

**Dalton with Newton Town Council**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 in the Town Hall,**  
**Station Road, Dalton in Furness at 7pm**

**Present:** Cllr A Thurlow, B Solari, W Maddox, N McDougall, M Dobson, D Pearson, N Perie, B Parrington and A Fox

**In attendance:** Mrs. C. Stainton, Town Clerk. Miss Jane Sharkey, Admin Assistant.

**Meeting Opened at 7.00pm**

**C1/04/2026. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C Fox.

**C2/04/2026. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**Resolved:** That the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of:

- a. the Council meeting held on Monday 2nd March 2026
- b. the Greenspaces Committee meeting held on Monday 9th March 2026
- c. the Staffing Committee meeting held on Monday 30th March 2026
- d. the Emergency/Resilience Committee meeting held on Tuesday 7th April 2026
- e. the Finance Committee meeting held on Wednesday 8th April 2026

**C3/04/2026. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest from members in respect of items on the agenda.

**C4/04/2026. Exclusion of Press and Public**

**Resolved:** That, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded for item 18 due to the confidential nature of the business.

**C5/04/2026. Reports from Westmorland & Furness Councillors**

Apologies were received from Councillor T Callister who had submitted a written report prior to the meeting. Updates were provided regarding the progression of the High Street improvement scheme, a children's home and Dalton Leisure Centre.

**C6/04/2026. Report from the Police**

PC Dixon and PCSO Tomlinson reported on issues effecting Dalton.

#### **C7/04/2026. Public Participation**

There were no members of the public present.

#### **C8/04/2026. Clerk's Report**

a. This information was deferred to being covered in planning consultations.

#### **C9/04/2026. Correspondence**

The Clerk informed Council of a letter received from Cumbria Police in relation to criminal damage caused within the town; however, the Clerk reported that the incident had not been reported to the police via the Council. PC Dixon confirmed that the letter had most likely been sent to the wrong council.

The Clerk informed Council of an invitation from the Environment Agency which had been forwarded to all Councillors, who were asked to respond directly.

#### **C10/04/2026. General Reports**

There were no reports to receive.

#### **C11/04/2026. Sensory / Community Garden – Abbey Road**

Councillors considered the recommendation from the Greenspaces and Biodiversity Committee to purchase a weatherproof book storage box to be situated within the garden and to rebrand the area as “The Reading Garden.”

**Resolved:** The Clerk was instructed to purchase a weatherproof book storage box for £478.80 and arrange installation.

#### **C12/04/2026. Railway Land**

The Clerk reported that following discussions with Community Rail regarding land owned by Network Rail that the Council could secure the relevant licenses for developing the area.

Resolved: The Clerk was instructed to proceed.

#### **C13/04/2026. Policies**

Councillors considered the following:

a. **Resolved:** To re-adopt the Retention of Documents Policy. The Chair was authorised to sign the document.

#### **C14/04/2026. Finance**

Councillors considered the following:

a. **Statement of Internal Control and Risk Management**

It was **resolved** to re-adopt the Council's Statement of Internal Control and Risk Management, following the recommendation of the Finance Committee meeting held on 8 April 2026. The Chair was authorised to sign the document.

**b. Financial Regulations**

It was **resolved** to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee following its annual review of the Council's Financial Regulations. The Chair was authorised to sign the document.

**c. Internal Auditor's Report**

The Internal Auditor's Report for the year ended 31 March 2026, signed on 2 April 2026, was **received and noted**.

**d. Year-End Financial Documents**

It was **resolved** to approve the following, as recommended by the Finance Committee meeting held on 8 April 2026:

- Bank Reconciliation as at 31 March 2026
- Explanation of Significant Variances
- Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2026

**e. Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 (Section 1 of the AGAR)**

It was **resolved** to approve the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2026. The Chair and Clerk were authorised to sign the document.

**f. Accounting Statements 2025/26 (Section 2 of the AGAR)**

It was *resolved* to approve the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026. The Chair was authorised to sign the document.

**g. Annual Summary Report 2025/26**

It was *resolved* to approve the Annual Summary Report for the year ended 31 March 2026 for publication. The Chair was authorised to sign the document.

**h. Period for the Exercise of Public Rights**

It was **resolved** to approve the dates for the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 to commence on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026 and to end on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2026.

**i. Regular Payments for the 2026/27 Financial Year**

**Resolved:** To approve the schedule of regular payments for the 2026/27 financial year.

	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<b>Standing Orders</b>			
T. Mortlock-Jackson	Storage	£86.67	Monthly
<b>Direct Debit</b>			
Westmorland and Furness Council	National non domestic rates	£45 -48	Monthly (for 10 months)
British Gas	Gas	Variable	Monthly
British Gas	Electric	Variable	Monthly
Furness Internet	Web Hosting/IT Support	Variable	Monthly
Grenke Leasing	Photocopier Lease	£545.87	Quarterly
ICO	Information Commissioners Office	£47.00+	Yearly
Suez	Waste Collection	Variable	Monthly
Water Plus	Water Rates	Variable	Monthly
Unity Bank	Account Charges	£9.60+	Monthly
National Employment	Nest Pension	Variable	Monthly
HMRC	PAYE	Variable	Monthly
<b>Regular Bank Payments</b>			
Hudson Hill	Ink Charges	Variable	Monthly
Hudson Hill	Phone & Internet	Variable	Monthly
Salaries		Variable	Monthly

**j. Bank Signatories**

The authorised bank signatories and online banking authorisation arrangements for the 2026/27 financial year were **reviewed and confirmed**.

**k. Earmarked Reserves**

It was **resolved** to approve the Council's Earmarked Reserves and General Reserve balance as at 31 March 2026, following the recommendation of the Finance Committee meeting held on 8 April 2026.

### I. Payments for Approval

Supplier	Description	Amount	Power
Clerk Reimbursement	Rose Bushes – Goose Green	£74.81	Open Spaces Act 1906 s.10
JRB	Dog Bags	£254.78	Open Spaces Act 1906 s.10
T. Pearson Electrical	PAT TEST MAY 2025	£255.00	LGA 1972 s111
SLCC	Staff Training	£168.00	LGA 1972 s111
Barrow Striders	Dalton Charter 10k	£550.00	LGA 1972 s137
Blachere Illumination	Hire of lights	£1983.89	LGA 1972 s144

**Resolved:** That the above payments be approved. On a vote of all in favour.

### C15/04/2026. Planning

**Reference Number:** B21/2026/0059

**Location:** 79 Stainton Drive Dalton-In-Furness Cumbria LA15 8XD

**Resolved:** No objection.

**Reference Number:** B23/2026/0092 & B21/2026/0093

**Location:** Mill Brow Lodge Abbey Road Dalton-In-Furness Cumbria LA13 0PD

**Resolved:** No objection.

**Reference Number:** B23/2025/0523 & B20/2025/0524

**Location:** Bernies Gym Chapel Street Dalton-In-Furness Cumbria LA15 8BY

**Resolved:** No objection.

**Reference Number:** B20/2026/0039

**Location:** 75 - 77 Market Street Dalton-In-Furness Cumbria LA15 8DL

**Resolved:** No objection the proposal. Councillors expressed concerns that the supporting documents were misleading, suggesting that a nearby site was a car park, which is not correct. The Clerk was instructed to include this in the consultation response.

**Reference Number:** B20/2026/0073

**Location:** 41 Station Road Dalton-in-Furness Cumbria LA15 8PL

**Resolved:** The Council fully supports the proposed development.

Members recognise the importance of providing safe, supportive, and well-managed accommodation for children and young people, and welcome the positive contribution this facility will make to the community. The Council considers that the proposed use is appropriate for the location and will deliver meaningful social benefit.

The Town Council therefore wishes to express its full support for the application and encourages

the Local Planning Authority to approve the proposal.

**C16/04/2026. Cumbria in Bloom**

The Council considered allocating funding for local groups.

**Resolved:** That a budget of £1,000 be allocated, with a maximum grant of £200 per group.

**C17/04/2026. Staffing Committee Recommendations.**

It was **resolved** to approve the recommendations of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 30 March 2026 (Minute S5/03/2026), as follows:

- a. To increase the contracted hours from 20 to 26 per week.
- b. To support further training (ILCA).
- c. To review the pay scale upon completion of relevant training, with progression from SCP 17 to SCP 20.
- d. To revise the job title to Assistant Clerk upon completion of the relevant training.

**C18/04/2026. Allotments (Confidential)**

No updates were received.

**Meeting Closed at 8.07pm**

Signed.....

(Chairman)

Date.....

C. Stainton

Town Clerk

14<sup>th</sup> April 2026