

Dalton Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth-Anne Broad JP, LLB (Hons), MA, CiLCA
1 Pinewood, Skelmersdale, Lancashire, WN8 6UZ
Tel: 01695 557678 Mob: 07973 340254
e-mail: daltonpc.clerk@yahoo.com

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.00 pm on Monday 10th November 2025 at Dalton St Michael's School, Higher Lane, Dalton, WN8 7RP.

Present: Cllr Louise Howard (Chairman), Cllr Iain Pearce (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Chris Murphy, Cllr Toni Newman. Six members of the public.

MINUTES

1. To receive declarations of interest

None declared. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Gill Rainford.

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

Some members of the public present attended to observe how the parish council responds to planning applications. Concern was expressed that residents are sometimes not notified as not close enough to development locations, but are nevertheless affected by them. One resident raised the issue of noise disturbance from dog barking at the dog exercise field. It was suggested that WLBC Environmental Health department might become involved if this constituted a nuisance. Residents were reminded that the Planning Authority deciding and granting permissions is WLBC and parish councils are merely invited to comment if they chose to do so.

Borough Councillor Katie Jukes gave an overview of her work including investigations into the problem of nuisance racing quads, bikes and cars across the villages of Wrightington, Parbold, Appley Bridge and through Dalton. She will keep the parish council informed and extend any invite to the Chairman, should she secure a meeting with the police or the Police & Crime Commissioner. There are many leaves left rotting on the footpaths and roads. She is recording areas of concern and using Love Clean Streets to report to LCC Highways where appropriate. It should be noted that blowing leaves from your property onto a highway constitutes an offence (of fly tipping). Similar action is being taken where Japanese knotweed is found.

Long Heys Lane residents ask can LCC Highways update their maps for the siting of grit bins, as recently LCC contractors were asking residents where they should be rather than having accurate information themselves.

3. To ratify as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held 14th July 2025

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman. It was noted that the September meeting was inquorate.

4. Accounts:

• Ratification and payment of accounts

E A Broad	270725	Clerk's salary	18	£309.82
Michael Rigby	290725	Grass cutting	19	£100.00
Unity Trust	310735	Service charge	20	£6.00
E A Broad	210825	Back pay	21	£38.82
E A Broad	290825	Clerk's salary	22	£319.60
Unity Trust	300625	Service charge	23	£6.00
Michael Rigby	090925	Grass cutting	24	£50.00
E A Broad	290925	Clerk's salary	25	£319.60
HMRC	270925	Tax for three months	26	£223.35
Unity Trust	300925	Bank Charges	27	£6.00
SLCC	151025	Membership fee	28	£45.60
Michael Rigby	151025	Grass cutting	29	£50.00
RBL	211025	Poppy Appeal	30	£35.00
E A Broad	291025	Clerk's salary	31	£319.60
Unity Trust	300925	Bank Charges	32	£6.00
Michael Rigby	071125	Grass cutting	33	£50.00

*contains VAT

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

Receipts in Aug-October 2025:

WLBC	300725	First half concurrent	£200.50
Unity Trust Bank	300925	Bank Interest	£34.27
WLBC	081025	Second half precept	£3,000.00
WLBC	081025	Second half CTSG	£7.50
WLBC	291025	Second half concurrent	£200.50

Bank balance as at 10th November 2025

Current Account	£ 1,183.07
Reserve Account	£ 8,066.21
Total	£ 9,249.28

- **Review of Second Quarter accounts**

Income and Expenditure Spreadsheets from April to the present were distributed and spending compared with budget figures set for this financial year. There were no areas of concern and all spending was within the budget level set.

- **Consider projects for Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy**

WLBC confirm that the war memorial in Parbold would not be appropriate spending of NCIL money, so the parish council is unable to assist financially with that project.

It was resolved to ask residents for specific recommendations on what to spend the NCIL money on. Suggested areas include surfacing of some public rights of way; perhaps from Lees Lane towards Appley Bridge, and/or replace older styles with new gates. However, these projects would require landowner's co-operation.

- **Consideration of a draft budget and preliminary setting of precept for financial year 2026/7**

The provisional precept of £6,500.00 following a budget review and consideration of the reduced funding from other local authorities. The increase is necessary to meet increases in administrative and insurance costs.

5. To record any police issues

No items raised.

6. Any update on Ashurst Beacon Point

WLBC & Wigan have held meetings, with a view to Beacon Rangers taking over maintenance.

7. 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**

It was agreed to update the spreadsheet regarding the above issues and ask for County Councillor Owens assistance in actioning work where required.

8. To consider any planning issues or applications including

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

There continues to be concern that these two derelict public houses are in prominent sections of the village and are unsightly. Clerk was asked to contact the Case Officer for an update on any development proposals.

Planning Applications:

Ref. No: 2025/0714/FUL

Proposal: Proposed Car Port / Garage and Removal of Existing Steel Barn.

Location: Hillcrest Barn Lees Lane Dalton Lancashire WN8 7RD

The meeting heard that this application may have been withdrawn.

Ref. No: 2025/0822/FUL

Proposal: Erection of menage and stables.

Location: Holland House Lees Lane Dalton Wigan Lancashire WN8 7RD

Parish Council Response: Dalton Parish Council has no objection to this planning application providing all the criteria for development in the greenbelt have been met, and that it meets the guidelines in the Dalton Village Design Statement.

Ref. No: 2025/0839/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a garage, two storey rear and side extension, single storey rear extension, and upper roof line alterations to a detached property including demolition of a garage and original elements

Location: Stone Hall Cottage Crow Lane Dalton Wigan Lancashire WN8 7RY

Parish Council Response: No comment on this proposal.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8pm

Cllr Louise Howard
Chairman

12th January 2026