

Dalton with Newton Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 18th August 2025
in the Town Hall, Station Road, Dalton in Furness at 7pm

Present Cllrs A Thurlow, B Solari, B Parrington, C Fox, N McDougall, D Pearson, N Perie, W Maddox, M Dobson and D Miller.

C1/08/2025 Apologies for Absence There were no apologies for absence.

C2/08/2025 Minutes of the Previous Meeting The Chairman was **authorised** to sign the minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 7th July 2025, the Greenspaces & Biodiversity Committee meetings held on 9th & 16th July 2025 and the Finance & Staffing Committee meeting held on Monday 4th August 2025.

C3/08/2025 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Perie declared an interest in any matters relating to Dalton Community Association.

C4/08/2025 Exclusion of Press & Public To consider the exclusion of the press and public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted in agenda item 13. It was **resolved** to exclude Press & Public in relation to agenda item 13.

C5/08/2025 Reports from Westmorland and Furness Councillors Cllr Tony Callister attended the meeting and verbally reported on the following issues: The new weed spraying trial carried out by Westmorland and Furness council, a proposed dog fouling campaign and the current WandF consultation on Public Spaces Protection Order.

Meeting suspended at 7.08pm for public participation

One member of the public was in attendance to raise one issue regarding speeding vehicles on Hollygate Rd during the early hours.

Meeting Resumed 7.10pm

C6/08/2025 Matters Arising

- (a) Cumbria in Bloom – Cllr Thurlow gave a verbal report on the Cumbria in Bloom judging which took place on the 21st July. Cllr Thurlow thanked all the volunteers who helped with the entry this year and said she didn't think we could have done more. News on the winners in all categories will not be available until September and results will be reported back when available.

C7/08/2025 Correspondence

There was no correspondence to be noted at this meeting.

C8/08/2025 Goose Green Garden A proposal from the Greenspaces Committee was put forward to the Council for consideration. The Greenspaces Committee proposes a

scheme allowing members of the public to commemorate loved ones through the dedication of a memorial bench or memorial garden plots at Goose Green, and, starting in 2026–2027, a memorial tree at Myrtle Terrace. Full costings for the proposal were included for consideration. Cllr Perie proposed that the Council accept the proposal. Seconded Cllr Dobson Following a vote it was **resolved** that the proposal be accepted.

C9/08/2025 Management of Public Areas There is a proposal from the Greenspaces Committee that the Council consider carrying out much needed remedial work on areas of Market Place which have become unsafe including uneven stone flags due to the eruption of tree roots, cracks to the base of the water fountain and the requirement for weed removal and power washing. As the Town Council do not own this land and ownership cannot be traced the Town Council can only carry out remedial work as a one off for safety reasons using powers under S137. Full costs for the work would be £4165 ex VAT. Following discussion Cllr Perie proposed that the proposal be accepted and the work go-ahead. Seconded Cllr Solari. On a vote of 9 for 1 abstention it was **resolved** to accept the proposal.

C10/08/2025 Finance

- (a) Cllr Fox proposed that the Council resolve to accept the recommendations of the finance committee outlined in minutes numbers FC&S 5/08/2025 to FC&S 8/08/2025. Seconded Cllr Pearson. On a vote it was **resolved** that the proposal be accepted.
- (b) The Town Clerk reported that the external audit had now been concluded and the external auditors had raised two issues. a) – *Box 11a was not initially completed on section 2 Accounting Statements when the form was submitted. The form was resubmitted with a no answer which was in line with our expectation so we have no further concerns.* b) – *The Internal auditor was provided a ‘No’ response at control objective K on their report. This suggests that the council incorrectly claimed exemption from audit in the previous year (2023/24) year. As the council was not exempt and did not claim exemption, the answer to this point should have been ‘Not Covered’. Since this is a repeated point, please could this be brought to the attention of the internal auditor.*

The matters arising in the external audit opinion were noted

(c) Invoices for approval

| Supplier | Description | Amount | Power |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Optec Fibres Limited | Bunting (Final Payment) | £990.00 | LGA s.145 |
| JRB | Dog Bags | £277.34 | Open Spaces Act 1906 s10 |
| Moore | External Audit | £756.00 | Local Audit and Accountability 2014 s.20 |
| F. Thomson | Reimbursement - Office & CIB Supplies | £90.10 | LGA s.111 & LGA s.137 |
| R D Landscape | Goose Green Work | £24870.00 | Open Spaces Act 1906, s.10 |

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|------------------|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Furness Internet | Office Equipment & installation | £1320.00 | LGA s.111 |
| Furness Internet | IT Support | £250.56 | LGA s.111 |
| SLCC | Annual Membership | £355.00 | LGA s.111 |
| Tythe Barn | 'Adopt a Planter' | £240.00 | LGA s.144 |
| Ryan Watson | Tree Work – Myrtle Tce | £580.00 | Open spaces Act 1906 s10 |

It was proposed by Cllr Dobson and seconded by Cllr Maddox that the payments be approved. On a vote of all in favour it was **resolved** the payments be approved.

C11/08/2025 General Reports from Councillors Councillors were reminded that it was imperative that their neutrality in relation to contentious local issues be maintained and comments made in the public arena avoided.

C12/08/2025 Planning

B21/2025/0295 Killen, Butts Beck, Dalton

Erection of single storey side extension (following demolition of existing conservatory)

The Town Council have no objections

Meeting Closed 7.50pm

Signed.....
(Chairman)

Date.....

H F Thomson
Town Clerk

19 August 2025