

**Dalton Piercy Parish Council**  
**Minutes of meeting held at 7.00 pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021**  
**Virtual meeting held on the online platform 'zoom'.**

**Present:** Cllrs D. Rezai (Chair), L. Noble, M. Patrick, M. Ireland S. Rushworth and M. Jackson

**In Attendance:** Clerk J. White

Meeting began at 7.00pm.

UK government restrictions due to the Coronavirus Pandemic continue, this includes instructions to work from home.

**1. Apologies for Absence:**

Cllr A Timothy, (S. R. to leave at 8.00pm) Ward Cllr B. Loynnes  
**Accepted and Approved.**

**2. Declaration of interests:**

None.

**3. Public Forum:**

None.

**4. Minutes of meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

**Approved** as a true and accurate record. (Prop MI Sec. LN)

**5. Matters arising – Vandalism/criminal activity in The Batts.**

Cllr Jackson reported; 2x Silver birch and a sycamore tree of around 8" have been removed from The Batts. No obvious tracks of removal. Cllr Patrick reported finding a 'camp' with some timber close to the beck. MJ continued; he had witnessed people with air rifles and with lurchers in the Howells. He had taken photographs of the culprits and reported all instances to the Police. Some of the culprits were identified by the Police and this was followed up by them.

It was **Agreed** going forward all instances of illegal activity should be reported to the Police. DPPC should erect 'positive' signs at the entrances to The Batts with activities that are and are not allowed and that DPPC will seek prosecution and fines for those breaking the law.

**6. As it ties in with item 6 the Chairman moved his report;**  
**(8.) Chairman's Report.**

Cllr Rezai reported; he attended a 'question time' meeting with TVCA hosted by Mayor Houchen. DR sent a question ahead of the meeting which asked 'why did Dalton Piercy need to raise funding for broadband provision for our residents'. The question was not allowed within the time and a written response from his office was to put the Chief Digital Officer from TVCA in touch with DPPC.

**a) Broadband**

The Clerk reported;

The quote from BT Openreach arrived this month; it is a complicated document, to help understand in layman's terms I organised a telephone call with the documents author Louise Thompson. She was very helpful and clear with her explanation. Unfortunately, the result is not good news for Dalton Piercy.

First of all, the scheme closes in 2 weeks' time and the next round of funding released in April is subject to postcodes being in the right 'tier' Dalton Piercy is provisionally in tier 2 – tier 2 does not qualify for funding.

To take advantage of the current scheme we need to secure £186,997.00 this cannot be public money (can not be provided by the local authority, other villages have privately raised funds/crowdfunded etc)

This is completely unachievable for Dalton Piercy.

There are 110 addresses on the application each eligible for £1500.00 in funding. To secure the funding each address initially need to commit to the voucher they then need to sign up for a broadband contract with an accredited supplier for a minimum 12-month contract at 30mbps. The voucher will then be deducted from the total £186,997.00. Any outstanding balance is due to be paid by the guarantor (DPPC)

Should there be no guarantor, BT Openreach require £240,000.00 to be pledged in vouchers.

It was **agreed** the scheme is unachievable.

Cllr Ireland has requested information from a group called 'Hartlepower' to see if they can help.

Cllr Rezai **proposed** DPPC should approach the press to tell our story and ask for help to get us connected. **Agreed.**

#### **b) Volunteering opportunities**

Cllr Noble reported;

- Litter picking continues on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10.30am meet at the village hall
- Splitting the snowdrops (a little too early to start) will send out a notice in the next month.
- Wildflower meadows, meet at 10am in The Batts (equipment required; a garden rake) over the next 3 weekends (Saturday and Sunday)

#### **c) Red Gap projects.**

#### **7. Ward Councillors Report:**

No report

#### **8. Chairman's Report:**

See item 6.

#### **9. Personnel Report:**

No report.

#### **10. Financial report:**

The Clerk presented the financial reports which were **accepted.**

### **Financial Transactions 12<sup>th</sup> February – 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>£</b>
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Grantscape – RNB 2891 (batts)	490.15
Grantscape – RNB 2020 1598 (blue stones)	2,250.00
Grantscape – RNB 1696 (noticeboard)	2,610.35
Grantscape – RNB 484 (play area)	16,128.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£21,478.50</b>
<b>Payments</b>	<b>£</b>
J White Clerks salary	217.20
J White reimburse – zoom monthly fee	14.39
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	16,440.00
Anglian Water – wave water bill	14.46
SLCC annual membership fee	80.00
D Rezai – Reimburse (trade décor parking signs)	26.00
	<b>£16,792.05</b>

## Maintenance Report

Cllr Noble reported;

- 2x new no parking signs will be fitted to identified trees in the village tomorrow
- Frost damaged succulents have been removed from the pump trough by a resident.
- Track marks on the village green at entrance to pond track (on opposite side to the pond no action required at this time)
- It was agreed (if the resident wishes) a plant/shrub could be planted to obscure the view of the play/picnic area from Rose Cottage.
- A 3-month inspection required for new allotment plot holders was carried out. There has been excellent progress on the plot and is being maintained very well.

## 11. Correspondence

Shared ahead of meeting, covered under other agenda items.

## 12. Planning Applications:

Cllrs Noble and Ireland reported on the decision made by HBC planning committee to approve the planning application for 5x homes at Mayfield house. Objections from HRP, DPPC/Elwick/Hart Parish Councils as well as recommendation for refusal by HBC planning dept who laid out reasons why the development went against National Guidelines and Planning Policy.

All DPPC Councillors reacted with anger and shock that our own Rural Ward Councillors voted in favour of the development. Especially as now a precedent has been set where by HBC can ignore their own Rural and Local Plans.

## 13. Matters of Concern to Councillors

Cllr Rezai raised concerns in relation to speeding traffic through the village. With extra housing due to the number of local developments concerns this is going to be an increasingly common issue and is very concerned there could be a serious issue after witnessing cars speeding at 50+mph through the 20mph centre of the village. Cllr Ireland reported Hart and Elwick have been offered traffic calming close to the schools and suggested DP should request the same.

Cllr Rezai **Proposed** DPPC should request a meeting with our Ward Councillors, HBC Highways dept and Police in the village to discuss the issue and consider traffic calming options. **Seconded** MJ. Agreed. Clerk to **Action**.

As DPVHA are actively working on securing a new hall Cllr Noble requested a report item is added to future DPPC agendas.

Meeting closed at 8.44pm.

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021