

Dalton with Newton Town Council
Minutes of the meeting held Monday 8th January 2024 in the Town Hall, Station Road,
Dalton in Furness at 7pm

Present Councillors N Perie, N McDougall, A Thurlow, D Pearson and W Maddox

1. **Apologies.** Cllr S Ronson
2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** The minutes of the previous meeting were **agreed** as a true record and the Chairman was authorised to sign.
3. **Declarations of Interest.** Cllrs Perie and Thurlow declared an interest in any matters relating to Dalton Community Association.
4. **Reports from Westmorland and Furness Councillors.** Councillors T Callister and D Taylor (Dalton South) attended the meeting. Cllr Callister gave a brief verbal report on matters relevant to Dalton and Newton. Cllr Callister thanked Mayor Cllr Perie for attending the opening the world record attempt for the most people taking part in a 'clubercise' which was held at the weekend in Barrow. Cllr Callister reported that the next Locality Board meeting would be held on 11th January and plans for allocation of £33k to the Haggs footpath and £25k to Dropzone to help deal with youth issues being experienced at Dalton Community Centre will be up for discussion. Chief Executive Sam Plum will be in Dalton for a 'walkabout' and any issues which councillors would like to raise should be submitted to Councillor Taylor who will be accompanying Sam Plum on the walkabout. Cllrs Callister and Taylor were both working on getting the outdoor cycle maintenance unit currently situated on Greystone Lane moved to Nelson Street car park. Cllr Thurlow asked Cllr Callister about the timescale for the replacement of the bus shelter at Station Rd corner. Cllr Callister reported that there was no specific budget for replacement of bus shelters within Westmorland and Furness and funding was currently being looked for to enable replacement to go ahead.

Meeting Suspended at 7.02pm

Sergeant John Dilkes from the Community policing team attended the meeting to provide crime figures for the area between 4 December 2023 and 4 January 2024 for comparison. Total calls to the police for the area was 71 which was up by 6 from the previous month. Total crimes for the time period was 32 which was an increase of 3 on the previous month, these crimes included 11 assault and 2 criminal damage, there were no burglaries which was considered good news. The main areas which are a police focus at the current time are anti-social behaviour and road safety, figures for both were down. The speed indicator device had been placed at 2 areas, Abbey Road by the building which was formerly Chequers Hotel and also on Market Street close to the Wellington Hotel. When information recorded had been collated it showed that for the Abbey Road area site the 85th percentile figure was 21.2 and for the Market Street site the 85th percentile figure was 22.8. The latest policing survey for Dalton South was now live and was available online. The next Police surgery is being held on Tuesday 16th January at the police office at Dalton Community Centre 1 – 3pm.

Meeting Resumed 7.17pm

5. Matters Arising

- (a) Allotments- The Clerk and Assistant Clerk attended a meeting with two officers of Westmorland and Furness Council on 7th December 2023 to discuss the transfer of the allotments to the town council. Westmorland and Furness officers will now look into the new process as this would have changed due to the introduction of the unitary authority. The Town Clerk will follow this matter up with the officers on the 18th January as this will have been approx. 1 month since the meeting and some progress would have been expected.
- (b) Land at Goose Green- The lease of the land at Goose Green had now been signed by WandF and the land was officially in the hands of the Town Council. However due to the timing of the completed documents being sent to our solicitors by WandF over the Christmas period it had not been possible for the lease to be registered with the HMRC within the 14 days specified time scale and it was highly likely that a financial penalty of £100 would be levied by the HMRC on the Town Council. If this was the case an appeal would be lodged but if the appeal failed Westmorland and Furness would be approached to reimburse the Town Council or make a contribution towards the penalty.
- (c) Playground at Rusland Drive- Picnic benches and planters were now in place and 3 further planters are yet to be put out on site before the project is complete and ready for planting. The Town Clerk will follow up a completion date with the contractor this week.
- (d) Maintenance of Planters and Notice boards The Town Clerk reported that Barrow Borough Council (now Westmorland and Furness) committed funds from the Highways Enhancements grant funding awarded by central Government to installing planters and notice boards on Market Street, Dalton. As part of the initial agreement Dalton Town Council were asked to assume responsibility for future maintenance. An agreement had now been drawn up and it was necessary for councillors to agree and future maintenance will be undertaken by the Town Council. Cllr Perie proposed that the Town Council assume responsibility for 3 planters located at 2 x 52 Market street and 1 x 79 Market Street both Dalton in Furness and 1 x notice boards which will be located on Tudor Square, Dalton in Furness and the maintenance agreement with Westmorland and Furness Council be signed. In addition but not included on the maintenance agreement was land outside the vet on Market Street. It was also proposed by Cllr Perie that the Town Council will maintain this plot of land. Seconded Cllr Thurlow. **Agreed**

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report at this meeting.

- 7. Volunteer Week 2024 The Assistant Town Clerk gave a report on the progress of the Volunteer day arranged for 27th January. There had been good interest in the event with 13 bookings having been taken from voluntary organisations. It may be necessary to organise a further event to accommodate all those groups interested in attending later in the year. The event is 10 – 2pm with access for groups from 9am.
- 8. Mayor Elect 2024/2025 Cllr A Thurlow proposed that Cllr N McDougall (current deputy mayor) be the Mayor Elect for the 2024/2025 year. Seconded Cllr W Maddox. On a vote of all in favour Cllr McDougall was **agreed** as the Mayor Elect

9. **Deputy Mayor Elect 2024/2025** Cllr N McDougall proposed Cllr Ann Thurow be the Deputy Mayor Elect for the 2024/2025 year. Seconded Cllr D Pearson. On a vote of all in favour Cllr Thurlow was **agreed** as the Deputy Mayor Elect.

10. Finance

(a) **Budget and Precept** Each Councillor had been provided with a copy of the 2023/24 budget monitoring and the projected final year figures along with a copy of the finance committee meeting minutes where the figures had been considered and analysed and a budget and precept figure recommended for approval by full council.

Cllr Maddox proposed the budget for the 2024/2025 year be agreed as £253,032.

Seconded Cllr Thurlow. On a vote of all in favour the budget was **agreed** as £253,032.

Cllr Maddox proposed that the precept requirement for the 2024/2025 year be set as £253,000. Following a vote of all in favour the precept requirement for 2024/2025 was **agreed** as £253,000.

Payments/Invoices for approval

(a) Goadsbarrow Landscapes	1668.60
(b) DSL	115.20
(c) Goadsbarrow Landscapes	1236.60
(d) Optech Fibres	10620.48
(e) L Caine £25.00 x 4	100.00
(f) Furness Media	24.00
(g) HSP Milners	114.00

The invoices were approved for payment

11. Reports.

There were no reports at the present time.

12. Planning.

B21/2023/0759 13 Fell Croft, Dalton

Proposed loft conversion involving the construction of new front and rear flat roof dormers

The Town Council have no objections

B20/2023/0749 Land at Green Area, Dalton

Engineering works to create manege (horse arena) resubmission of B20/2022/0765

The Town Council have no objections

Meeting Closed 7.52pm

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....

H F Thomson
Town Clerk

9 January 2024

