

Dalton-le-Dale Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING held THURSDAY, 5th July 2007.

Present: Councillor W Kennedy (**Chairman**)
Councillors: M Oliver, M Hepplewhite, M Gustard, L Keegan, S Richardson

1. Apologies Councillors: A Westmorland, R Olaman

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

One Member declared an interest regarding planning applications.

3. POLICE REPORT

None.

4. REPRESENTATIONS FROM RESIDENTS

A resident attended the meeting in regards to item 8 on the agenda concerning the planning application to Haytor House, Dene Road.

Concern was expressed regarding the size of the development as it was detrimental to neighbours. The resident had written to the District of Easington Planning Department and an acknowledgement was received but it was untitled. The resident had been in touch with their Solicitor who advised that the planning application should not proceed until the irregularities were clear between neighbours. Concern was expressed that the Planning Application favoured the rights of the builder (applicant) and gave less consideration to the other parties involved. The resident was also concerned that he had received no plans from the applicant.

Members were concerned that in this application residents had not received notice that the applicant was intending to use neighbouring walls and that in this case procedures had not been followed. Members had no objection to the planning proposal in principal but needed assurance that the concerns of neighbouring residents were not being overlooked.

Members requested the Clerk to write to the District of Easington Planning Department to express those concerns raised and that this application is delayed until all concerns are resolved.

5. COUNTY DURHAM PCT

Sandra Sah the Out of Hours and Urgent Care Manager from the PCT addressed the meeting as a means of getting out into the community to spread the word of the Eastlea Urgent Care Centre.

The development of this service as a walk in centre open from 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday, provides emergency care services to those in need without the need to make an appointment. This service has been running for 18 months serving some 24-30 patients daily. If necessary, the centre can take appointments if requested. The centre provides emergency care practitioners, nurses and paramedics and acts as an alternative to Accident and Emergency services in Hospitals. The centre can be used if patients are struggling to get to a Doctor. The services provided do not conflict with the role of local General Practitioners.

Further information will be forward to the Clerk and Members agreed that this matter could be promoted in the next Council Newsletter.

Some Members had already used the centre and gave their appreciation in the level of services and treatment given.

6. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on the 7th June which had been circulated to Members previously.

6a. Matters arising from that meeting.

Members reported that the EDAN event was very successful for Dalton-le-Dale. Praise was also given to the Community Association for their efforts in helping to host this event. From the previous meeting it was agreed that the Parish Council would support this event and Members therefore agreed to fund the refreshments provided for the Artists totalling £27.70 that had been incurred by the Community Association.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

a.) Allianz Insurance

The Clerk advised of the invoice received from the Council's insurers after revising the schedule. Members agreed that the additional charges be paid

b.) Dalton Accounting Services

Members agreed the payment of services for the Annual Independent Internal Audit.

c.) Northern Regional Conference 'Quality Counts'

Members agreed that the Clerk and Chairman attend this conference.

d.) District of Easington Regeneration Statement

Members agreed for the Clerk and Chairman to provide feedback.

8. **PLANNING MATTERS**

Haytor House. This was discussed under item 4.

9. **CONSERVATION AREA**

The Clerk advised that from the minutes of 7th September 2006, the District of Easington Council had circulated information on the Easington Development Framework (which replaces the District Local Plan). A half day workshop held on the 15th of September 2006 was attended by a representative from the Parish Council. The Clerk having checked with the District of Easington Planning Department advised that no issues concerning Dalton-le-Dale as a conservation area were put forward. Since then the Planning Department have completed and published the Easington Development Framework.

The Clerk further advised that he had been contacted by Durham Rural Community Council regarding the production of Parish Plans and would pursue this matter. Members agreed to the concept of having a Parish Plan and agreed for the Clerk to pursue this.

10. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Clerk advised that the bollard on Dene Road had been re-secured.

Environment Services had removed an unsightly hump of soil along the footpath at the rear of Dalton Heights.

Environment Services have been requested to cut back the sight line at Overdene Junction.

Clearing of the stream was also reported to Environment Services; in addition Members attending the Tidy Ted and the Joint Consultative Meeting of the Parish Councils had reported the stream needed cleaning out and problems of litter in Dalton-le-Dale. Since attending these meetings Members had met with Environmental Wardens on site. Environment services are to undertake a cleaning of the stream. Environment services are also to erect NO TIPPING notices along the stream.

11. **HIGHWAYS and FOOTPATHS**

B1285 Times Inn Bank. DCC Highways are considering traffic calming measure subject to limited funds (copy provided for Members).

Verge Hardening at Overdene Estate. DCC Highways confirmed that this scheme has not been selected as part of their programme of works for this year but will remain on the list for future consideration (copy provided for Members). The Clerk further advised that he had again asked the District of Easington Engineer to reconsider this scheme and is awaiting alternative ideas and costs.

DCC Highways confirmed they are not the landowner with respect to the bank side erosion near Dalton Bridge, although their Highway Inspector is to monitor this site for signs of deterioration (copy provide for Members). With regards to the land ownership the Clerk advised Members that details of Land Registry searches for this area are not held by the Parish Council. In respect of the land from Dalton Bridge to the Church, two Members agreed to visit the Land Registry to have searches made on the land in question. Members agreed to have these searches undertaken.

12. GARDEN COMPETITION

The Clerk advised that he had received four entries. Judging will proceed in August.

13. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Vitalise – essential breaks (copy provided for Members consideration). Members moved that this item be received.

County of Durham School Benevolent Fund (Registered Charity). The Clerk had received a request for a donation. This charity has received previous support and Members agreed to donate £25 on this occasion.

14. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Members moved the financial report given by the Clerk.

15. BANK MANDATE CHANGE FORM

Signatures and additional information of personnel details were collected. The form will be forwarded to Barclays.

16. CHAIRMANS REPORT

Nothing to report.

17. CLERKS REPORT

BDO Stoy Hayward had invoiced the Council for the Audit of Annual Return. Members accepted the report provided by the Auditors and agreed the payment.

The Parish Council are invited to attend a presentation on the Play Strategy produced by the District of Easington Council. Agreed that a Member attend.

The Clerk advised of the public exhibition concerning SLP Energy's Wind Farm proposal at Hawthorn.

The Clerk distributed the Local Council Review magazines.

The Clerk had received raffles tickets from the Campaign to Protect Rural England. Members declined to sell these.

The Clerk had received a letter of thanks from EDAN regarding the Arts weekend in Dalton-le-Dale. Members agreed that this item be received.

The Clerk had received an invoice from the District of Easington concerning repairs to the safety surface in the playground. Members agreed to the payment.

The Clerk had received copy of the Coast and Countryside Rangers Newsletter. Members agreed that it is left on display in the WI Hall.

The Clerk had received an invitation for the Chairman of the Council to attend the National Railway Museum at Shildon & Auckland Castle from Sedgfield Borough Council. Members declined this invitation.

The Clerk had received a copy of the District of Easington's Chief Executive's response concerning the Local Government Review. Members agreed that this item be received.

The Clerk had received a copy of the DCC Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report, and also a copy of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report from DCC. Members agreed that these items be received.

The Clerk had received Nominations Form for the 61st Annual General Meeting of the County Durham Association of Local Councils. No nominations were proposed. Members agreed that the Chairman and Clerk attend.

18. MEMBERS REPORTS

Whilst out walking a Member had asked a parishioner to clear up dog dirt. The Member put forward the suggestion that the Parish Council could provide dispensers for dog fouling bags. Members declined this suggestion.

The Member who attended the Tidy Ted Meeting gave a report. Minutes of these are published by the District of Easington and the Clerk receives them.

Members had received Fly-Tipping signs from Environmental Services and the Clerk had erected these.

The Member representing the Community Association advised of the Big Lottery application that was unsuccessful. Members confirmed that the Parish Council would still stand by its pledge of £10,000 to the Community Association.

A Member attended the Joint Consultative Committee and had submitted three report forms and made further enquiries regarding the provision of recycling bins for garden waste.

A Member requests the Clerk to contact the District of Easington for the trees to the left of Church Junction to be cut back.

19. NEXT MEETING

6th September 2007.

CERTIFIED CORRECT: CHAIRMAN

DATE: **Thursday, 6th September 2007**