

Dinnington St John's Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee held on Thursday 9th April 2026 at 9:00am in Committee Room, Council Office, Laughton Road, Dinnington

Present: Cllr. N. Ruff (Chair), Cllr. D. Adams, Cllr. J. Hart, Cllr. T. Mulholland, Cllr. D. Smith,

Absent: Cllr L Clarke, Cllr W Hall

Also present: Amy Wright (Town Clerk), Craig West (DRUFC), Nick Woodward (DRUFC)

- N34/26** **Members 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.**

There were no questions raised.

- N35/26** **Members to receive and consider any reasons for absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr W Hall.

It was noted that Cllr L Clarke was absent but apologies had not been received.

- N36/26** **Members 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**

There were no further declarations of interest.

- N37/26** **Members 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))**

Members noted that there were none.

- N38/26** **Members to approve the minutes from the Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting held on Thursday 5th March 2026**

A point was highlighted regarding the provision of a bus route through the new estate and this would be raised at a meeting with the bus service providers next week.

RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting held on Thursday 5th March 2026 as a true record to be signed by the Chairman and kept on file.

- N39/26** **Discussion with representatives from Dinnington Rugby Club**

Representatives from the Rugby Club raised concerns about pedestrian access to the site and a discussion was held regarding the extending of the pavement from the housing estate to the Rugby Club and the extension of the 30 miles per hour speed limit until after the entrance to the rugby club. It was noted that pedestrian access was not just an issue for the annual bonfire event but on a weekly basis during the season when around 300 members attended training sessions.

A document which had been drawn up a few years ago was handed out and the proposals it's contents were discussed. The involvement of Sport England and the RFU in raising funds to develop the site was considered and the funding of 75% towards 9 4G pitches available to the borough council from

Sport England was discussed; further enquiries would be made. It was suggested that the rugby club trustees contact the football club as they have recently had a new pitch funded by Sport England.

It was noted that the rugby club was good at generating its own income but that it also had a lot of expenditure. There was a plan to use more volunteers and the Town Council would share the process it is undertaking to formulate a Volunteer policy.

The problem of anti-social behaviour by young people in the area and how the rugby club might be able to engage some of the youth and therefore prevent the anti-social behaviour was discussed. The rugby club already engages with young people with diverse needs and had noticed a gradual increase in the number of children presenting with mental health and behaviour issues.

The Town Council agreed to pursue the request for the pavement to be extended, invite representatives from Sport England to a meeting and talk to local contacts about any support they might be able to give. The rugby club would also communicate with Sport England, the RFU and local contacts and continue their work with schools. It was commented that more time should be devoted to sport in schools.

The Chair thanked the representatives from Dinnington Rugby Club for joining the meeting and they left.

N40/26 Members to receive and note an update on the sale of land at East Street (Cllr N Ruff)

The Chair confirmed that the options agreement had been signed and was with the lawyers. The planning application needed to be submitted which should be within 6 months leaving 12 months for the building work to take place before the 2027 house building target for RMBC is measured. It was anticipated that the funds would be received before the end of the year and the precept discussions would include how the income would be spent.

N41/26 Members to discuss developing the Project working document and consider any further action

This item was deferred to the next meeting with further information to be brought by the Clerk.

N42/26 Members to receive an update on the land at Lodge Lane and consider any further action

It was noted that no further communication had been received from Vistry. The land was linked with the Leys Lane development and pressure should be applied by Vistry to ensure planning permission for building work is granted. A meeting would be requested with a representative from Vistry who would have the authority to make decisions.

N43/26 Members to receive an update on the investigation into the situation with the Leicester Road project

There was no further update but it was agreed to contact the council regarding the situation.

N44/26 Members to note any matters for inclusion on the next meeting agenda

The updates mentioned in the agenda item discussions would be included as items at the next meeting including:

Empty homes

Reinvestment strategy for funds from land sale

Consider the report from Mr D Johnston and any additions to be made to it

N45/26 Members to note the date and time of the next meeting

RESOLVED to arrange the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Committee to be held at 9 a.m. on Thursday 23rd April 2026 in the Committee Room.

The meeting closed at 10.27am

Signed Date

Chairman