

Dalton Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of Dalton Parish Council at 7:00 pm on Monday 20th May 2019 in St Michael's C E Primary School.

Present: Cllr Louise Howard, Cllr Chris Murphy, Cllr Gill Rainford and seven members of the public.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - MINUTES

1 To elect Chairman and hear declaration of acceptance of office

Cllr Louise Howard was elected Chairman. Declaration of acceptance of office was read out, signed and witnessed.

2 To elect Vice Chairman and hear declaration of acceptance of office

Cllr Iain Pearce was elected Vice Chairman, in his absence, having previously given notice of agreement.

3 To hear declaration of acceptance of office from Councillors

Declarations of acceptance of office was read out, signed and witnessed.

4 To ensure completion of Registration of Financial Interests Forms

Registration of interest forms were completed and signed.

5 To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Pearce.

6 To receive declarations of interests

None declared.

7 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 7th April 2019

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

8 To hear matters introduced by members of the public (Time Limit – 10 Minutes)

Concern was raised that the Local Plan will soon re-emerge in a slightly different guise. There was discussion of how CPRE involvement revealed the misuse of data, particularly that relating to the number of students attending Edge Hill University. The Parish Council was asked to consider joining CPRE's local group and Councillors were reminded that CPRE would be holding an information evening the following Wednesday at Ormskirk School for parishes interested in forming a neighbourhood plan so that they can guide development rather than have it pushed on them. These measures might help the parish be a step ahead of the Local Plan writers rather than behind it. The Chairman told the meeting that Dalton Parish Council had supported the CPRE report with a £100 donation and spent a further £834 (including VAT) on a specific report for the Local Plan consultation, regarding the field opposite Dalton Church.

Redevelopment at Beacon Park Golf Course created a top-soil bund along the road opposite the junction with Crow Lane. When the parish council talked with Serco, they were told that this was a temporary measure, just putting it here for the short term and was not part of the landscaping for the golf course. However, it is still there and has killed some of the hedgerow. This bund impacts on the road and spoils the view.

A resident raised concern about the proposal to re-open the landfills at Parbold Hill and Appley Bridge Quarry East. It is expected that planning applications will come forward fairly soon, and as the site is not within the parish, we might not be consulted. Development of this type is a county matter and usually has a three-week consultation period.

Residents asked how they can keep informed of meeting dates and were directed to the notice board and website for meeting dates which happen every six weeks on a Monday at 7pm. Dalton Watch is not a parish council initiative so cannot not be used for advertising the date of meetings.

There was a report of water flowing onto Long Heys Lane, near a little animal farm due to covering over where there used to be a small spring at Stopforths Farm. Builders at Manner House were asked to stop throwing building rubbish into the ditch there also. LCC Highways staff were not wearing identity badges and it is not easy to tell if workers are legitimately working on the road or some sort of rogue trader; the parish council were asked to report this to LCC Highways and the Borough Council also to remind staff that they should have identity badges for residents to be sure who they are.

It was commented that any fly-tipping by the quarry gate was removed promptly by WLBC – as residents had seen WLBC do this on many occasions. The quarry gates are private land however, so it is hoped by residents that this is not being paid for by council tax.

The private road at the end of Long Heys Lane was discussed, with residents here asking if it can be closed off to prevent fly tipping. The Parish Council had been in touch with the land owner who is not averse to doing so but requires everyone to be in agreement before doing so, and there are still a number of other residents who want it to remain open. Residents ask for signage that this is an Access Only Private Road if it cannot be closed off permanently as it is being used as a rat run at 60 mph. Ideally, it would be helpful if the landowner could meet with parish councillors and/or resident to discuss this further. They would ask that the landowner put up signs, boulders to prevent tipping and cctv.

Residents notice new little white signs reading Lancashire Way along many of the footpaths and these are now being used more as cycleways. These signs appeared without consultation.

Residents feel cyclists are becoming a nuisance, there are more than the roads can safely accommodate, particularly in areas like the end of Lees Lane, where cyclists are now coming through at speed, night and day.

Rookery Cottage footpath has barbed wire on it and this should be reported to LCC Highways. LCC reference number is **W409038**

There are an awful lot of kids wandering around many of them straying from the designated footpaths. The large number of Duke of Edinburgh groups travelling through is now unsustainable, they sit on the walls of our properties, eat dinner, leave wrappers etc. behind. Also, where the footpath along Pinfold track ends at Cobbs Brow Lane it is a death trap as it opens straight onto the road and groups of young people spill out of there. There is a lack of supervision of groups using our village for their Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. Local schools and centres have been asked to supervise and ensure country code is covered a part of the DofE training, however a number of these groups are now coming from out of the area.

9 To consider current Standing Orders to ensure they are updated if required

Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were ratified without amendment.

10 To consider any policing issues

The Clerk was reminded to send a letter of commendation to Chief Inspector Jill Halliwell, Lancashire Constabulary for PC 169 Stewart, Divisional Wildlife and Rural Crime Officer for all his work in the village, including apprehending fly-tippers on the day of the community litter pick.

11 To consider any road and footpath (public rights of way) issues

No further issues of note but the spreadsheet will be reviewed to chase up outstanding issues.

12 Accounts for ratification and payment; confirmation of audit statements, including annual governance statement

EA Broad	200519	printer ink	0440	£50.80*
John Stewart	280519	grass verge cutting	0441	£70.00
Sandra Jones	200519	Internal audit fee	0442	£20.00
E A Broad	280519	Salary – May 2019	s.o.	£203.48

*contains VAT

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

It was agreed on receipt of completed internal audit forms that these be signed by the Chairman in order to meet the External Auditors' response deadline and ratified in the next meeting on 1st July 2019.

13 To discuss any planning issues

There were no current planning applications requiring comment but the following two applications were noted:

Application Number: 2019/0267/CON

Approval of Details Reserved by Condition No.3 of planning permission 2018/1289/FUL relating to drainage at Oak Cottage, Lees Lane, Dalton, Wigan, Lancashire WN8 7RF

Application Number: 2019/0333/LDP

Certificate of Lawfulness - Proposed extension of existing garage including new roof and adjusted opening following removal of existing roof and demolition of timber lean-to at Stoneacre, Crow Lane, Dalton, Wigan, Lancashire WN8 7RY

14 Matters introduced by Members for inclusion on a future agenda

Councillors will inform the clerk in advance of the next meeting with any issue they wish to raise. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35 pm.

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2019

1st July

Cllr Louise Howard (Chairman)