

Dalton Parish Council

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**THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED USING ZOOM CONFERENCING BECAUSE
OF THE CONTINUED THREAT OF COVID TRANSMISSION AND LACK OF
SUITABLE VENUE IN THE PARISH**

DECISIONS WILL BE RATIFIED AT THE NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council which took place at 7.00 pm on Monday
5th July 2021. Members of the public and press were invited to attend.**

Present: Cllr Louise Howard (Chairman), Cllr Gill Rainford, Cllr Chris Murphy

In attendance: Borough Councillor May Blake and County Councillor Rob Bailey.

MINUTES

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Pearce

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.**

Newly elected County Councillor Rob Bailey introduced himself to the Parish Councillors explaining he was on the Executive for Highways and Transport. He encourages using the LCC Highways Report It online form but to copy him in on any emails for following up issues if they are not attended to. There was a gentle reminder that properties with grass verges bordering the highway cannot legally be 'protected' by installing rocks in the grass and explained that a recent property on Long Heys Lane had been informed that these stones had to be removed. Quarries (Minerals & Waste) are also in his remit and he had some information about Parbold Hill and East Quarry, Apply Bridge. Finally gullies and public rights of way are under his responsibility also.

4. To ratify as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held 24th May 2021

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

5. To receive update from Environment Agency on Parbold Hill Landfill application

Update from Environment Agency – no application for permit has been received. The Parish Council is aware of the applicant’s proposal at East Quarry, Apply Bridge; for a hardcore ramp to enable emergency vehicles to reach the water in the quarry. There is general disapproval as the lorry movements will undoubtedly cause an issue for surrounding areas, but this is not within Dalton Parish. There are however concerns that it might set a precedent for any application at Parbold Hill and so will support action against the application if requested to do so.

6. Accounts for ratification and payment

ICO	190521	Data Protection registration	s.o.	£35.00
E A Broad	280521	Salary – May 2021	s.o.	£243.54
E A Broad	280621	Salary - June 2021	s.o.	£243.54
HMRC	280621	Tax for three months	s.o.	£ 182.64
John Stewart	280621	Grass verge cutting 3 cuts	0479	£ 135.00
E A Broad	280621	April - June use of internet charge	0480	£ 15.00

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

7. To record any police issues

The meeting heard that the Community Beat Manager for the area, PC Gordon Davis is currently on sick leave, possibly long term.

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

The meeting noted that Lees Lane work will be done in August, but it doesn’t cover all of the problems along that road. The pothole on Higher Lane, opposite High Bracken is enlarged again. Also the road erosion at the top of Dungeon Lane, first reported over two years ago, has still not been fixed. It was agreed to return to the spreadsheet of issues and update it.

9. To consider any planning issues or applications

Ref. No: 2021/0615/FUL

Retrospective application for detached garage with dimensions differing from application 2019/1085/FUL; wooden store and wall, gate posts and gate to north of dwelling house.

The Barn Long Heys Lane Dalton Wigan Lancashire WN8 7RS

Parish Council Response: If all the criteria for development in the greenbelt have been met for the garage and log store, and the amended volume figures are correct, in that the overall volume is now less than the 55% approved in the previous planning application 2019/1085/FUL, then obviously Dalton Parish Council has no grounds to object.

With regards to the gate, gate posts and wall, if these meet all the criteria set out by Highways, and also the rules for development in the greenbelt, then again Dalton Parish Council has no grounds to object.

Dalton Parish Council requests that in future the applicant abides by the planning conditions stipulated in 2019/1085/FUL and any departure from these conditions is submitted as a planning application for consideration before any future work is started.

Ref. No: 2021/0684/FUL

Retention of walls.

South West Lancs Pistol Club Farley Lane Roby Mill Up Holland Skelmersdale Lancashire WN8 0QG

Parish Council Response: Dalton Parish Council has no objection to the retention of the walls. Their specific use is not mentioned, but we imagine they go some way to stopping the transmission of noise. Noise from the site can regularly be heard at the opposite side of Dalton, and obviously residents complain about it, especially as there are no restrictions around hours of operation

The meeting noted two comments online – one from an address in Shevington Moor and another from Farley Lane.

In addition the Clerk had received an anonymous letter complaining that Parbold Parish Council had not raised an objection. However, the application is in Dalton, not Parbold.

Also, the Chairman had received one email asking why the parish council had no objection to the application.

None of the complaints relate to the walls as such, most are suggesting that the site has expanded without permission and increase traffic. The Clerk had been trying to contact WLBC Enforcement Officers to verify these details with no response to date. On the basis of the application, no revision to the response will be made. Residents who have concerns about this wall or the Club in general are encouraged to contact WLBC as the Planning Authority directly, themselves.

Ref. No: 2021/0742/FUL

Proposed glazed enclosure to existing rear facing balcony, alteration to existing 1 1/2 roof projection to north-east (front) over existing ground floor & removal of existing stable building.

Rock Haven Higher Lane Dalton Wigan Lancashire WN8 7RA

Parish Council Response: Dalton Parish Council has no objection to this proposal provided it meets all the criteria for development in the greenbelt.

10. To ratify continuation of Cllr Gillian Rainford as Parish Council Appointed Trustee on the Peter Lathom Charity

It was agreed that Cllr Gillian Rainford continue as Parish Council Appointed Trustee to the Peter Lathom Charity for a further term of four years.

11. To form response to consultation on WLBC proposals to meet Boundary Commission Review

The proposal to reduce the number of Borough Councillors from 54 to 45 is understood but not accepted as necessary. Dalton Parish Council has always had a good relationship with the two Borough Councillors covering the area and sees no need for this change.

West Lancashire has diverse populations across the towns and villages with very differing needs so this restructuring will require careful consideration so that the individual characteristics of the villages are not lost.

For this reason Dalton is keen remain with Parbold (and surrounds) rather than move in the other direction.

Ideally, separate Wards with one Borough Councillor in each would provide a system with a directly responsible person.

12. To monitor progress of the WLBC Local Plan - Call for Sites stage

Dalton Parish Council has concerns about two of the sites suggested:-

PB020 – Higher Lane close to where it meets Ash Brow/Alder Lane mini roundabout junction. The proposal for fifteen homes to be built up the current farm track is of concern because the entrance would meet Higher Lane at a dangerous point. The alternative access from Alder Lane is ruled out as it would be too steep.

SK193 – (lower) Beacon Lane, fields from the first bungalow down to the bottom of the hill at Whalleys Farm. Land is within Newburgh Parish but borders Dalton Parish at the Church junction. Currently this farmed field acts as a buffer between Dalton village and the town of Skelmersdale. It is a function of the greenbelt to separate communities in this fashion and as such should remain to maintain Dalton's rural character and not be developed.

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

Cllr Louise Howard
Chairman

6th September 2021