

Dalton with Newton Town Council
Minutes of the meeting held Monday 5th September 2022 in the Town Hall, Station Road,
Dalton in Furness at 7pm

Present Councillors S Ronson, A Fox, N McDougall, A Thurlow, N Perie and W Maddox

1. **Apologies** Written apologies were received from Councillor Fox – Work Commitment. The apologies were accepted and noted.
2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** There was one amendment to numbering the items on the minutes. Following alteration it was **agreed** that the minutes of the previous meeting were a true record and the chairman was authorised to sign.
3. **Declarations of Interest** Councillors Ronson and Maddox declared an interest in any matters relating to Barrow Borough Council, Councillors A Thurlow and N Perie declared an interest in any matters relating to Dalton Community Association.
4. **Reports from District/County Councillors**
Councillor Maddox gave a verbal report on the information provided by Network Rail on the platform extension which would be carried out at Dalton during September and October and would result in a suspension of rail services to Dalton for a period of time. It was agreed that this information would be made available to the public to keep them informed.
5. **Matters Arising**
 - (a) Allotments – This item was deferred as Steph Cordon from Barrow Borough Council was not able to attend this meeting to discuss the issue.
 - (b) Vacancy for a Town Councillor – The Town Clerk reported that one expression of interest had been received and that the prospective councillor had been invited to interview on Monday 12th September. Interview panel will be Councillors A Fox, N Perie and A Thurlow.
 - (c) Casual Vacancy – The Town Clerk reported that Councillor Claire Stainton had now resigned her position as councillor representing Dowdales Ward as she would be taking a paid staff position with this council commencing in October 2022. The required official notice had been sent to the returning officer at Barrow Borough Council on 30th August. If ten electors for the ward did not come forward within fourteen working days the council could move to co-option. The Town Clerk will report back when the statutory 14 days had expired.
 - (d) Land at Goose Green – No further progress on the transfer of the land from Barrow Borough Council had been made since the last report had been received. The documentation was with the Borough Solicitors waiting for action, however there was a large backlog and it may take some time to complete. On a separate issue the Town Clerk had received a complaint about the number of dogs being walked in the area without leads. Following discussion it was **agreed** that the Town Council purchase and erect signs advising Dogs must be on leads whilst on the Public Right of Way.

- (e) DACH – Heritage Trail. Further information was being awaited before an update could be given and this matter was deferred.
- (f) Playground Rusland Drive – The Town Clerk reported that the Annual Playground inspection had now been carried out by Playdale Playgrounds and the report had been issued to Councillors prior to the meeting. The report identified several issues which needed addressing but that non were urgently required on safety grounds. The Town Council had agreed to take on the responsibility for the Playground from Barrow Borough Council approx. 3 years ago to prevent it from closure although the land had never been formally transferred to the Council and it remained to be seen if it would be classed as an asset of the Borough Council when the new Westmorland & Furness Authority assumed responsibility for Governance from April 2023. The playground was equipped for younger children and Councillors questioned if the play area was still well used. It was agreed that a survey of nearby residents would be undertaken with several options being offered for alternative use and the results reported back to council before a decision was made.
- (g) Sensory Garden – There was a report that the new surfacing the council installed in the sensory garden was being used by bikes which was leaving tyre marks behind. It was agreed that costs for signs advising no bikes would be obtained.
- (h) Police – There was no police presence at the meeting however crime figures had been received and sent out to councillors prior to the meeting. There was no comment on the crime figures however, one councillor referred to a complaint which had been raised by this office on behalf of a resident and subsequently the resident themselves. This had resulted in unsatisfactory response to the reports and the crime itself. It was **agreed** that a complaint be made to the Sergeant responsible for community policing in the Dalton area.

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to consider at this meeting

7. **Council Standing Orders** The Council Standing orders had been reviewed to bring them up to date with latest guidance and had been amended accordingly. It was **agreed** that the Standing orders be accepted and adopted.

8. **Building Refurbishment** The Town Clerk had now received a quote for the replacement of the floor covering to the Council chamber and other public areas. The floor coverings were now over 25 years old and were becoming unsafe and a health and safety issue due to the damage and subsequent trip hazard they posed. The quote of £2,240 was **approved**. A further quote for repainting of the public areas was being awaited and details would be reported back when available.

9. Finance

(a) Furness Media (Website re-design)	1185.00
(b) Cumbria Tree Surgery – J Braithwaite	272.80
(c) H F Thomson- Reimburse	89.48
(d) Petty Cash – Cleaning 22.7.22 to 28.10.22	280.00

- (e) HMRC months 4 – 6 inclusive 3566.88
- (f) Playdale – Annual Inspection Rusland Drive 312.00

The invoices listed above were approved for payment

- (g) Grant Application – Dalton Festival Association following discussion it was **agreed** that a grant of £1,000 be approved.

10. Reports

- (a) Finance Committee There had been no further meeting of the Finance Committee to report. Next meeting will be October to discuss articles to be included in the budget and precept for 2023/24. Councillor Ronson requested that the Shop Front grant scheme be included in budget proposals with a limit of £5,000 for the 2023/24 year. This was noted and will be included in discussions.
- (b) Joint Rural Committee Cllr Ronson gave a brief verbal report on the JRC meeting.
- (c) LGR Councillor Ronson gave a verbal report on the most recent LGR meeting, next meeting will be December 2022 when further more detailed information from the new Authority may be available.
- (d) Levelling Up Councillor Ronson reported that the levelling up committee had met on 1st September, this had been a productive meeting where several possible projects were suggested which could now be worked on by the committee to produce a plan when further funding sources became available. Suggestions so far included Highways improvements, an Arts and multi-use building for use by the community, a heritage centre and a business park and a multi-function market space. Further details will be reported when available.

Planning

- B21/2022/0598 Minikin Hall Farm, Longlands, Dalton
Single Storey Extension to comprise kitchen, utility room and shower room
The Town Council have no objections
- B21/2022/0625 Tranquil, Newton In Furness
Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of garden room extension to rear of property
The Town Council have no objections
- B18/2022/0620 Dalton RLFC, Ulverston Road, Dalton
Installation of replacement (LED) Floodlights
The Town Council have no objections

Meeting Closed 8.32pm

Signed.....
(Chairman)

Date.....

H F Thomson
Town Clerk

16th August 2022