

Dalton Parish Council

**Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth-Anne Broad JP, LLB (Hons), MA, CiLCA
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.00 pm on Monday 10th March 2025 at Dalton St Michael's School, Higher Lane, Dalton, WN8 7RP.

Present: Cllr Louise Howard (Chairman), Cllr Iain Pearce (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Toni Newman.

In attendance: Borough Councillor David Whittington, Borough Councillor Katie Jukes.

The Chairman asked to record formal thanks to Councillors Whittington and Jukes for attending the parish council meetings regularly and taking issues to both WLBC and LCC on behalf of the Parish.

MINUTES

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Chris Murphy and Cllr Gill Rainford.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. Public Participation: Any item raised by a member of the public will be discussed at this point.

Cllr Whittington, reported that as WLBC are in the budget setting process, and are struggling as the overwhelming public response was to keep the swimming pools and leisure centres open. One cost saving issue may be that WLBC will charge parished areas for the emptying of public waste bins. In Dalton there is only one public waste bin, on the junction of Lees Lane and Higher Lane. The parish does not have to accept this as a service, there is no bargaining power to purchase waste management service and it is not within the parish council budget to pay for this, which is a service of district-level government.

4. To ratify as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held 13th January 2025

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

5. Accounts for ratification and payment and appointment of internal auditor

Unity Trust	280225	Monthly banking fee	£6.00
E A Broad	270125	Clerk's salary Jan 2024	£309.82

Unity Trust	310125	Monthly banking fee	£6.00
Dalton St Michael's	060225	Room hire	£150.00
E A Broad	270225	Clerk's salary Feb 2024	£309.82
L Howard	100325	Gloves for litter picking	£16.99

Future payments:

Unity Trust	270325	Monthly banking fee	£6.00
E A Broad	270325	Clerk's salary and expenses	£309.82
HMRC	270325	Tax for three months	£209.40

*contains VAT

The above accounts were ratified and authorised for payment and the balances of accounts noted as follows.

Balances as at 13th March 2025

Current Account	£ 874.76
Reserve Account	£1,799.64
Total	£2,674.40

Anticipated closing balance for year end, 31st March 2025 is £ 332.55 (current) and £1,799.64 (reserve) Total = £2,132.19

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

The updated asset register for March 2025 was accepted as:-

		Custodian
Jubilee bench – bought in 2003	£772	Street furniture
Oak notice board – bought in 2007	£1,463	Street furniture
“Dalton” – cast iron signposts x 4	£500	Street furniture
Bench on corner of Lees Lane/Higher Lane (acquired 2017 - costing £300 to repaint in 2016)	£300	Street furniture
Lenovo laptop (2018) projector (2008)	£700	Clerk
Interpretation Boards £1,070 each at Beacon Point & Church footpath (2018)	£2,140	Street furniture
Kissing Gate (2021)	£ 750	Street furniture
Roadside bollards (2021)	£1,480	Street furniture
Dalton Parish Map lectern (2024)	£790.80	Street furniture
Fingerpost (renovation 2024 - £200)	£200.00	Street furniture
Total: £9.095.80		

It was resolved to appoint Sandra Jones as Internal Auditor of the accounts for financial year 2024/25.

6. To consider Ashurst Beacon Point, ownership, maintenance responsibilities

No update. WLBC Leisure Working Group may include Beacon Point monument in the remit.

7. Update on maintenance of Dalton signs

One outstanding. Clerk to contact contractor to confirm final snagging work.

8. Review of Dalton Village Design Statement and any further consideration for a Neighbourhood Plan

WLBC acknowledge that the Dalton VDS should be visible on the WLBC website as it is still accepted as supplementary planning guidance.

Should a Neighbourhood Plan be undertaken it will concentrate on Dalton Parish as and agreed area with exact boundaries and focus on housing. It was agreed that the process cannot fall on one person.

9. To record any police issues

The fire at The Prince William Public House was noted with questionable timeline on the fire report.

10. To record any highway or public rights of way issues, including

- **Lees Lane issues**
- **Japanese Knotweed on Dungeon Lane**
- **Himalayan Balsam on roadside verges**
- **Surface water issues - ED 48706 Dungeon Lane Higher Lane junction**

No progress on above issues.

11. To consider any planning issues or applications including:

- **Empty Public Houses: Prince William and The Beacon Inn**

The is no known planning application for land The Beacon Inn. A recent fire has destroyed The Prince William.

Application Number: 2025/0152/FUL

Location: Boydells Farm, Hillock Lane, Dalton, WN8 7RJ

Proposal: Change of use of land to domestic curtilage and proposed single storey side extension.

Parish Council Response: Dalton Parish Council are sympathetic to the care needs of the prospective buyer, but we are unclear if the criteria for very special circumstances (which are not customarily linked to personal circumstances) have been met in this case. The

owner/applicant remains the developer of the barns at this site, who have no special circumstances themselves and receive the benefit of a planning permission if granted.

We are also unclear about volume of the original dwelling vs proposed extension. Is the original the previous agricultural barns or the new dwellings on site today, and if the latter we are not sure why the volume of the adjoining neighbour would be included in any volume for the original dwelling for the purposes of this application. Clarity from WLBC would be helpful on this point, as it will likely result in a larger volume increase than advertised by the planning statement.

Also please note the address and postcode are incorrect. The property called Boydells Farm is at the junction of Hillock Lane and Higher Lane with a different postcode. The correct address for this property is 4 Boydells Lane, WN8 7RL.

Application Number: 2025/0101/FUL
Location: 6 Boydells Lane, Dalton, WN8 7RL
Proposal: Single storey rear extension

Parish Council Response: No objection to this proposal.

Application Number: 2025/0072/FUL
Location: Peacehaven, Higher Lane, Dalton, WN8 7RP
Proposal: Demolition of existing conservatory and replacement with single storey side extension.

Parish Council Response: No objection to this proposal.

**12. To note update on County Application for Quarry restoration at Dingle Quarry:
Lancashire Committee refused on 15th January 2025 Reference: LCC/2024/0024**

Application was refused by the Committee. There is no appeal to date.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40 pm.

Cllr Louise Howard
Chairman

12th May 2025