

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

SUSPENSION OF PUBLIC PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS DUE TO COVID-19

Parish Council public meetings cannot take place at the present time.

Under the provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020, and The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 this Meeting of the Parish Council took place at **7.00 pm on Monday 11th January 2021** by electronic conferencing.

MINUTES

1. To record apologies for absence

None, all present.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None declared.

3. Public Participation:

- **Any item raised by a member of the public via email will be discussed at this point.**

No items raised.

4. To ratify as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 30th November 2020

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and will be signed by the Chairman as soon as practicable.

5. Accounts for ratification and payment

E A Broad	30122020	Salary – December 2020	s.o.	£280.86
HMRC	30122020	Tax for three months	s.o.	£216.00
ARROW NW	110121	Donation to legal costs of review of Parbold Landfill decision	0471	£100.00

Chairman:.....

The Accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

6. To conclude budget for Financial Year 2020/21

The draft budget had been circulated and was now approved. There will be no increase to the precept which will remain at £4,200 for financial year 2021/22 and any overspend will be met from reserve funds.

7. To record any police issues

- a. There is an ongoing problem with the off road bikes/quad bikes. Last weekend due to the amount of people sledging on the fields they normally ride over, they took to speeding up and down roads, nearly hitting someone on Lees Lane.
- b. The second issue is the male following lone dog walkers in the nearby village of Upholland. So far no incidents in Dalton, but all on Dalton Watch are aware and the Police are investigating.
- c. Cars are still using the Church car park as a race track and also meeting up dealing drugs, etc. Last week cars were doing donuts on the church car park, one car has hit and demolished part of the wall at the church. The Chairman emailed both the Head Teacher and Vicar before Christmas to tell them of the problems. The church goes apparently complain when the gates are shut, but it's unfortunately the residents who live there that are having to deal with the problems that leaving the church gates open causes. So it was agreed, that during school term time, the school caretaker would lock and unlock the gates every day and that Councillor Pearce would do it at other times.

8. To record any highway or public rights of way issues

Still nothing has been done by LCC about the existing drainage problems/blocked grids/gullies in various places in Dalton:

- a. There is still water coming through the road surface at the junction of Dungeon Lane/Higher Lane.
- b. Where LCC put a tarmac patch in the hole that appeared in the road surface near High Bracken, this is still sinking. The gully/drain there needs unblocking/fixing.
- c. The sides of the carriageway where they have collapsed next to the gullies, still not repaired and getting worse, in three places on Lees Lane. They are between Higher Lane and Blackbirds Farm, between Holland House and Lower House Farm and opposite the end of Long Heys Lane. LCC are aware of the problem as they put cones out at the time they occurred, but this is probably almost two years ago now.
- d. A new problem has occurred due to the water constantly running onto the road, due to the grid being blocked, near High Bracken, Higher Lane. With the cold weather we have had recently this has led to a significant amount of ice across the carriageway. The blocked grid was reported to LCC on 28th November but hasn't been cleared yet.

Public Rights of Way Issues:

Public Right Of Way No.: FP25

District: WEST LANCS

Parish: DALTON

Chairman:.....

PRW Ref: 131876

Response from Lancashire County Council:

Thank you for taking the time to report the defect or obstruction on the public right of way referenced above. We have recorded your report as:

Nature of Report: Problem raised at Dalton Parish Council by members of the public. Footpath 8-7-25 between Lees Lane and Appley Lane South, is virtually impassable due to flooding and the condition of the footpath surface.

All reports relating to the public rights of way network are important and as Highway Authority we take this duty seriously. Lancashire County Council receives many reports of issues discovered by landowners, residents and other members of the public every year. In order to address these issues to the best effect within available resources it is necessary for us to prioritise all the reports we receive. This is done according to the actual effect on members of the public wanting to use the paths, how many people are affected, whether they can bypass the problem, etc.

We do not take into account how long the problem has been outstanding (quite simply, a dangerous defect reported today will always be higher priority than an inconvenient one reported 6 months ago) and hence some reports may take several months for us to address. We apologise if we are unable to resolve the issue which you have reported as quickly as you, and indeed we, would wish and we hope the following facts may help explain it.

The small Public Rights of Way team manages over 5500km of public rights of way in Lancashire. We do not inspect them, it would take someone a few years just to walk round them all taking notes and not actually resolving any issues. Furthermore we do not go out to inspect a path which a member of the public has reported. We take the approach that if you have taken the trouble to report something then there IS a problem so there is no point in someone from the Council going to take a look and find there is a problem – you have already told us that. So we only make a site visit when we have the resources to fix the problem not just look at it. We understand this can be frustrating but we are working through the reported issues according to their priority.

If however, you have reported an issue with signage this will be dealt with in a different way. We do not generally address missing, broken or faded signposts when they are reported because that would be an inefficient way of working but we renew them on a project basis, an area (often a borough or city) at a time so that our contractors can do the work more cheaply.

If we have your email address we will contact you again when your report has been resolved or closed. If you need to discuss your report at any stage please contact the Public Rights of Way Team on 01772 530317 or ProwReports@lancashire.gov.uk. It would be helpful if you could quote the above PRW reference number in any communication with us.

We hope this information is of some assistance.

9. To consider any planning issues or applications

Chairman:.....

No current WLBC applications.

10. Update on Capital Grant project for vehicular barrier on the footpath near to the Interpretation Board by Dalton Church grounds

No further action required from the Councillors, as this has now been ordered and will be installed by Homeland Services when delivered.

A Woodstock Pedestrian gate with two fence panels and three flat end posts have been ordered from Centrewire. The estimated total is £696, with WLBC paying £466.32 and Dalton Parish Council paying £229.68.

11. Update on replacing wooden bollards around St Michael's Church

The Glasdon product quotation has now been received.

Seven Glenwood 170 posts in dark oak with fixings = £205 each = £,1435.00.

Installation costs are still awaited.

Retro-reflective banding will cost another £70 but is advised for roadside bollards.

£908.65 Community Infrastructure Levy can be used to support this, as well as £210 from concurrent funding however, the shortfall (of £306.35) and the installation costs (not yet known) will have to come from parish council funds.

More quotations for a similar product will be sought, but this is an urgent safety issue and needs to be resolved administratively rather than awaiting the next meeting. Further quotations will be circulated by email and a decision taken.

12. Update on St Michael's School plan to provide a public defibrillator

Dalton residents donated over £2000 to this project; £1000 of that came from just four residents. Combined with the amount raised by the pupils, there is more than enough to buy the defibrillator, and to cover all installation costs, signage, plus training for 12 teachers and 12 residents. The remainder of the money will be kept for future maintenance costs/repairs. The Head Teacher is ordering the defibrillator this month for installation as soon as possible. Lockdown has suspended training for now. The Head Teacher and Parish Council Chairman will liaise to help deliver the project.

13. To consider application for Capital Funding for Financial Year 2021/22

It was resolved not to apply for Capital Funding for the next financial year as no projects fit the criteria set out.

Chairman:.....

***Cllr Louise Howard
2021
Chairman***

22nd February