

Dalton Piercy Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting held at 7.00pm on Thursday 11th April 2024

at Elwick WI Hall.

Present: Cllrs Noble (Chair), Ireland, Middleton, Rushworth, Savage and Timothy.

In Attendance: Sandra Valkauskaite (Clerk), Craig Southern (Walk & Talk Trust), 4 members of the public.

1. **Walk and Talk Trust:** New project “Heritage 100” been introduced. Charity is dedicated to improve lives through walking, talking and connecting communities. They wish to have DPPC’s support for a circular walk around Dalton. An author will write up the historical “story” of each route, with local residents and schools involved in developing the story. All Councillors very supportive’.
2. **Apologies:** Cllr Mike Patrick, Ward Cllr Andrew Martin-Well.
3. **Declaration of interest:** Cllrs Noble and Savage in Item 13
4. **Public Forum**
 - A resident suggested a copse of trees and a wall being constructed at Mayfield House was on DPPC land. Cllr Timothy to check Land Registry titles.
 - A resident expressed interest in whether Ward Cllr Martin-Wells will be attending the Annual Parish Meeting.
 - A resident wanted to know if the Elwick by-pass will be happening.
 - A resident complained that gravel laid on the footpath from Three Gates into the village was muddy and needed maintenance. Another resident suggested that HBC was responsible for maintenance of the footpath from Three Gates into the village and it was overgrown and muddy. **Action:** Clerk to contact Peter Frost, HBC Highways section.
 - A member of the public asked if HBC had any community funding available and if they would be tendering for the Hall construction. Cllr Noble informed him that HBC did not have any funding available and tendering for the Hall was not yet that far advanced.
 - A resident had noted several very deep ruts along the road edges on Dalton Back Lane and Dalton Rd. that were becoming a Health and Safety issue. **Action:** Clerk to inform Peter Frost, HBC Highways section.
5. **Minutes of 24th March 2024:** Two amendments. A resident raised concerns regarding a fence post in the Batts entrance next to the kissing gate being rotten. He also noted some damaged wooden flower tubs and inquired about the status of abandoned flower tubs. Minutes to be amended and signed by Chair. Cllrs informed that 14 tubs have been adopted by residents and pledged to explore options to either have the remaining 8 tubs adopted or to remove them permanently. Cllr Middleton agreed to look after a tub.

6. **Matters Arising:**

- a) **HBC Enforcement Issues:** No information received from the Enforcement Officer. There should be an update on the next Planning Committee minutes.
 - b) **Remedial Work on play area trees:** To be inspected when tree work in the Batts is carried out.
 - c) **Letter to resident regarding Village Green Encroachment:** Letter sent to the resident, as of now, no response received .
 - d) **Anti-litter signs:** Delivered. Cllr Savage agreed to install them at the Batts entrances.
7. **Ward Councillor's Report:** He had nothing to report. He asked for a list of any issues to be sent to him. **Action:** Chair
8. **Grantscape (Red Gap Community Fund):** Deadline for applications is 8th May. The Chair proposed applying for a 400W portable tracking solar panel (£1499), to fit our generator. **Unanimously agreed.** A resident suggested 50 tons of bark chippings plus installation, for the Batts ROW path, if less than £5000: **Agreed.** A suggestion for the 2025 round of funding was to investigate a small footbridge to cross the beck close to the stone bridge, to avoid pedestrians having to walk on the road. It was noted that this may require planning permission and further investigation as to whether all of the land belonged to DPPC. **Action:** Cllr Timothy to check the Land Registry.
9. **Chair's Report:** Dalton Back Lane to get a partial resurface, from A689 to Claxton Farm bank, starting 29th April until 3rd May. Partial resurface on Worset Lane work to start 18th April. HBC has purchased two more CCTV cameras. Chair to lobby for one to be sited on Dalton Back Lane.
10. **Personnel Committee Report:** Clerk issued contract to sign and is to be registered for PAYE.
11. **Maintenance Committee Report:** Litter signs for the Batts to be installed. See 6(d) above. Meryl Gardens will be asked to repair the fence post in the Batts.
12. **Finance Report:** The financial reports were accepted and are available to view on the website.
13. **Dalton Piercy Village Hall Trustees Report:** Cllr Patrick sent a report noting that the planning application for the new Hall had finally been 'Approved' by the Planning Committee. Costs for the demolition of the old Hall had risen dramatically. It was also recommended that a bat mitigation license be sought and registered with Natural England. HBC recommended the demolition of the Village Hall be overseen by a qualified ecologist, who must be on site throughout the demolition. **Action:** An application to Grantscape would be submitted to cover the shortfall in costings.
14. **Correspondence:** Circulated to Cllrs in advance of the meeting.

- a. A resident wanting assurance that tree work would only be completed after the bird nesting period was over. The Chair noted the task is being undertaken by professionals, and government legislation will be complied with. This is particularly relevant as the work needed involves large tree branches overhanging a public Right of Way. The resident will receive a response. **Action:** Chair
- b. It was brought to the attention of DPPC a resident had arranged a site visit with representatives from The Grove Children's Home and HBC to discuss tree felling on their and Anglian Water's land. The resident was happy with the outcome of the site visit. **Action:** Chair to send a list of DPPC Councillors and the Clerk's contact details to the Children's Home, with a statement that no one else has the authority to represent the views of the Parish Council.
- c. Cllr Ireland noted she had raised the issue of fly-tipping on the roads around Dalton to the Rural Crime Forum meeting as being a Health and Safety issue.
- d. Information was received about two additional CCTV cameras becoming available in HBC. **Action:** Chair will endeavour to acquire one for Dalton Back Lane.
- e. Cllrs and residents raised concerns about excess mud on the main village road left by a farmer's vehicles and machinery - also damage to the footpath from Three Gates into the village by tractors. **Action:** Clerk to send a letter to the landowner.
- f. It was noted that Zurich insurance is due on 1st June. The generator and new printer to be added to the list of assets. We have a three year fix on the contract with the coming year being year2.

15. **Planning Applications:** H/2022/0456 Demolition of Dalton Piercy Village Hall and erection of a new Hall in an amended location. It was noted that the Village Hall has been moved a couple of meters, which required a variation and for new drawings to be submitted. Cllr Ireland proposed the PC to send a 'support' letter. **Action:** Clerk to send a letter of support to the Planning Portal. Persimmon Homes wish to erect an advertising board on the A689 near Sapper's Corner lights. Ref. H/2024/0068 . Details arrived too late for the meeting.

16. **Date of Annual Parish Meeting: Agreed:** 9th May 6pm in Elwick WI Hall. See Notice board and website for details. The AGM and monthly DPPC meeting follows at 7.00pm.

17. **Matters of Concern to Councillors:** No concerns.

Meeting closed at 8.34pm.