost figures being unconfirmed. It was agreed that the Clerk should take an average of the costs from the whole year and apply to each event for the purpose of the breakdown.

The Clerk will review the income and expenditure and look to bring more detailed information to the next meeting,

L23/26

Members are asked to receive and note the financial budgeting report for Income and Expenditure for January 2026. An update to be given at the meeting.

The Clerk explained that in the short amount of time that she has had since starting in position 7 weeks ago the provided documents are as much as she has been able to put together.

Chairman Signature:



L24/26

Members are asked to consider:

- **An update on the painting of the Lyric to move away from the current purple colour noting that the colours chosen will need to compliment the purple curtains at this stage.**

Cllr J Hall advised members that she has arranged for an experienced Interior Designer to come and look round the Lyric on the 4th March and then give their opinion of what colour schemes would be advisable along with any other suggestions.

- **An update on making the entrance to the Lyric more inviting including painting the metal shutter**

To be discussed with the Interior Designer but Cllr J Hall would like a copy of ideas previously provided by the Events Manager so these can also be revisited.

The Clerk is to provide all committee members with a copy of last year's customer journey report.

- **An update on the purchase of the Electric Cooker for the kitchen**

The Clerk advised that the old gas cooker has been removed and the gas supply capped off. The new electric cooker will be purchased this week and then hopefully fully installed soon after.

L25/26

Members are asked to discuss any maintenance works and consider any further action.

The Clerk advised members that the Maintenance Team have reported issues with some of the existing fire doors and that they may need replacing. Members requested that a proper inspection of the fire doors is carried out by the Fire assessment company or our Health and safety advisor and that they are then updated accordingly at a future meeting.

L26/26

Members are asked to consider a project to instal solar panels.

The Assistant Clerk advised members that she is looking at applying for a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to cover the costs of installing solar panels at the Lyric and Cemetery and an upgrade to the heating and hot water system at the Lyric so that the venue can become more energy efficient.

Members discussed the need to ensure that the timbers are strong enough and it was noted that work on the roof was previously carried out late 2014/2015. A full survey would be required.

The old outside toilet area has been identified as a possible suitable location for the battery storage space.

The Asst Clerk explained to members that unfortunately there are not many grants available to Councils as they do tend to be more focussed at charities.

Resolved: Members resolved that they are happy for the solar panel project to be discussed at a full council meeting.

L27/26

Members are asked to note the update with regard to the provision of tills within The Lyric bar and consider the next steps.

The Clerk updated members that no further action has been taken since the last meeting due to staff annual leave.

Chairman Signature:



L28/26

Members are asked to discuss and note any matters for inclusion on the next meeting

As discussed throughout the meeting: Decorating the Lyric, tills and oven.

L29/26

Members are asked to note the date and time of the next meeting

The next Lyric Committee meeting will be held Monday 23rd March at 5.30pm.

Meeting Closed 18:22 hrs

Chairman Signature:

