

DINNINGTON ST. JOHN'S TOWN COUNCIL
Annual Parish Meeting - 7.00pm, Monday 9th April 2018
at The Lyric, Laughton Road, Dinnington

Present:

Cllr D Smith (Chair) plus 1 parishioner, 13 Dinnington Town Councillors,

Along with: A Evans (Clerk), L Warne (Asst Clerk), L Hurt (Accountant)

- 1 The Chairman addressed the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

The Chair gave the following report to the meeting:

- Rotherham Borough Council had taken away the £9000 annual grant previously given to Dinnington Town Council
- The new Dinnington Town Council Offices have been completed and staff are working from there
- The refurbishment of the Lyric had begun, with redecoration of the walls, new Theatre curtains and new chairs. Further work will continue throughout the year
- Two new members of staff had been appointed for The Lyric. - Events Manager and Bar Manager.
- Re-landscaping had begun in Coronation Park and Dinnington Town Council had kindly agreed to allow a Miners Memorial to be erected in the park.
- Dinnington Council helped finance a community garden on the old allotment site behind Victoria Street and we wish them well
- The Chair's pet project over the year had been the Neighbourhood Plan (NP).

The NP will put most of the planning decisions in the hands of the people of Dinnington, taking it away from Rotherham Borough Council (RMBC).

Several surveys had been carried out to prove that the alternative sites to RMBC's plans for housing can work and will help save some of the green belt.

A major survey of the high street (Laughton Road) had provided some great ideas to improve it.

The plan will soon be finished and will then be displayed for public approval.

The Miners Welfare ground needs saving as a recreation area for the future.

The Chair stated he was looking forward to the coming year and the improvements Dinnington Council could make to our Town.

The Chair regrettably advised that one of the Neighbourhood Plan group members, Graham Capper, had sadly died, and would like to pay tribute to him as he was a valued member and will be sadly missed.

2. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting on 10th April 2017 were given for all to read. No requests for amendments were received. The minutes were agreed as a true record.
3. To consider any matters arising from the minutes - None
4. Chair's Annual Report 2017/18 – included in item 1 above

Cllr D Smith (Chair) proposed that **Item 6 - HS2 Presentation** be brought forward to this point. No objections received.

Steven Lee from HS2 (the new high speed rail development) introduced himself and gave the following brief overview of the project so far.

- A rough description was given for the proposed line of the railway.

- Dinnington will not be on the new railway line but might experience an indirect impact regarding access into Dinnington during construction, especially from junction 31 of the M1 onto the A57 where the railway line is planned to be built.
- There will be more formal public consultations from June 2018 onwards for residents to attend.
- Some jobs may be created in Doncaster (a training hub) due to the construction of the line.
- HS2 may take more passenger traffic, freeing up other rail networks to take more freight traffic off the roads.

Questions and concerns were then taken from attendees of the meeting: -

- Concerns were expressed about the building of large Freight Heads on Greenbelt.
- Concerns were expressed about HS2 being built in South Yorkshire, but most residents will not be able to access the trains or have any use for the network.
- Steven Lee advised that Councils can petition Parliament, that this was just an introduction and that he could return at a later date to address concerns.

5. Dinnington's Neighbourhood Police Constable – PC George Szolin-Jones

Inspector Caroline Bakewell attended the meeting in place of PC George Szolin-Jones. Inspector Bakewell was concerned that policing of Dinnington had been reflected badly in the last year, but they were now moving in the right direction.

The South Rotherham Policing team are based in Maltby. The Dinnington Police hub is at The Resource Centre and there are 'Drop-in' sessions each Wednesday. There are now 6 Police Officers (up from just 2 Police Officers a year ago) and 12 PCSO's working in the South Rotherham Area on Neighbourhood Community issues. PC George Szolin-Jones had been allocated to Dinnington since September 2017 and is now joined by PC Angela Rollett who will also cover Dinnington. There are un-uniformed Police Officers on off-road bikes to catch off-road offenders. Inspector Bakewell encouraged residents to report all non-emergency incidents by calling 101.

There were concerns that the Police don't appear to be high-profile enough in Dinnington as many reported that they just don't see the police around. Inspector Bakewell said she would look into this.

6. HS2 Presentation – Steven Lee – See above

7. Discussion: Neighbourhood Plan

A member of the public asked how the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) would work. Cllr D Smith (Chair) explained how the NP would work for the benefit of Dinnington and that it was not a mirror of RMBC's local plan. It would work solely for the benefit of Dinnington and once in place RMBC would legally have to take notice of it when making plans for Dinnington in the future. The NP would also enable Dinnington to have 25% of the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) from RMBC instead of the current 15%. The NP should be completed by the end of the year, after which it will be fully published.

Details can be found on the dedicated neighbourhood plan website:

www.hugofox.com/community/AI%20Evans-12951/about-us

8. Open Session – Cllr D Smith (Chair)

Cllr D Smith (Chair) welcomed questions and comments from the room. A summary of which is below:

- There were concerns about the amount of litter around Dinnington but especially from Church Lane down to the Red Lion. It was concluded that this was a result of litter/waste blowing off Veolia Waste Collection Trucks and RMBC Re-cycling Trucks as they drive down that road. DSJTC to write to Veolia & RMBC regarding this matter.

- A request was made for DSJTC to write to the Cabinet Member for the Environment and invite them to a DSJTC meeting
- A request was made for an 'Open Day' for both the Lyric and the new Council Offices including a 'meet your Councillors' session
- A question was asked about the Miners Welfare being taken by CISWO and if that acquisition had been challenged. Cllr D Smith reassured everyone that this was still being investigated and that the Charity Commission was to investigate how CISWO acquired the land.

Cllr D Smith (Chair) thanked everyone for attending the meeting

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