

Dinnington St John's Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee held on Thursday 21st May 2026 at 9:00am in Committee Room, Council Office, Laughton Road, Dinnington

Present: Cllr W Hall (Chair), Cllr D Adams, Cllr J Hart, Cllr T Mulholland

Absent: Cllr L Clarke, Cllr N Ruff, Cllr D Smith

Also present: Cheryl Radford (Town Council Administrator), Craig West (DRUFC), Emma Ottewell (RMBC), Rachel Stothard (RMBC).

Resolved: As Cllr N Ruff was absent, members elected Cllr W Hall to Chair this meeting.

N01/27 To elect a Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee for 2026-2027

Cllr W Hall invited nominations for the Chair for the ensuing year. One nomination was proposed and seconded for Cllr N Ruff.

RESOLVED Members resolved to elect Cllr N Ruff as Chair to the Neighbourhood Plan Committee for 2026/2027.

N02/27 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.

N03/27 Members to receive and consider any reasons for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr L Clarke, Cllr N Ruff and Cllr D Smith,

RESOLVED to accept apologies from Cllr L Clarke, Cllr N Ruff and Cllr D Smith.

N04/27 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 declarations of interest.

N05/27 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.

N06/27 Members to approve the minutes from the Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting held on Thursday 7th May 2026

RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee meeting held on Thursday 7th May 2026 as a true record to be signed by the Chair and kept on file.

At 9.25am Emma Ottewell and Rachel Stothard entered the meeting.

N07/27 Discussion with Emma Ottewell, Head of Planning and Building Control at RMBC and Rachel Stothard, Sports & Physical Activity Manager at RMBC

Craig West advised members that the Funding Application submitted by Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club (DRUFC) has been put together based on updated information received by RMBC and the Rugby Football Union (RFU). The pitches do not need to be turned as there are no substantial spectator stands that cast shadow over the pitches. The bid is to cover costs of levelling and floodlighting pitch one, improving the irrigation system, improvements to junior pitches and other pitches plus a new Grounds Maintenance Store. Priority has been given to these as they are projects in need of urgent attention and can be completed within the short time frame (end of 2028).

Rachel Stothard and Emma Ottewell confirmed to members that applications have been received by DRUFC and Dinnington High School. The money can be given out to one applicant or can be split.

It was confirmed that the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) doesn't just stop with the S106 money but there are other funding options too, there are not enough pitch spaces or open access sites in Dinnington. It was also clarified that the winning site/s will have to ensure that there is open access to the facilities for members of the public and that it can be used by adults and children.

Rachel confirmed that she is also in discussion with the Highways Department regarding extension of the footpath along Lodge Lane to DRUFC. Some S106 money could be used to fund this too to enable safe access to DRUFC for pedestrians.

Rachel and Emma anticipate the next steps will be that they write a paper regarding the two applications and the information that they have collected and then pass this further up the chain at RMBC for a decision to be made on the allocation of funds.

As DSJTC has its residents best interests in mind, it was agreed that the submitted application made by Dinnington High School for the S106 money will be sent over to the Clerk.

Rachel confirmed her interest in working with DSJTC on any upcoming land purchases that could be designated for benefiting from S106 money in the future.

(9.57am Rachel Stothard and Emma Ottewell were thanked for attending and then left the meeting. The meeting was then paused and resumed at 10.06am)

Following a short discussion with members regarding further initiatives to look at funding for a 3G pitch at DRUFC Craig West left the meeting at 10.14am.

N08/27 Members are asked to review the Neighbourhood Plan Committee Terms of Reference and put forward any suggested amendments to be considered at the next Town Council meeting.

RESOLVED Following a brief discussion, members request clarification from the Clerk on the budget set for the committee and further clarification on what the 'defined terms of reference' are for the Neighbourhood Plan Committee.

N09/27 Members to receive and note an update on the sale of land at East Street (Cllr N Ruff)

Cllr N Ruff was absent from this meeting. The Town Council Administrator updated members that quotes are being obtained by the Clerk for the removal of the Japanese knotweed.

N10/27 Members to discuss the Project working document and consider any further action

(A) DRUFC S106 plan and business case

This was discussed in item N07/27

(B) Sale of land for social housing: Lodge Lane, Scarsdale Street and Leicester Road

There appears to be further interest in the sale of land on Lodge Lane.

(C) Empty homes

Cllrs Smith and Mulholland recently met with Tanya McGee at Scarsdale Road. Access was gained to the adjoining property where it was noted that there is a significant mould problem. This is particularly concerning due to young children living in this property. The neighbour recently reported the sound of running water from within the property to the relevant water company. They attended the property and appear to have resolved the issue of running water inside but there is still water running to the outside of the property. It is understood that Tania McGee was to follow up on this with the water company.

Cllr Smith has emailed Lewis Coates the Enforcement Officer at RMBC regarding increased concerns regarding this property but to date has not received a response.

Members discussed the need to act, regardless of RMBC's reluctance to enforce an EDMO and would like to discuss this further with local Borough Councillor Amanda Clarke who recently worked alongside Tania McGee on other projects. Cllr Mulholland to try and make contact with Cllr Amanda Clarke regarding this. Renovation quotes are needed in order to be approved by full council and if agreed by full council would put additional pressure on RMBC to pursue the EDMO against the property owner.

(D) GP Surgery

Item deferred until the next meeting.

N11/27 Members to consider a reinvestment strategy for funds from land sale

A short discussion was held between members about the need to pin point what land they could be potentially interested in buying and for what purpose.

RESOLVED Members resolved to schedule a specific meeting to just discuss and define the reinvestment strategy.

N12/27 Members to note any matters for inclusion on the next meeting agenda

The updates mentioned in the agenda item discussions.

Cllr D Adams also requests that the Clerk finds out who is responsible for the land at Chestnut Grove Park. This is a large area of green space in a residential area that could be considered for sports pitch provision.

N13/27 Members to note the date and time of the next meeting – Thursday 4th June 2026 at 9.00am.

Members noted the next meeting date and time for the Neighbourhood Plan Committee.

The meeting closed at 10.47am

Signed  Date 4/6/26

Chairman

