

Dalton with Newton Town Council  
Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
in the Town Hall, Station Road, Dalton in Furness at 7pm.

Present DTC Councillors N Perie, S Ronson, N McDougall, B Solari, W Maddox and A Thurlow  
WandF Councillors T Callister and D Taylor. 17 members of the public.

1. Apologies DTC Councillor T Mackereth, WandF Councillors D Edwards and B Shirley
2. Mayors Report Cllr N Perie gave the Mayors report. The hardest thing to do, as a Mayor that cares is to finish, you realise that you are running out of time to make a difference, some people will say thank goodness for that but id like to think that most people who I have met this year will think I'm sorry to see him go.

Please bear with me as I jump back and forth and come across with some emotion. No tears , enough have been shed already.

I say this because I know I'm cheeky, just a little bit but cheeky, I feel that I'm approachable and I've tried to build real relations with people this year.

At one of my last appearances as Mayor this year someone at the event came over and started to talk to me as though I was their best friend, something that I really enjoyed as I realised what I wanted to do has started to work, as my wife knows that once I get talking I really can talk for England, and she more than anyone knows what the Mayorship means to me.

As the Mayor you are expected to attend a few events during the year, again not my style as can be seen by my travels this year by visiting Maidenhead and Windsor and taking part in the Armed Forces Day celebration and Preston this year, I rang one of the administrations again at the end and the PA remembered me , so in a small way Dalton in Furness is remembered add to this Manchester, Derby, Slough, Lancaster etc from my previous years as Mayor as I strongly believe that Dalton needs better and deserves better, my best memory is with the then Mayor of Slough who invited me to attend all sorts of places of which I did most of, only my holiday stopped me as I ran out of time, something which my wife constantly reminds me of, and that its supposed to be her holiday as well, not a total Mayoral visit.

As I've shared my whole year with you in the Town councils newsletters , with Clare chasing me for the reports it would have been easy just to say thank you all for a great time but that isn't my style and as I looked back over my twelve months which has taken me hours, the last month and seven days have taken me 40 minutes. Having attended 11 events , four football games, two rugby matches, three coffee mornings involving the Parkinsons Society, Alzheimer's and the WI., seen 9 notable Daltonians, 2 art exhibitions/shows, 13 businesses ( nearly finished a few left to do).

Where do I start, some of the things that I will remember is Dalton United's 50th Anniversary in the West Lancashire league, a superb day and the officials were good craic, Dalton Day last year where I saw everything , I was back and forth like a yoyo and at the end of the day felt like I'd done about twenty miles, happy but tired, it took three days to recover

fully and my Mayors Civic Sunday service was the day after), the DCAG Christmas party, all the local Mayors Civic Sundays, the World record event in Barrow, someone said they had never seen another Mayor open an event in Barrow, a first for Dalton and I talked to everyone in the Marquis afterwards and was so totally thrilled to be part of Team Dalton on that day along with our Tony and Dave, Kerry, to name a few, that same person at another event said say a few words on the mike and my reply was why I've spoken to everyone in the room individually, it took some time but then i realised that's my style, everyone is important and should be treated that way. In Fact I cherish , every event.

As this year has gone by I've named people in my Facebook posts and my friend base has increased from 1500 to over 3000, I've taken an interest in everything and tried to lead the way, especially the youth sport teams , our Mila, Oliver, Samuel, Sophie to name a few, names that in years to come will be a force to be reckoned in the sports world, I said to our Kier I'll watch all the teams this year, it was only when he said there are 24 this year when all the colour drained from me , I'd like to think that i managed most of the teams but the weather has put paid to that, but still managed two litter picks one with councillors and one with Dowdales.

Think I've seen 16 football teams this year ,some of the teams twice but I was very proud to watch the Dalton Arrows play at Railway Meadows for the first time a game of which Dalton won and in which our Leanne played superbly as did the whole team, also our Kira was and is a real find, a lovely girl who doesn't know how good she is, I spoke to Lindon and said she should be playing for the men's first team and when I say hit the crossbar and side bar too many times to count , scored three and ripped the defence to pieces, at Under 7, 9, 10, 11,12 and 14 level there are a few that stand out and will be names in the future if they carry on playing.

The rugby dragons at Under 14 level and Under 16 are the same.

None of this would be possible if it wasn't for the volunteers who managed them , teach them and make time for them, to all the volunteers in sports and indeed in all the other organisations in Dalton I want to say thank you, you are all brilliant and heroes in my eyes.

My biggest thanks this year goes to the businesses and to the residents who have made my year, it has been a real pleasure meeting you all and being part of you all.

As a result I've had numerous very kind words from the community

The smiling Mayor

Mr Mayor

And the kids have whispered "there is the Mayor", at which point I've stopped and said hello to them

Along with other things that I will cherish forever

My favourites this year have been Papa Perie, you're like a stick of rock , snap you in half and you'll see Dalton written through you.

To everyone who has made very kind comments thank you.

It was a real joy to visit every school, meet the kids and teachers and talk to them and even better to attend all of the Christmas fairs and plays this year, I missed two due to being at other events, not too bad for a Mayor.

As I finish it has been the best year out of my four years and our Morgan at Sanctuary 9 who added my latest Mayoral year to my arm advised me that she had left me space for a few more, Years to which I said I've not finished this year yet....

I started this year saying that my fourth would be my final year as Mayor, but the kind comments and continually being asked whether I will be Mayor again has led me to reconsider, so if I am lucky enough to stand again and you all want me I will do a fifth year, as I was writing a report my youngest came through and asked me am I doing it again, I just looked at her and next second all my kids were laughing and saying he's going to stand again, something that my wife rolled her eyes at.

I want to say a massive thank you to my long suffering wife and family who allow me to do what I need to do as Mayor and a Cllr and puts up with me never being around.

I truly love Dalton and everyone in it, it has been an honour to serve as your Mayor this year a year that I will not forget just as I won't forget the others but this year I have tried to be part of the community and put Dalton first and most importantly be available, every Mayor has their own style, there is no right or wrong way to approach it but I firmly believe (and been told by lots of people) that there is a buzz in town and Dalton is heading up, something that I hope and pray will continue.

Being part of Team Dalton has been fantastic this year and it has been a joy working with our W&F Councillors and others in getting things done, working together is the way forward.

Dalton you are always with me , on my arm and in my heart (and contrary to what Dave says I haven't slept and showered in the chains and no I'm not called Aunty Brenda) - if you know, you know , the only disappointment is that Dave hasn't come back to me and paid for the chains to be tattooed on me as well, as Fiona wont let me keep the originals as apparently its not like the Jules Rimet trophy, won four times and you keep them.

You will still see my smiling face around town and I will quietly be involved as a Cllr of our great town

Till the next time everyone

3. Presentation of Mayors Charity Fund Cllr Perie presented donations from the Mayors Charity Fund to Dalton Town Band, Dalton Community Church, Newton Academy, 1<sup>st</sup> Duddon Scouts and Dalton Guides.
4. Issues Raised by member of the public There were four issues raised, the footbridge at the Hags, Bus Shelters on Dalton Lane in Barrow, flooding at Tythe Barn and highways issues at Weint Corner. As these were Westmorland and Furness responsibilities Councillors Callister and Taylor addressed the issues.
5. Community Champion Cllr Perie presented the Community Champion Award to Sharon Tait from Art4All CiC .

6. Citizen of the Year Award Cllr Perie presented the Citizen of the Year Award to Kerry Kosak

Meeting Closed 7.32pm

Signed.....

Chairman

Date.....

H F Thomson  
Town Clerk

8<sup>th</sup> May 2024