

# *Dalton Parish Council*

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**Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth-Anne Broad JP, LLB (Hons), MA, CiLCA**  
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**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.00 pm on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at Dalton St Michael's School, Higher Lane, Dalton, WN8 7RP.**

Present: Cllr Louise Howard (Chairman), Cllr Iain Pearce (Vice Chairman), Cllr Chris Murphy, Cllr Gill Rainford and three members of the public.

**1. To record apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Toni Newman.

**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.**

Comments were made on Items 5, 8 & 10. It was generally felt that the staff hosting the Beacon Country Park Consultation were not knowledgeable of the local area and gave very little help other than encouragement to complete the online questionnaire which was limited in scope. Members of the public questioned what action had been taken to bring the management of Beacon Point away from Wigan Council and into West Lancashire Borough Council, as they had read on election brochures from Borough Council candidates. Concern was expressed about leaving Dalton Quarry unoccupied following Ibstock's decision to close Ravenhead Brickworks.

**4. To ratify as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

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

**5. To consider response to WLBC Proposals for Beacon Country Park**

The proposals were limited in scope but would not be objected to by Dalton Parish Council. The Parish Council would wish to see an access from Stannanought Road, to open the area up from that direction and alleviate traffic concerns on Beacon Lane. It was noted that there was an access road off Stannanought Road during construction and no safety concerns were raised then. The consultation period is now complete and the Parish Council awaits draft proposals from the WLBC Planners. Timescale and funding options appear to be absent at this stage.

**6. Accounts for ratification and payment**

E A Broad	300723	Clerk's salary July 2023	£281.73
M Rigby	140823	Grass verge cutting	£50.00
WLBC	140823	Election fee	£117.85*
E A Broad	290823	Clerk's salary Aug 2023	£281.73
M Rigby	290823	Grass verge cutting	£50.00
CPRE	010923	Annual subscription	£36.00
M Rigby	080923	Painting the road signs	£200.00
Royal British Legion	270923	Poppy Appeal	£ 35.00
HMRC	270923	Tax for three months	£188.40
E A Broad	270923	Clerk's salary Sept 2023	£281.73
Unity Trust	300923	3 monthly banking fee	£18.00

**Account Balances as at 08/09/2023: £1,552.24 in current account. £5,028.52 in reserve account. Total = £6,580.76.**

\*contains VAT

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

Papers were prepared to add Cllr Newman to the bank mandate as a signatory to accounts.

External auditors PKF Littlejohn confirmed receipt of exemption notices.

#### **7. Update on fingerpost and Dalton signs maintenance**

The fingerpost and one DALTON sign have been painted. The others will be surveyed, painted where required and if within budget.

#### **8. Ashurst Beacon: to resolve question of responsibility for maintenance**

Enquiries as to whether there are negotiations to incorporate Beacon Point monument into Beacon Country Park and/or within the responsibility of West Lancashire Borough Council are still unanswered.

#### **9. Consider problem of speeding vehicles**

LCC Highways responded to concerns in an email stating signs would be put up in October.

**10. Consider action, if any, over Ibstock decision to close brickworks**

Dalton Parish Council remains in contact with managers at Ibstock to consider implications of closure on Dalton Quarry.

**11. Consider problem of off-road bikes and quads**

Residents encouraged to report instances so that an accurate record is given to the police. The limitations in pursuit and prosecution of offenders are appreciated, however, the problem continues.

**12. Update on Capital Grant assisted project for an artistic map of the parish**

It was agreed to add a QR code on a disc to be sited across the parish. An A3 sized map and lectern to place on Lees Lane/Higher Lane junction may be considered.

**13. To record any police issues**

As above.

**14. To record any highway or public rights of way issues**

- **Lees Lane issues**

Drainage here is still a major problem with side of Lees Lane collapsing. No work has been done on this road though reports have been made for the past two years at least.

- **Footpath diversion – FP080735 at Rock Haven**

The formal application was not completed, so the existing footpath remains open and unaltered.

- **Coronation Bridge inadequate repair - FP080740**

The bridge has not been attended to and is dangerous and slippery.

The footpath running Crow Lane near Stone leigh/Stone Hall Farm has an obstructive ‘front door’ that walkers complain appears out of place and confusing as to where the footpath route goes. LCC Highways will be asked whether this is an obstruction or some wording might be added so that walkers know they can open the door and walk through.

A footpath sign is missing at Atherton House, Long Heys Lane.

**15. To consider any planning issues or applications**

Application Number: 2023/0658/FUL

Location: Delph Cottage, Crow Lane, WN8 7RY

Proposal: Proposed first floor extension and single storey extension to dwelling

Parish Council Response: Dalton Parish Council has no objection to this planning application providing all the criteria for development in the greenbelt have been met, and that it meets the guidelines in the Dalton Village Design Statement

Application Number: 2023/0558/FUL

Location: Chisnall Farm, Crow Lane, WN8 7RY

Proposal: Replacement dwelling and demolition of existing outbuilding to create stable block to be used in association with the replacement dwelling and associated landscaping.

Parish Council Response: Dalton Parish Council has no objection to this application providing all the criteria for development in the greenbelt are met, and that current and proposed volumes and uses are given careful consideration. Including the application of policy to replace the milking shed (agricultural building) with stables.

The following were noted:

Application Number: 2023/0656/CON

Location: Paynton, Higher Lane, WN8 7RP

Approval of details reserved by conditions nos 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 & 10 of planning permission 2022/1042/FUL relating to bat habitats and ecology, materials, EV charging, driveway specification, wheelwash etc.

Application 2022/1210/FUL

Location: Land adjacent to Old School House, Higher Lane, Dalton.

Application, with conditions, approved in WLBC Planning Committee Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

*There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55pm.*

***Cllr Louise Howard***  
***Chairman***

***13<sup>th</sup> November 2023***