

Dalton Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Dalton Parish Council at 7.00 pm on Monday 31st October 2022 at Dalton St Michael's School, Higher Lane, Dalton, WN8 7RP.

Present: Cllr Louise Howard (Chairman), Cllr Iain Pearce (Vice Chairman), Cllr Gill Rainford. Borough & County Councillor Rob Bailey, resident Del Ellis.

MINUTES

1. To record apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Murphy.

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.

Cllr Bailey encouraged the use of the new LCC reporting App – Love Clean Streets – to replace the online Report It system for road and public rights of way problems. He also reminded Councillors of the coming up LCC Town & Parish Council Conference on Saturday 12th November 2022.

Following questions about maintenance of the land around Ashurst Beacon Monument Point, Cllr Bailey agreed to explore the possibility of a land transfer, perhaps a long term lease so that the land would become a WLBC responsibility rather than that of Wigan Council.

Del Ellis gave an update on the Parbold Hill quarry matters, including that the owners are being prosecuted by the Environment Agency at present. Enquiries at the Environment Agency regarding possibly contaminated water exiting the site were being made. Dalton Quarry is extracting again but there is no sign of the landscaping work that it part of the conditions of the planning permission. The parish now has two empty public houses, particularly vulnerable to vandalism. Can WLBC help expedite progress as they would do if they were private homes since empty homes can attract doubling of council tax if left empty for a prolonged period of time?

County Councillor Rob Bailey agreed to look into the issue of degradation of the road surface along Lees Lane.

4. To ratify as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held 27th June 2022

A small amendment was made and the Minutes were then accepted as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chairman.

5. To discuss the overgrowth of trees on Ashurst Beacon Point (Wigan Council owned land)

Cllr Rob Bailey will suggest that WLBC obtain a long lease for the land from Wigan Council.

The land was bequeathed by the Meadows' family to the people of Wigan and therefore is owned by Wigan Council. Wigan Council had been contacted with a view to suggesting they consider removing the self-seeded saplings that are obscuring the view. With no funding available for this, it is unlikely to happen. Local WLBC Councillors may be asked to take on responsibility of this land, joining it with Beacon Country Park, by way of a long-term lease perhaps, and then this work could be looked at.

6. To record any police issues

Some issues over the summer, now concluded, were discussed.

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

- **8 – 7 – FP 35 diversion consultation**

Residents surrounding this footpath have created an alternative permissive footpath to increase privacy of their own properties. A diversion has been applied for. The Chairman and Clerk met with Adrian Ibsen, PROW Officer to discuss the footpath. Standing by the proposed new entrance, it was clear that the road traffic was a hazard at this point. The Parish Council would ask therefore that the entrance be relocated half-way between the current position and this proposed position. This would have the effect of removing the close proximity of the footpath to the housing but give clearer sight lines for pedestrians and drivers, where the road is straight. The proposed entrance is on a tight bend, with no roadside footway, and on the route used by quarry lorries. Whilst standing there looking at the entrance several near misses were experienced. An alternative safety mitigation might be the installation of bollards on the pavement to prevent vehicles mounting the pavement at this point and/or a gated entrance to the footpath to prevent stepping immediately into oncoming obscured vehicles.

The continuing issue of Lees Lane resurfacing was raised. County Councillor Bailey agreed to look at the previous reports and remind LCC Highways that it still requires work.

8. Accounts for ratification and payment

Unity Trust Bank 270622 Quarterly bank charges d.d. £18.00

DV Gardens	270722	Grass verge cutting	b.t.	£45.00
E A Broad	270722	Salary – July 2022	s.o.	£259.45
E A Broad	270722	Salary – tax adjustment	b.t.	£168.40
Online Design	290722	Website costs	b.t.	£134.40*
DV Gardens	190822	Grass verge cutting	b.t.	£ 45.00
E A Broad	300822	Salary – August 2022	s.o.	£259.45
DV Gardens	020922	Grass verge cutting	b.t.	£45.00
E A Broad	270922	Salary – September 2022	s.o.	£259.45
HMRC	270922	3 months tax	s.o.	£190.20
DV Gardens	270922	Grass cutting	b.t.	£45.00
CPRE	300922	Annual subscription	b.t.	£36.00
Unity Trust	300922	quarterly bank charges	d.d.	£18.00
E A Broad	271022	Salary – October 2022	s.o.	£259.45
Up Holland PC	311022	Contribution to SLCC membership	b.t.	£36.00
Royal British Legion	311022	Donation to Poppy Appeal	b.t.	£35.00

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

9. To plan Capital Grant supported project to produce artistic map of the parish

The plan is progressing, with quotations from artists awaited.

10. To consider renewal of fingerpost at Lees Lane/Higher Lane junction

The fingerpost on the corner of Lees Lane and Higher Lane is in a poor state of repair. It has been installed for as long as anyone can remember. It was agreed to seek quotations for replacement of the fingers on the post. However, if this is not possible a new post may be required.

11. To consider any planning issues or applications

The following planning decisions were noted:

Application Number: 2022/0776/FUL
Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension
Lakeside Lees Lane Dalton Wigan Lancashire WN8 7RE

Planning permission granted.

Application Number: 2022/0677/FUL
Single storey extension to rear of existing detached dwelling. Alterations to roof from flat to pitched over porch, and side and rear outriggers. Alterations to fenestration.
The Haven Higher Lane Dalton Wigan Lancashire WN8 7TW

Planning permission granted.

Application Number; 2022/1059/NMA
Boydells Farm, Hillock Lane, WN8 7RJ
Non material amendment to planning permission 2021/1518/PNC amendments to approved plans.

Application Number: 0222/0884/NMA
Cross House Farm, Lees Lane, WN8 7RE
Non material amendment to planning permission 2022/0434/FUL amendment to rear single storey extension to instead include apex glazing on the rear gable elevation.

12. To consider donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

It was resolved to issue a £35 donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

13. To consider project for WLBC Capital Grant application

Considering the criteria for application for this grant, a replacement fingerpost at Lees Lane/Higher Lane junction would appear eligible. This item will be returned to at the next meeting, once costings had been obtained.

14. To consider draft budget forecast

The draft budget was presented. More quotations will be sought so that a full forecast can be examined in more detail at the next meeting. Details of pay award under NALC terms and conditions were expected to be announced shortly.

The financial risk assessment documentation was accepted for use.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10pm

Cllr Louise Howard
Chairman

28th November 2022