

## Dalton Piercy Parish Council

### Minutes of the meeting held at 7pm on Thursday 11th July 2024 at Elwick WI Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs Ireland (Chair), Noble, Savage, Rushworth

**In Attendance:** Sandra Valkauskaite, 6 members of the public.

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs Patrick, Middleton and Ward Cllr. Martin-Wells

**2. Declaration of interests:** Cllrs Noble and Savage, Dalton Piercy Village Hall Report.

#### **3. Public Forum**

- A resident raised concerns about speeding within the village. The resident specifically noted that delivery drivers are responsible for most of the speeding. The resident suggested that a second set of speed bumps at Dalton Heights would be beneficial.
- A resident expressed concern that the meadows in The Batts have become overgrown with weeds and offered to look into the issue personally. His offer was politely declined. **Action:** Maintenance Committee will raise the matter with the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust.
- A resident does not wish the wall that fronts the village green, on the land once belonging to the Water Board, to be demolished. It was noted that objections can be made once a planning application is received; however, it should be noted that the Planning Department has already decided that any new house on the site must be on the same building line as other dwellings.
- A resident raised an issue about fly tipping, noting that someone has been leaving packs of empty cans along Dalton Back Lane to Hart Lane. Additionally, there is generally a significant amount of fly tipping on Dalton Back Lane.
- A resident expressed their intention to file an official complaint regarding the Ward Councillor's absence from all meetings. The resident was informed that Ward Councillors are legally required only to attend one meeting of the Borough Council every six months, and there is no legal requirement for attendance at a parish council meeting, though clearly, there is a moral obligation. A Cllr suggested that members of the public write to the media, as this might encourage the Ward Councillor to take action.
- A resident reminded that discussions about easier access to the play area, which took place at the Annual Parish Meeting, were not included in the Minutes.
- The resident mentioned the issue regarding the footbridge, which will be discussed at the upcoming Maintenance Meeting.
- The resident raised concern about general tidiness of the village and suggested that members of the public should be encouraged to volunteer for a clean-up.
- The same resident noted that the Minutes, Agendas, and Financial Reports are missing from the website and should be uploaded regularly.

**4. Minutes of last meeting:** Unanimously agreed as an accurate record after the following three amendments were made:

- Cllr Savage was present at the meeting and needs to be removed from Apologies.
- Grammar mistake to corrected.

- More information to be added about change in Police Officers 13 a.

### 5. Matters Arising:

- a) **HBC Enforcement Issues:** The Chair has spoken with the Enforcement Officer who informed her that no action has yet been taken as a formal complaint needs to be submitted. **Action:** Cllrs to gather information on the three issues and complete the on-line official complaint form.
- b) **Letter to resident regarding Village Green Encroachment:** Gravel has still not been removed. **Action:** Chair will go and speak to residents in person.
- c) **Banking.** Cllr Noble raised concern about the decision to change banks as she felt it was based on misinformation, though she did agree that the PC should seek a better return on investments. It was **agreed** to review the matter in the Autumn.

### 6. Ward Councillor's Report: Report not received.

**7. Chair's Report:** a) The Chair suggested consulting other rural parish councils about appointing either a self employed odd-jobs person/company, and asked should it be advertised in The Village Life ? Unanimously voted no.

b) The next Parish Liaison meeting is to be held on 24<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am and will be about strategic level issues, not individual village issues. The Chair proposed that speeding is one such issue as it affects all villages, as well as the town. Chair will suggest a 50mph speed limit be brought in across the Borough, outside rural and urban conurbations.

### 8. Personnel Committee Report: Nothing to report.

**9. Maintenance Committee Report:** a) Fence in The Batts needs fixing and quote received - £400.00. Everyone agreed to this as it is necessary to get it fixed.

b) Quote required for building bridge over stream and the entrance to the play area needs improving.

c) New Grantscape applications to be in by November. All to be discussed at Maintenance Committee meeting.

d) Allotment inspection done – no issues. Vacancy for allotment as one resident wants to give up his allotment.

### 10. Finance Report:

#### Financial Transactions 12th June – 11th July 2024

Receipts	£
TOTAL:	0

<b>Payments</b>	<b>£</b>
Walkers Ltd (grass cutting)	508.80
CALC (subscription)	96.39
Leanne Blakemore (Internal Audit)	120.00
Pear Technology (digital mapping)	120.00
CE & CM Walkers (grass cutting)	508.80
Egglestones (HM Revenues)	212.40
Salary for Clerk	850.36
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2416.75</b>

**NB:** Mistake was made in previous Finance Report, Norton antivirus was purchased by the Clerk and not the Parish at the time, mistake will be amended.

**11. Dalton Piercy Village Hall Trustees Report:** Cllr Noble, on behalf of Cllr Mike Patrick, reported on the demolition of the old village hall; the power will be disconnected to facilitate the demolition process, for which the Trustees will be charged, and charged again for the reconnection to the new building.

Asbestos inspection scheduled to start on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. An ecologist will be on-site throughout the demolition process, with a fee of £600 per day.

Permission is required to place a skip on the green. It was unanimously **agreed** that this may be made via emails as soon as required and approval ratified at the September meeting.

**12. Speeding:** Already discussed at Public Forum.

**13. Correspondence:** Circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting.

a) Email received from a resident about overhanging trees and damaged wall – these issues needs to be addressed to HBC.

b) Email from a resident asking what material-to put down on easement over the village green. **Action:** Clerk to email resident back letting them know Cllrs will look into it.

c) Letter received from Anglian Water. **Action:** Clerk to email Anglian Water informing that Clerk address have changed.

d) Invoice for Clerk's membership subscription – agreed to pay.

e) Email from NALC and SLCC asking to support safety of lithium batteries.

**Action:** Clerk to email stating the support.

**14. Planning Applications:** No applications received.

**15. Matters of Concern to Councillors:** Cllr Noble suggested dates of future meetings

be posted on the council website. Recommended that sub committees agree on their meeting dates and all dates will get posted together.

Meeting closed at 8.47pm.

**Next Meeting** to take place at Elwick WI Hall, 7.00pm Thursday 12th September 2024