

# Dalton-le-Dale Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

held THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010

**Present:** Councillors: W Kennedy (Chairman), M Oliver, M Hepplewhite, C Olsen, J Humes, S Richardson and K Sutton.

**Public:** D Jackson, J Arpino, C Walton and K Wright.

181. **APOLOGIES** L Keegan and M Gustard.

182. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** None.

### 183. **POLICE REPORT**

The local police were unable to attend but had provided a written report which was read out by the Chairman.

There had been no reported burglaries, one reported criminal behaviour at Dalton Heights concerning a group of youths near the Esso Garage who were searched by the police. This area is to be given attention due to previous problems.

No reported thefts and only one minor vehicle nuisance report.

One report of street drinking at Plymouth Close where a large group of youths were stopped and alcohol seized. All youths were to receive anti social behaviour letters.

Any issues can be reported by email to [graham.stephenson@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:graham.stephenson@durham.pnn.police.uk)

Members reported that a car had recently been burnt-out at Stoney Cut Bridge and taken away.

### 184. **REPRESENTATIONS FROM RESIDENTS**

Residents advised the council that some households would no longer contest access over the dirt track due to legal advice. However, others would still be contesting this matter.

185. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

**These were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.**

#### **Matters arising from that meeting.**

Members asked the Clerk what action had been taken since the last meeting concerning the Dog Fouling in the Dene. The Clerk advised that he had contacted the local area office of DCC to action all the points raised at the last meeting.

### 186. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Members received the DCC Sustenance Newsletter (February 2010).
- b) Members received the LCR Magazine (Spring Edition).
- c) Members received the CPRE Overview Newsletter (Spring 2010).
- d) Members received the information from the Police concerning the Community Consultative Group's meetings.
- e) Members received the letter of thanks from the Great North Air Ambulance.

### 187. **PLANNING MATTERS**

**Approval:** Extensions to front, side and rear. Re-submission.

At: Fairfields, The Dene.

For: Mrs H Clarke

The Clerk advised that this application had been approved by the planning authority. The Chairman further advised that she had attended the planning meeting to speak on behalf of the council's and parishioners concerns on this proposal.

**188. CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND** (Membership renewal)  
Members agreed to renew the council's membership at an annual cost of £29.00

**189. CDALC ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS CHARGE**  
Members agreed to renew the annual subscription at a cost of £219.34.

**190. DURHAM MINERS GALA BOOK PROJECT**  
Members agreed to purchase two Hardback copies for the community at a cost of £46.00.

**191. FLORAL PLANTERS COSTS**  
The Clerk advised that he was still waiting for additional quotes and asked for this matter to be considered at the forthcoming environment meeting. Members agreed to this.

**192. NEWSLETTER**  
The Clerk circulated a draft of the newsletter and requested feedback from members. The Clerk also advised that only one quotation was received to deliver the newsletter and ask that the environment committee could oversee this matter at its forthcoming meeting. Members agreed to this.

**193. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

- a). **Unclassified Road, The Dene.** The Clerk advised that he had received an estimate of £3,000 from DCC to upgrade the speed humps. Members requested the Clerk to seek a financial contribution from DCC Highways and the DCC Members for this work.
- b). **B1285, Times Inn Bank.** The Clerk advised that DCC had not undertaken any action to date despite a reminder being sent. Members requested the Clerk to contact the local area office to have the B1285 litter picked. Members advised the council that the local police were seeking volunteers to be trained as part of the Community Speed Watch scheme. The Chairman advised that this was something the parish council would partake in and 2 members volunteered.
- c). **Condition of Footpaths.** The Clerk advised that he had received a letter of acknowledgement concerning this matter.

**194. ENVIRONMENT**

- a). **Collapsed header wall and pipe outlet at stream.** The Clerk advised that no news of when works to this matter would be undertaken. Members requested the Clerk to send a reminder.
- b). **Fencing along the stream near village green.** The Clerk advised that a site meeting was arranged with an officer from DCC regarding the fencing. This matter would be further discussed by the environment committee.
- c). **Village Green.** Members advised that the application was going through the assessment process.
- d). **Village seating.** The Clerk advised that a second new seat was installed on the village green. Further development of the village green would be discussed at the environment meeting.

**195. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

- a) Members declined the request from Butterwick Hospice.

**196. MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT**  
The Clerk provided Members with details of the financial transactions for the month with the invoices received. Since producing the agenda the Clerk had received further invoices from DCC for the Verge Hardening, Seat Installation and Dog Bin Servicing that were requiring payment in this financial year. Members raised concerns over the Dog Bin Servicing and requested the Clerk to write to DCC as one of the bins has been missing for some time and this should be reflected in our charge. Members agreed to the invoices/payments for voucher 101546 and vouchers 101549 to 101557.

**197. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**  
The Chairman advised of her attendance at the recent AAP meeting and the discontent raised by the larger town council concerning their representation at this forum. The Chairman had attended a civic event at DCC for the Chairman's Charity Night.

**198. CLERK'S REPORT**

- a) The Clerk advised of the opportunity to attend a Quality Councils Seminar at Peterlee on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April. This event was free and would be hosted by Peterlee and Seaham Town Council. It was agreed for the Chairman and Clerk to attend.
- b) The Clerk advised that he was still working on the revision of the Standing Orders for the Council.
- c) The Clerk advised that he had received a letter of thanks for the donation provided to the George Elmy Appeal.
- d) The Clerk advised of the receipt of the Our Life Magazine.

**199. MEMBERS REPORTS**

Members expressed concerns at the level of litter in places and requested the Clerk to contact Environment Services.

Members requested the Clerk to contact DCC through the area office to have the swings installed in the playground.

A member expressed concern at missing the Seaham Destination meeting due to not being informed.

**200. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010**