

Dalton Parish Council

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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 22nd February 2021** by electronic conferencing.

Present: Cllr Louise Howard (Chairman), Cllr Chris Murphy, Cllr Gill Rainford. One member of the public in attendance.

MINUTES

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Pearce.

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.**

Long Heys Lane – surface water is causing a problem, affecting those properties that are set low in the lay of the land. Residents have to keep vigilant, particularly during heavy rain because the drainage isn't effective enough. In the past, LCC Highways have visited and there are ditches at the top of the lane created to prevent surface water problems but they appear to have been blocked or diverted. LCC Highways will be notified and asked if they can take another look.

There are increasing litter problems along (lower) Beacon Lane, running alongside the new Woodlands development in Skelmersdale. This is not in Dalton Parish but is in Newburgh Parish. WLBC are responsible for litter picking along here too but rarely do so as it is dangerous with narrow or no pavement and cars travelling fast along it. Residents have been out over the last weekend and again today and in total picked six bags of litter. WLBC and Newburgh Parish Council will be informed.

4. To ratify as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 11th January 2021

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and will be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.

5. Accounts for ratification and payment

E A Broad	30012020	Salary – January 2021	s.o.	£280.86
LALC	220221	Annual subscription fee	0472	£ 78.02
Lancashire Association of Local Councils				
Glasdon Products	220221	7 Road Bollards for grass verge at Dalton St Michael's Church	0473	£1,806.00*
Centrewire	220221	Kissing gate vehicular barrier	0474	£ 912.00*
J Stewart	220221	Grounds work for the above	0475	£ tba

*contains VAT

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

6. To record any police issues

Three items had been raised:-

- a. The ongoing problem of off-road motorbikes and quad bikes, riding illegally on the roads to gain access to private land around the Beacon.
- b. On Friday 12th Feb several off-road bikes used the public footpath between the Church and the School, to gain access to the private fields behind the church. Police notified and attended.
- c. Cars still using the Church car park, for anti-social behaviour, etc if the gates are open.

The police are aware of these issues and are actively investigating.

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

The Meeting noted that the following road problems are still outstanding. They have, individually, been entered onto the Report It System but the Clerk was instructed to email the District Lead Officer as they all have already had some attention but been left incomplete or the problems have recurred quickly after LCC workmen left.

The 'No through road' sign at the top of Long Heys Lane needs replacing, as it's damaged. This was reported to LCC Highways and given the reference number is **W572051**

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. Water is 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. One resident phoned LCC Highways after slipping on the ice here and they were assured the problem would be addressed by 31st January 2021. However, the problem remains.
- c. 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 Highways are aware of the problem as they put cones out at the time they occurred, but this is two years ago now and the cones have disappeared or been damaged. There is only one remaining. This route is used by HGVs travelling to Dalton Quarry so this is now very dangerous. The matter was entered into the LCC Report It system and given the reference number **W572055**

8. To consider any planning issues or applications

The land owner at Manor House, Long Heys Lane was given a deadline of 23rd October 2020 to submit a retrospective planning application. WLBC Planning Enforcement Officer is pursuing the case.

Application Number: 2020/1259/LDP

Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness - Proposed single storey side extension.

Location: Holland House Lees Lane Dalton Wigan Lancashire

Parish Council response: No objection to this proposal.

9. To appoint internal auditor for accounts for 2020/21

It was resolved to appoint Sandra Jones, Clerk at Newburgh Parish Council to undertake the internal audit of accounts at the close of the financial year on 31st March 2021.

10. To update Asset Register and Financial Risk Assessment documents, ready for financial year end - 31st March 2021

Asset Register as expected to be at 31st March 2021

	Value	Custodian
Jubilee bench – bought in 2003	£772	Street furniture
Oak notice board – bought in 2007	£1,463	Street furniture
“Dalton” – cast iron signposts x 4	£500	Street furniture
Bench on corner of Lees Lane/Higher Lane (acquired 2017 - costing £300 to repaint in 2016)	£300	Street furniture
Interpretation Boards – bought in 2018	£1,940	Street furniture
Lenovo laptop (2018) projector (2008)	£900	Clerk

2020 TOTAL PROPERTY SUM £5,875

To Add:

Kissing gate and fencing - bought 2021	£912	Street furniture
Vehicle Bollards	£1,505	Street furniture

2021 TOTAL PROPERTY SUM £ 8,292

The meeting agreed to write off the projector as an obsolete item.

A Risk Policy with Risk Management Plan was circulated prior to the meeting and agreed.

11. Update on Capital Grant project for vehicular barrier on the footpath by Dalton Church grounds

This project is nearing completion with installation due to be done this week. The claim for re-imburement of 60% of costs will be submitted to WLBC.

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

Further funding of £500 towards this project has been secured from the LCC Parish Champion Fund and the work is being done today. The £908.65 Community Infrastructure Levy has been used for this project.

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

The defibrillator has been ordered and an update on when training can take place is awaited. The Chairman will continue liaison with the Head Teacher. If funding is sufficient perhaps PIR lights for the defibrillator box itself, and maybe for the pathway to it, can also be bought. However, advice will be taken to ensure this is a suitable addition first.

14. To plan organisation of the spring litter pick

It was planned to hold a community litter-pick on the 14th March 2021. It was resolved to postpone this event, because even if the lockdown restrictions are lifted, no one feels comfortable with this potential risk and would be mortified if a resident caught Covid as a result of this going ahead. Residents will be encouraged to litter-pick around their own properties and whilst out walking or exercising.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Cllr Louise Howard
Chairman

12th April 2021