

Dalton Piercy Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting at 7.00pm on Thursday 13th July 2023
At Dalton Piercy Village Hall

Present: Cllrs L. Noble (Chair), M. Patrick, S. Savage, S. Rushworth, M. Jackson, M. Ireland and A. Timothy.

In Attendance: Cllr M. Ireland (Acting Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

Meeting began 7.06pm

1. **Apologies:** Ward Cllr A. Martin–Wells – Accepted.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs Patrick, Savage and Noble item 11 (DPVHA trustees)

3. **Public Forum:**

- A resident asked if DPPC had a land agent, rather than a solicitor. Concerns that If Anglian Water sold the land the new owner may build more than one dwelling.
- Cllr Jackson was concerned that DPPC does not have a contract, as solicitor stated easement was not executed correctly. There was some discussion about whether there was a neighbour dispute.

4. **Draft of Minutes of 8th June 2023:**

S.R. proposed – unanimously **agreed** and **accepted** as an accurate record of the meeting.

5. **Matters Arising:**

- **Highgate Meadows** - petition from residents has been handed into HBC and acknowledged. HBC are reconsidering the planning condition regarding the footpath. Letter from Cllr Jackson – he has not completed, but had circulated an email. Cllr Noble noted she had not received this.
- **Easement Contract** – the contract has not been signed by the Clerk and therefore is not valid. Acting clerk will sign it. Cllr Jackson asked what has happened regarding the party wall regulations. The Chair has been informed the issue was subsumed by the sale of the land to another developer. Cllr Jackson insisted the part wall legislation applied.
- **Christmas Tree** – see maintenance report.
- **AGAR** – submitted
- **Terrace Blue Stones** – see maintenance report.

6. **Maintenance Committee Report:**

The Chair reported as follows:

(a) **The Batts**

- The question was raised asking if we wished to pay for the replacement of the stolen information boards. Aluminium boards would cost approximately £250, if we had the digital art work. Cllr Timothy proposed they would need secure backing and

vandal proof fixings on them. Cllr Patrick seconded – agreed to go ahead and payment made from PC funds.

- Hedging whips – remove in the autumn once any first hedge gaps replanted.

(b) **General Village Maintenance**

- The bottom two sections of the lights have been removed from the Christmas tree. Rob Daley from HBC is to be in touch to arrange moving the box.
- The Tree Survey, by HBC arborist, completed today of the village green trees and trees along The Batts Right of Way.
- Pond needs weeding – Working party in August, volunteers to be requested.
- Blue Edging Stones/Track – Cllr Patrick has a contractor coming to look at the repairs needed on 18th July. Cllr Timothy explained the blue stones were placed to delineate the grass from the track. The track however is part of the village green. Potholes were caused by vehicles driving on the track. It is up to the residents who use it as parking to maintain the track. DPPC's responsibility is to only replace the blue stones. A decision will be made once the cost is known.
- Allotments Inspection – Cllrs Patrick and Savage confirmed annual inspections to be undertaken next week. A new tenant has taken over the third allotment which the previous tenant had withdrawn from.

7. Red Gap Projects:

The Chair reported as follows:

- Footpath completed and grant received into bank.
- Grantscape panel meets next week 18/07/23.
- Bluebell planting/Stone/Orchard project all completed and Completion Report to be submitted. Cllr Timothy asked that the screws holding the plaque on the stone be made irremovable asap.

8. Ward Councillor's Report:

Nothing to report.

9. Chair's Report:

Cllr Noble reported:

- Parish Liaison Meeting is to take place next week. Agenda will include Charter, section 106 monies, speed bumps and work permits in the village for contractors issued by HBC and Parish Councils not informed.
- A resident has reported the smell from the drains is back intermittingly. They have reported it to Northumbrian Water. A resident noted that not all manholes have been made airtight and the gullies are also running into the drain. **Action:** Clerk to inform Northumbrian Water.

10. Personnel Committee Report:

Cllr Patrick reported:

An application has been received for the post of Clerk. Cllrs Patrick, Rushworth and Jackson asked to form the interview panel. This was not supported by Cllr Jackson. It was agreed an email recommendation for the panel be circulated to all Cllrs for approval.

11. Dalton Piercy Village Hall Association Report:

Cllr Patrick reported:

The Bat Survey has been completed and the Tree Survey has required a slight relocation of the building. The planning application has now been resubmitted for validation. DPVHA has now changed its legal status to that of a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation). An application for funding has been made to the National Lottery, reported last month.

12. Financial Reports:

Cllr Ireland presented the Actual against Budget and Financial Transactions. Cllr Timothy proposed, Cllr Jackson seconded, unanimously agreed and **Accepted**.

Receipts	£
Grantscape (Footpath)	4,950.00
Allotment Fee	66.00
HMRC (VAT reclaimed 2021-2023)	3,811.36
TOTAL:	8,827.36
Payments	£
CE & CM Walker (grass cutting)	694.80
L. Noble (Parish Meeting expenses)	26.30
CLCA (Membership fee)	96.93
Woodside Property Services (installation of orchard dedication stone)	180.00
HBC (Footpath)	4,000.00
HBC (footpath)	995.00
TOTAL:	5,993.03

13. Correspondence:

- Parking at allotments – allotment holders reminded of regulations.
- Grade II listing for historic wall. Historic England did not support registration.

14. Planning Applications:

- H/2023/0069 – The Old Mill A19 – no objection.

15. Matters of Concern to Councillors:

- Cllr Jackson questioned how a sub-committee inform its members. Sub-committees comprise 3 elected Cllrs as a minimum and meetings advertised to the public and minuted in the same way as PC meetings. Sub-committees can only recommend and advise and must report to the main Council meeting. They have no delegated fiscal powers. **Action:** The two sub-committees can call meetings.
- Cllr Jackson stated his one.com email address worked. He wishes to receive emails via the Clerk. **Action:** All email correspondence to normally go via the Clerk.
- A resident noted that an HBC officer had requested permission to enter his property (Highgate Meadows), to take photos of the buffer zone.

Meeting closed at 9:00pm

Date of next meeting 14th Sept

