

Newsletter

December 2025 - January 2026

BRILLIANT BOLLARDS

Over 200 hand knitted bollard covers were on display during November and December! These beautiful covers were lovingly knitted by members of the community, including Margaret, Gill, and the ladies of Cameo. Installing them was no small task—over 10 hours of careful work went into putting them on securely—but the results are worth it. With a few new additions this year, every bollard was covered ready for everyone to enjoy. A big thank you to all the community members who contributed their time and creativity to this project, bringing a little extra warmth and charm to our streets.



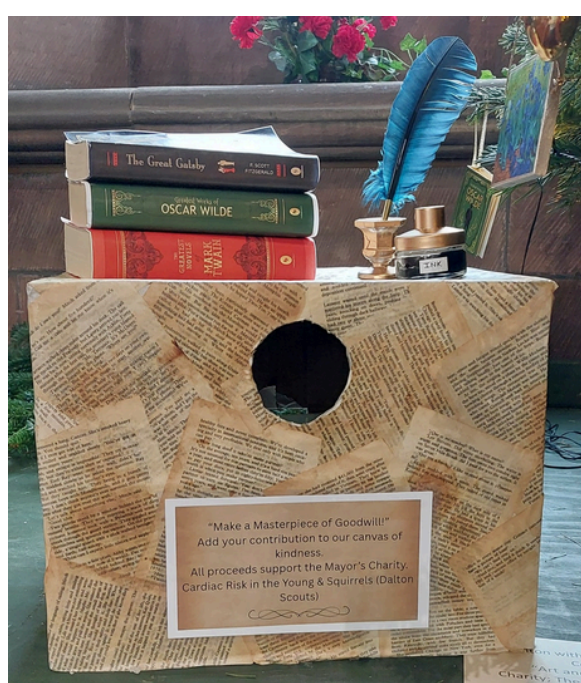
TREE FESTIVAL

The Town Council — along with lots of other amazing groups — decorated trees at St. Mary's Church for the annual Tree Festival. This year, our theme was Art and Literature, and we had so much fun bringing it to life! We hope you managed to come along while the festival was open and, thank you if you made a donation in support of the many wonderful charities taking part. Every penny truly makes a difference. This year, all donations placed in our collection box goes to the Mayor's chosen charities: CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) and Dalton Scouts (Squirrels). Our collection box collected a total of



£78.39

Thank you for your support



Town Council Meeting Dates 2026

The public are always welcome to attend council meetings. If you wish to ask a question, you will be given time during the meeting. If you require an answer on the night, please submit your question at least 7 days in advance.

Access to meetings is via the rear of Dalton Town Hall.

Exclusion of Press & Public Under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public may be excluded for items involving confidential, legal, staffing, or sensitive financial matters. We thank you for your understanding.

FULL COUNCIL

- January 5th 7pm
- February 2nd 7pm
- March 2nd 7pm
- April 13th 7pm
- May 11th 7pm
- June 1st 7pm
- July 6th 7pm
- September 7th 7pm
- October 5th 7pm
- November 2nd 7pm
- December 7th 7pm

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

• May 5th 7pm

The Annual Meeting of the Council is a statutory meeting held each year, where the Council conducts its formal “new year” business. At this meeting, councillors elect the Chair/Mayor and Deputy Chair/Mayor for the coming year, appoint members to committees, and confirm key governance documents. It marks the start of the new council year and focuses on internal council organisation rather than general public matters.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

• April 19th

The Annual Town Meeting is not a council meeting, but a meeting of the electors of the town. Any registered elector is welcome to attend, speak, ask questions, or raise local issues. It is an opportunity for residents to receive updates on council activities, hear reports from community groups, and discuss matters affecting the town. Councillors attend in their capacity as residents, and the meeting is chaired by the Town Mayor. Further details about the meeting will be shared closer to the date.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- February 11th 6pm
- April 8th 6pm
- June 10th 6pm
- September 9th 6pm
- November 11th 6pm

EMERGENCY PLANNING

- January 19th 7pm
- February 23rd 7pm
- April 7th 7pm
- May 26th 7pm
- July 20th 7pm
- September 21st 7pm
- October 19th 7pm
- November 23rd 7pm

GREENSPACES

- January 12th 7pm
- March 9th 7pm
- April 20th 7pm
- May 18th 7pm
- June 8th 7pm
- July 13th 7pm
- September 14th 7pm
- November 9th 7pm

Please note that committee meetings may be subject to change or cancellation.

www.daltoncouncil.gov.uk 01229 464000

townclerk@daltoncouncil.gov.uk

TOWN HALL OFFICE HOURS ARE: MON - THUR 8:30AM - 3:00PM, FRI 8:30AM - 12:30PM

Town Council Budget and Precept 2026–2027

Each year, the Town Council sets a budget to cover the services, facilities and projects it provides for the community. At a recent meeting, councillors agreed the budget and council tax (precept) for the 2026–2027 financial year.

How the Council's Budget Is Spent

The total budget for 2026–2027 is £389,177. This covers the day-to-day running of the council as well as services and improvements across the town.

Some of the main areas of spending include:

- Staff costs – £80,000
To employ staff who deliver council services and support residents.
- Environmental and grounds maintenance – £27,900
Including general upkeep of green spaces and public areas.
- Projects – £45,475
For planned improvements and developments around the town.
- Allotments – £40,000
To maintain and improve allotment sites for local residents.
- Christmas events and lighting – £42,200
Covering festive decorations and activities enjoyed by the community.
- Planters, tree work and grass cutting – £32,000
Helping to keep the town looking attractive and well cared for.
- Buildings, utilities, cleaning and insurance – approximately £38,000
To run and protect council buildings safely and efficiently.

The budget also includes money for grants to local groups, training for councillors and staff, IT systems, refuse collection, and a contingency fund of £20,000 to help manage unexpected costs.

How the Budget Is Funded

Not all of the budget comes from council tax. The Council will use £49,000 from its reserves, which reduces the amount that needs to be raised from residents.

This means the precept (the amount collected through council tax) for 2026–2027 will be £340,177.

What This Means for Council Tax

The precept for 2026–2027 is higher than last year's figure of £314,198. This increase reflects rising costs, investment in services, and planned projects.

For a Band D property, the Town Council portion of the council tax will be:

- 2025–2026: £127.70 per year
- 2026–2027: £137.34 per year

This is an increase of £9.64 per year, which is the equivalent of around 96p per month (paid over 10 months).

Below are the annual increases for each council tax band:

- Band A: £6.43 per year (64p per month)
- Band B: £7.50 per year (75p per month)
- Band C: £8.57 per year (86p per month)
- Band D: £9.64 per year (96p per month)
- Band E: £11.78 per year (£1.18 per month)
- Band F: £13.92 per year (£1.39 per month)
- Band G: £16.07 per year (£1.61 per month)
- Band H: £19.28 per year (£1.93 per month)

In Summary

The approved budget allows the Town Council to continue delivering essential services, maintain public spaces, support community activities, and invest in the town's future. Councillors have also made use of reserves to help keep the increase to council tax as low as possible during a time of rising costs.

If residents would like more information about the budget or how council money is spent, they are encouraged to contact the Town Council or attend a council meeting.

Meet your councillors



Councillor David Pearson (Anty Cross & Newton)

Being a Daltonian and proud of our town, I've seen many changes over the last fifty years. Although we've lost a number of businesses, Dalton has remained the friendly and sociable place it has always been. Our festivals are a perfect example – people come together, support one another, and the smiles on their faces say it all. As a councillor, I am proud and happy to serve the people of Dalton.



Councillor Bailey Parrington (Anty Cross & Newton)

From a young age, I was fascinated by the work of our town council and the people who helped keep Dalton moving forward. Having lived here all my life, I've always felt a deep connection to our community – from school days and local events to the sense of pride that comes with growing up in a supportive town. In 2019, I was honoured to be co-opted onto Dalton Town Council at just 18, becoming its youngest-ever member. Being trusted with that role so early in my life is something I'll always be grateful for.

My priority has always been to help Dalton remain the friendly, welcoming, and vibrant place we all cherish. I'm committed to listening to residents of every generation and making sure our town continues to feel inclusive, forward-looking, and proud of its identity. As we grow and change, I look forward to working with you all to keep Dalton a place we're happy to call home.



Councillor Neil McDougall (Dowdales)

I have lived in the Dalton area since the mid 1990's and in the Furness area all my life. I am committed and care about the local issues that affect the environment, infrastructure and particularly in creating opportunities for local businesses to flourish.

I have been in business in the local area for nearly 40 years so I am familiar with the obstacles that can make it difficult for businesses to prosper, I am committed to removing these obstacles as a councillor in the area that I live so that local business can develop and grow with the needs of the community. I am involved with the local community in a number of ways, I use and encourage using local services.

I also raise funds for a charity that supports the local community and do this on a regular basis, this involves running events for the Furness area and people countywide to get involved with.

I am proud to live and work within the Dalton area and I am committed to working for you on the issues that matter to make this area continue to develop and grow for the benefit of all.



Councillor Mayor Ann Thurlow (Dowdales)

I have lived in the area since 1972 and been on the Town Council since 2008-i have been Mayor three times. I was also a Barrow Borough Councillor for Dalton North for 8 years. Since retiring from teaching have had time to give back to the community through volunteering. For me this has included volunteering with Barrow Foodbank, Age Uk Barrow and the National Trust at Sandscale Haws .



Councillor Wendy Maddox (Beckside)

I have lived in Dalton for over 50 years and love it and I have been a Dalton Town Councillor for nearly 26 years. I am passionate about Dalton, the people and all it stands for. We have some lovely areas in the town and as the ancient capital of Furness we are in the famous Domesday Book



Councillor Craig Fox (Beckside)

My name is Craig Fox and I originally joined the council in 2017 and was a councillor for 5 years until I took a short break to focus on other things, before now rejoining. I have lived in Dalton since 2013 and am married to Alison, who was also a councillor for a number of years. I continue to have an interest in seeing the town thrive and enjoy playing a part in making things happen. I currently work from home but travel extensively throughout Europe and speak fluent German, having lived and worked there for 28 years. If you need to contact me for any reason please email me at (my council email) and I will get back to you as soon as possible.



Councillor Deputy Mayor Bruce Solari (Dowdales)

Hello I am Bruce Solari and I am 59 years old. I have lived in Dalton for around five years now. I am married to Sharon who owns and runs Feel Fabulous on Tudor square. Sharon is a Dalton lass born and bred. I work at BAE Systems and have done for many years. I love Dalton as a Town and feel it has so much to offer as long as people are prepared to support it. I am eager to help people wherever and whenever I can. I am a keen amateur gardener with an allotment and I am a fan of many sports. I represent the Dowdales ward, if you have any issues please do not hesitate to get in touch with me

Councillor Nick Perie (Anty Cross & Newton)



I have lived in Dalton for over twenty years after living in different locations around the country and been on the Parish council since 2004 .

I have gladly been the Mayor of Dalton and Newton for three years during this time and sat on numerous committees including Finance, LGR and Projects committee currently.

I have 5 children who have all attended Dalton schools and who are all Dowdalian.

I am involved in the community as a Governor at Dowdales School and I am also on the Executive committee of 1st Duddon cubs and scouts to name a few.

My passion is representing the people of Dalton and trying to improve the local area and fighting for what the residents want.

I want Dalton to retain as much of its local character as possible, resisting developments that threaten the identity and character of our town and current infrastructure.

As a Town councillor I am very active and as well as resisting unwanted developments in the town I am interested in other issues as raised by residents and local businesses

Councillor Alison Fox (Anty Cross & Newton)



My name is Alison Fox and I originally joined the council in 2018 and was a councillor for 5 years before taking a break to complete my Bachelors Degree. I am originally from Burnley but I have lived in Dalton since 2012 and I am married to Craig, who is also a councillor.

I am interested in helping out with things going on in the town and like to play an active part where I can to help make the town a pleasant place to live and work.

If you need to contact me for any reason, please email me at (my council email) and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

📣 New Bra Recycling Bank at Dalton Town Hall! ♻️🎀

We're excited to let everyone know that Dalton Town Council now has a Bra Recycling Bank located in the entrance of Dalton Town Hall!

👉 What is it?

This is a simple and eco-friendly way to recycle your unwanted or unused bras rather than sending them to landfill. By donating, you help protect the environment and support a fantastic cause.

❤️ Where do the proceeds go?

All proceeds from the bras collected go towards supporting the Mayor's Charities, helping make a difference right here in our community.

🌍 Who benefits?

The recycling scheme works with a national charity that raises vital funds through textile recycling. Bras collected are processed so that usable ones get a new lease of life, and any funds generated help support important causes – including research and community programmes. Recycling textiles also helps reduce waste and keep materials out of landfill, ticking both charity and green goals boxes.

[againstbreastcancer.org.uk](https://www.againstbreastcancer.org.uk)

♥️ Why it matters

Dalton Town Council is committed to sustainability and reducing waste. This initiative supports that ethos by encouraging reuse and recycling, while also giving back through charity.

👉 How you can help:

Just drop off any unwanted bras (clean and in any condition) into the Bra Recycling Bank at Dalton Town Hall. It's that easy!

Thank you for helping us make Dalton greener and more charitable! 🌱🌟

#RecycleForGood #DaltonTownCouncil #MayorCharities #EcoFriendly



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