

Dalton Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of Dalton Parish Council at 7:00 pm on Monday 1st July 2019 in St Michael's C E Primary School.

Present: Cllr Howard (Chairman), Cllr Pearce (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Murphy and fourteen members of the public.

1 To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Rainford

2 To receive declarations of interests

None declared

3 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 20th May 2019

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

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

The Parish Council were asked to carefully consider the application at High Lees, Higher Lane, because the maps do not show many of the trees that are there.

Long Heys Lane resident complained that dog walkers are frequently walking across her private land and one in particular had become aggressive with her, claiming it was his right to walk there. The local game keeper intervened and diffused the situation.

Parbold Hill Quarry

Dalton Parish Council objection to the proposal had been submitted (see below) LCC was struggling to upload all comments due to reduced staffing.

A Public meeting will be held by the pressure group at Parbold Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th July 2019. Volunteers to help set up the room would be appreciated.

Under David Cameron's Localism agenda, giving more of a voice to local people, would Dalton Parish Council investigate the process of a referendum? If all parishes do the same thing it is a good way of covering the area and increasing awareness.

In this area there is a low turn-out of voters with only those with a strong vested interest bothering so this can question the credibility of the process making it easy to dismiss. What wording would the referendum have?

Not sure of wording. There is a specified percentage that is, in planning terms, significant.

5 To address issues raised by residents – see Appendix spreadsheet

The spreadsheet was up-dated and next actions will be followed.

6 To consider any policing issues

No items raised

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

The Clerk was asked to email the head teacher at Fazakerley High School regarding the behaviour of learners on the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions through the village and asking for more consideration from the adults picking them up. This follows complaints from residents that the minibus was parked blocking driveways to homes.

8 To discuss any planning issues, including County Council matter of Parbold Hill Quarry – LCC/2019/0028

Parbold Hill Quarry – LCC/2019/0028

Dalton Parish Council object to this application.

This is inappropriate development within the greenbelt, no special circumstances have been demonstrated to outweigh the harm this development would create.

There is no need for this landfill site, nor can we see any proof that what is being proposed, NEEDS to be done and isn't just a lucrative business opportunity.

The site is visible for miles around, as it is one of the highest points in West Lancashire, and as such attracts hundreds, if not thousands of visitors every week. The implications for both visitors as well as residents, if this application were to be given the go ahead, would be huge. Not only harming the visual amenity of the greenbelt, but with potential harm to the public themselves.....so many people so close to a busy landfill site.

To import half a million tonnes of waste to the site, would involve more than 25,000 lorry loads, so over 50,000 journeys, on the already busy A5209. This impacts not just the landfill location, but all residents on the route to the location.

The new access is a major safety concern for everyone that uses the A5209. Slow moving HGV's exiting onto a very busy major road with a derestricted speed limit, at a particularly busy section with the restaurant directly opposite, and the high number of visitors that stop at the view point.

With more than 25,000 wagons and only four unloading bays, it is inevitable that they will have to queue to unload, so potentially backing up onto the road.

The new access road would be shared by HGV's going to the landfill, pedestrians, cyclists, bikes and cars, to say that this is dangerous would be an understatement.

Noise, dust and vibration will be high at the site, with the risk of odours being classed as medium.....all of which will impact residents, visitors and local businesses.....and all of which are unacceptable.

We urge you to refuse this application.....

There is no proven need for it.

Nobody wants it, or a new car park.

The impact on safety for all is high.

There are no special circumstances, that could possibly outweigh the harm that this development would cause....not only to the landscape, but to visitors, residents, road users and local businesses.

Ref. No: 2019/0613/LDP

Rivoma Higher Lane Dalton WN8 7TW

Certificate of Lawfulness - Proposed single storey flat roof extensions to side and rear; conversion of existing garage to living accommodation including removal of existing pitched lean-to roof

Application noted.

Application Number: 2019/0351/FUL

High Lees, Higher Lane, Dalton, WN8 7RA

Proposal: Proposed stable and the adjustment of existing access to accommodate better visibility and equestrian trailers

Parish Council Response: Dalton Parish Council object to this application.

We object to:

The size and position of the structure, this is an extremely large structure situated quite centrally in the field, and as such will impact on the visual amenity.

The parking for the trailers is directly opposite the neighbouring property, Rookery Bungalow, it is only about 10 metres away from their windows. This would have a significant visual impact on the residents of this single storey property, this being their main outlook.

The siting of the midden is in the line of sight for Rookery Bungalow, and closest point of this development to the road, an inappropriate place for a 'muck heap'.

The siting and size of this development will have a significant impact, not only on the immediate neighbour, but also on the visual amenity of the greenbelt.....no special circumstances have been given to mitigate this.

We also have serious concerns about the many old trees, including oak, that run along the boundaries of this site....only the trees on the Higher Lane boundary are shown on the plan, the ones that are on the boundary with Dungeon Lane are not shown. We would ask that these are protected.

9 Accounts for ratification and payment; receipt of internal audit, ratification of audit forms submitted to External Auditor, including Statement of Compliance

John Stewart	280519	grass verge cutting	0442	£45.00
Sandra Jones	200519	Internal audit fee	0443	£15.00
E A Broad	280619	Salary – June 2019	s.o.	£203.48

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

The following internal audit report was received.

To: Chairman and Councillors
Dalton Parish Council

INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2018-19

An internal audit was undertaken following examination of the accounts and minutes as presented by Mrs E Broad, Clerk to the Council and RFO.

It was found that overall the processes in place show a good standard of internal control. Sample checks of income, expenditure and bank statements were carried out and the audit trail was found to be in order. In addition, the recommendation in the last audit report relating to submitting timely VAT claims has been implemented. The cashbook is maintained and balanced on a regular basis.

However, there were a few instances, which I bring to the Council's attention:

1. Accuracy of Parish Council meeting minutes

It was found that there were some discrepancies with the minutes as described:

- Salary for E Broad for May 2018 was not included in the minutes
- The direct debit payment of £35 to the ICO was not included in the minutes
- Cheque no 423 (Garden Rescue) was listed on the minutes as £60 for grass cutting, but included on the payments spreadsheet as £50 for bench painting
- HMRC payment in September was not included in the minutes
- HMRC payment in December was noted as £13.45 in the January 2019 minutes instead of the correct amount of £132.48
- Salary for E Broad for January 2019 was not included in the

It is recommended that adequate checks are carried out to ensure that all Parish Council meeting minutes are accurate and complete. It is vital that those checks are carried out as Parish Council minutes are legal documents once signed.

2. Review of Parish Council Policies

It was noted that there had been no review of Parish Council policies – Financial Regulations, Standing Orders and Risk Assessment Register in the past 15 months.

It is recommended that a review of the Parish Council policies is carried out during the next financial year to ensure the policies are still appropriate and up to date.

It was resolved to ensure these matters were corrected.

10 Matters introduced by Members for inclusion on a future agenda

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

Cllr Louise Howard
Chairman

9th September 2019