

Dalton Piercy Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held at 7.00 pm on Thursday 14th March 2019
at Dalton Piercy Village Hall

Present: Cllrs A. Timothy (Chair), A. Burroughs, L. Noble, L. Moses.

In Attendance: Ward Cllrs B. Loynes, M. Young and Clerk J. White

4 members of the public.

Meeting began at 7.05pm.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs D. Rezai, J. Bearby and M. Patrick.
Accepted and Approved.

2. **Declaration of interests:**

Cllr A. Burroughs – Allotments, Abbotts Lea.

Cllr L. Moses – Abbotts Lea.

3. **Public Forum:**

- Pot holes and loose curb stones are still a problem on both Dalton Back Lane and Dalton Lane to Elwick Road. The road to Hart Village beyond the Elwick Road cross road is also in a terrible state and often used by residents of Dalton Piercy who wish to avoid crossing the busy A19 to go north.
- Pot holes and litter on the roads around the village. Particularly litter blowing from the Windmill Hotel site which is collected from the roadside by himself.
- Drainage smell, no odour lately
- Cllr A Timothy declared an interest. He wished to report to Ward Councillors as a resident that he had not received notification regarding changes to planning permission for the development at Dalton Heights. Also, the notice on the planning portal is unclear as to what exactly the changes are. Is it moving garages or a further 3 dwellings?
- Cllr L. Noble added; The Rural plan group, which she is part, has also expressed the same concerns- not receiving notification of planning applications. As did another resident regarding a different planning matter. **Action:** Ward Councillors promised to pass this information forward to the department. They were unable to comment as they are part of the Planning Committee.

4. **Minutes of meeting held on 14th February 2019.**

The minutes were **approved** unanimously as a true recording of the meeting with the following amendments:

11. point 7. Mrs Dodds not '*Mrs Dobbs*'

Proposed Cllr. A. Burroughs, **Seconded** Cllr L. Noble. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

5. **Ward Councillors report:**

Agenda item moved by the Chairman with agreement by Councillors.

Ward Cllr B Loynes reported;

- The department tasked with the works to install a footpath from Manor Fields end of the village to Three Gates junction, a project to be funded by The Red Gap community fund, has drawn up plans for the first phase. This is limited to the budget which was awarded to DPPC (Red Gap has agreed to fund this project in stages) Unfortunately, the length of the footpath on the first phase is disappointing.

Ward Councillors would like to support this project with an extra £2,000.00 from their own Ward budget.

DPPC Councillors were very thankful for this kind gesture.

Cllr A Timothy questioned if the monies could be used towards the 20% funding DPPC need to pay as a contribution to the project? Ward Cllrs thought this is unlikely as it would cause a conflict of interests. Ward Councillors will take advice.

- An officer from HBC has been around the village today to look at dirty and fallen road signs.
- An officer from HBC has been to the re-enactment site between Three Gates and the A19 and can confirm there is nobody living there. All activities on the site are permitted within the terms of the Planning Permission which has previously been granted for the site.
- Roads; pot holes are on the programme of works for 2019/2020. The area close to Hart on the Hill is due to be resurfaced, probably in the summer. The Clerk mentioned other areas that had been reported by residents including pot holes and curbs on Dalton Back lane.
- Section 106 monies; DPPC can use the monies towards the Village Hall. However, there would be legal fees to pay to change from the play area to the village hall.

Cllr A Timothy questioned could the money be used for refurbishment or rebuild – what does regeneration of the village hall (as it is stated in the planners letter) mean? **Action:** Ward Cllrs will look further into this.

Cllr L. Noble questioned; Why were DPPC not consulted about how this fund should be allocated?

It is only because of Dalton Action Group that we know this fund exists. If DPPC had been consulted on the matter they could have informed HBC that funding for a play area had already been secured.

Cllr A Burroughs questioned if HBC had followed due process to award the funding?

A discussion took place.

Ward Cllr M Young left the meeting.

- Bus transport through the Village. Working with the Tees Valley Mayor, Stagecoach have expressed an interest in providing a bus service that would service the rural areas and west fringes of Hartlepool. This is due to the developments proposed at the edge of Hartlepool. A representative from Stagecoach operations department is to be invited to speak at our next meeting (7.00pm start) Clerk to **Action:** a letter to residents to find public interest in public transport through the village.
- Cllr Loynes further reported that there is exciting progress being made on projects in Hartlepool which will benefit the whole area. Including; the Birth Unit at Hartlepool Hospital regaining 24hr cover and new business units at the old post office/Chicago Rock building.

Cllr B Loynes left the meeting.

6. Matters for report:

- a) Allotment tenancies:

The Clerk reported she could not find any tenancy documents for the period 2018/2019. A rent payment had been made by one allotment holder.

Cllr A Timothy **proposed:** Tenancies the same as had been historically used, be sent out running from April-April. **Seconded** by L Moses. **Agreed.**

Cllr A Burroughs abstained from the vote.

- b) The Batts grazing contract and fence repairs:

The Clerk reported there has been some interest in renting The Batts field for grazing. A discussion took place.

It was suggested the 'farmers' agreement used in the past should be used again which was for 5/6 horses for summer grazing only. 3 horses for year-round grazing. DPPC have no objections to a shelter being built on the site. HBC One Stop Shop planning advice would need to be applied for at the tenants' expense.

It was further suggested the works be completed asap after the Clerk reported she had a quote of £250.00 to repair the vandalised fencing of the field and install a stile.

Cllr L Moses **proposed** the above suggestions go ahead. **Seconded** by L. Noble. **Agreed**

7. Substantive Items

- a) Village Green Tracks Maintenance and policy

Cllr L Noble **proposes:**

- A paragraph regarding dog fouling not being acceptable be added to the Village Green document.
- That any deliveries being made to residents as well as allotment holders should not be left on the green for any longer than 48hrs.
- That a change to the village green policy as proposed last month be accepted. See extract from Village Green Policy below;

8. REPLACING HARD SURFACES POLICY

1. Any residents wishing to have a hard surfaced area replaced must put a request in writing to the Parish Council.
2. If the Parish Council gives permission for the works a competitive quotation will be obtained by the Parish Council which will provide exact particulars of the proposed works and include specific details of the materials to be used.
3. If the track/area in question is for the use of a householder's property (or in some cases, local farmers for access to their land or barns), any attributable damage, other than fair wear and tear caused by the general public, the resident concerned will be expected to cover the cost of work required, up to the necessary safety conditions for pedestrians. This will not give any rights, implied or otherwise, or any rights to title to the area concerned.
4. Under no circumstances will any areas of Village green/track be lost due to any works.

Seconded by A Burroughs. Unanimously agreed.

- b) Abbotts Lea land maintenance letter
The Clerk apologised the letter had not yet been sent.
- c) Dalton Piercy Village Hall
See Ward Cllrs report.

8. Red Gap projects

- a) 2017 projects

Councillors agreed to pay £1,200.00 to HBC for defib contribution.
Cllr A Burroughs requests risk assessment and signage be put on next months agenda in preparation for getting the play area signed off by ROSPA and for the benefit of our insurance policy.
The Clerk reported HBC response to the Village Amenity Improvement project as the play area fence and benches were included in this planning application.
The planning application was rejected as it required different location maps and technical drawings. The rejection letter suggested that the proposed works all fall under permitted development. Therefor they do not require planning permission. HBC advise we apply for a Certificate of permitted development for the works. **Action:** Clerk to investigate process involved.
Tree works to the village picnic area; Deerness have provided an updated quote for the works (6 months had passed since their first price) total £1,269.00 ex VAT.
It was **agreed** to carry out the works asap.
- b) 2018 projects
 - Benches and notice board are to be included in the certificate of permitted development.
 - Allotment fence, tenders have been received.
- c) 2019 projects- suggestions
 - Well pump for village green/near Rose Cottage
 - Attractive road lights
 - CCTV, solar powered, covering Allotments, play area, The Batts and pond
 - Solar light for the Village Hall track
 - Pond – landscaping (planting)

- Replace flower tubs
- Litter picking 'kit'
- Track chippings
- Tree works, crown lift to head height/cosmetic works.
- Generator, for use at events or as needed as there is no electric supply to the village
- A digital 'village map' printer, the rural plan group have suggested it may be useful for all villages to share. Visit www.peartechology.co.uk for info.
- Community Allotment Garden play equipment
- Cllr M Patrick put forward suggestions for the village hall including outside tap, jetwash and a petrol chainsaw.

Please keep thinking and submitting suggestions.

9. Chairman's Report:

No report this month.

10. Dalton Piercy Residents' Association Report:

No report to receive.

11. Maintenance Group Report:

- Village Cart, the 'name stickers' have come away. So, it has been sanded and repainted black. It has also been replanted. DPPC offered their thanks – the Cart looks lovely!
- Defibrillator; glass sign needs changing when the defib is fitted. **Action:** Clerk to organise. (part of 2018 red gap project)
- Clerk to **action:** Request 'road planings' from HBC (contact ward clrs) for use to fill track pot holes.

12. Personnel Group Report:

No report this month, a meeting to be held after the exempt section tonight.

13. Financial

a) Financial report

The Clerk presented the financial reports which were accepted.

Financial Transactions 14th February 2019 – 14th March 2019

Receipts	£
	0.00
TOTAL:	0.00
Payments	£
J. White (Clerks salary Jan 2019)	206.02
TOTAL:	206.02

A
bill
for
web

hosting has been generated which suggests an automatic payment will be taken. **Action:** Clerk to confirm which account this is to come from.

b) Water bill

Clerk reported the water meter location has been confirmed. A reading has been taken and the current bill has been recalculated to be £7.25.

Action: Clerk to confirm what the starting reading was and ascertain what rate DPPC should be paying.

It was **agreed** to pay the bill.

c) PAYE

Clerk reported she still can not get onto HMRC online. She must write to HMRC again. Ongoing.

14. Correspondence.

- Grazing enquiry, The Batts.
- Planning rejection – as previously discussed for the Village Amenity Improvement scheme.
- Dalton Heights Planning Alteration – notification received after the agenda produced.
- Love Hartlepool meeting date.
- Veterans support group information.
- Wynyard Homes- site signage. BT internet provision – BT will only discuss Wynyard Homes site and not village internet. Access to the site via farmers fields will not be feasible.

15. Planning Applications

a) Parking Bays appeal

No news as yet. Waiting for a response from the inspectorate.

b) 'Village amenity improvements' – update on application

Update as previously mentioned in point 8.a)

16. Matters of Concern to Councillors:

- A discussion took place about concerns parish councils are not receiving notification of planning applications which are within their parish boundary. **Action:** Clerk to find clarity on what legislation requires, who should be consulted?

- Tree work which is planned includes work to trees on 'Water board' land. Contact has been attempted in the past with no response. Action: Clerk to contact Hartlepool Water to gain permission for tree works (close to the play area site) including removal of barbed wire from the boundary fence.

- Broadband, Councillors request an update from BT, TVM, MP. Clerk to **action**.

- Tree survey, the Clerk reported after talking to Mr D Wardle tree specialist at HBC. Who suggests we create a map of trees within the village. Any trees we have concerns about he will come and look at. **Action:** DPPC councillors do have concerns about some trees in the village particularly in the play area site, large trees close to the road at Manor Fields and by the roadside at the sharp bend. DPPC are not tree experts and must take professional advice.

- DPPC are looking for litter picking volunteers. A notice is to be placed in Village Life magazine. Anyone interested please contact the Clerk. The Clerk reported there are a number of schemes in Hartlepool where volunteers collect litter and HBC collect the rubbish collected.

- Cllr A Burroughs requests 'risk assessments' be put on the next meeting agenda.

- The Maintenance Group request any contractor working on the Village Green are given a copy of our Village Green policy. Also, which paper work is DPPC required to hold/request to see from any contractor? Clerk to **action**.

- Cllr A Burroughs requests a copy of the paperwork and spec for the chosen play equipment.

- Grounds Maintenance Contract. In an effort to continue best value for the residents of the village DPPC wish to revisit the grass cutting/maintenance contract. The Clerk reported she was not involved in the last tender process and is not familiar with any contract awarded or the specification. It was **agreed** the Clerk should look into the previous awarded contract and present findings to Councillors. The contract should then be put out to tender for the period 2019/2020 at the earliest opportunity.

17. Exempt section

a) Rose Cottage

Action: Cllr A Timothy will seek a price for legal advice considering the specific circumstances.

Agreed.

b) Allotment Fencing tender applications – for decision

The successful tender applicant is Geoff Bell. He will be instructed to carry out the works.

18. Date of next meeting: Thursday 11th April 2019

Meeting closed at 09.45 pm.