

## DALSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held at Forge Green on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2007.

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PRESENT	Mr A R Auld (Chairman)	Mr J F G Kelsey
	Mr D C Cowen	Mr I Newton
	Mr D B Craig	Mr R J Potter
	Mrs P Dalton	Mrs J L Rawstron
	Mr D W Hand	Mr O Rickerby
	Mr G Harrison	Mr O Roberts
	Mrs F Kaye-Krzeczkowski	

### 46 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mr S A Sinclair (holiday).

### 47 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Mr A R Auld declared and recorded a prejudicial interest in agenda item 6 – Clerk’s salary review.  
Mr I Newton declared and recorded an interest in agenda item 4 – Police Post at St Michael’s School

### 48 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

### 49 POLICE POST/DEPLOYMENT OF A POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

Mrs Dalton, Messrs Auld and Roberts had met with Inspector D Coates on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2007 to be informed of the details of the proposal. There was pressure on the Police budget due to extra measures required to tackle terrorism and drugs. Since the deployment of a PCSO in Cotehill there had been a 33% decrease in reported disorders and peoples’ fear of crime was reduced. It was hoped that a PCSO and the 2no. Community Officers working from Dalston would have a similar effect. The PCSO would be able to work flexible shifts. The conversion of 2 rooms, wash room & toilet facilities at St Michael’s School would cost in the region of £6,500. The cost of IT, office furniture etc. and annual rental, possibly a 6 year lease, would be covered by the Police. Nestle was providing secure garage space for 1 Police vehicle. A business proposal was being submitted for approval based on community input from Nestle, the schools and Parish Council support. The introduction of a volunteer scheme could add to the increase in public access to the Police. The Chairman stated that the crime reports showed that there had been 85 incidents recorded in Dalston for the year to date – 47 general, 17 anti-social behaviour and 21 road traffic events. It was **resolved**, proposed Mr Craig, seconded Mr Potter to support the bid for a Police Post at St Michael’s School and the deployment of a PCSO in Dalston with a financial contribution of £3,250 towards the conversion costs – carried unanimously. This would be s137 expenditure for the benefit of the whole community. It was hoped that there would be close communication by the PCSO with the community and Parish Council, that Carlisle CC traffic wardens should be in Dalston on a regular basis and that some Police cover was given to the wider Parish by the Community Officers.

### 50 FORGE GREEN

The options put forward by Mitre Housing for the development of Forge Green were considered, with Councillors expressing concern about all the proposals but with fewer reservations about option 1. It was **resolved**, proposed Mr Cowen, seconded Mr Harrison to reject all the proposals, but extend thanks to Mitre Housing for the efforts made to find an acceptable solution – carried with one abstention. Mitre Housing was to be asked to offer a price for Forge Green as a whole. It was agreed that Forge Green should not be put back on the open market at present. It was **resolved**, proposed Mr Cowen, seconded Mr Craig to undertake a fact finding exercise for a single storey 100-150sqm office/meeting room building plus additional car parking facilities on the Kingsway –

carried unanimously. The potential capital expenditure should be part of the regeneration of the Square area. Dialogue with Carlisle CC Development Control and Planning Officers should be instigated and drawings for an outline planning application could be drawn up. Any proposed building could be opened up for an architects' competition. There was some discussion on the future utilisation of the Victory Hall and whether there was any scope for Parish Council office facilities associated with it. Any new build would need to be in Parish Council ownership, rather than leased. Previous site visits had indicated limited availability of space and no further action was to be taken regarding this at present.

51 CLERK'S ANNUAL SALARY REVIEW

Mr Auld and the Clerk withdrew from the meeting. Mr Craig took the Chair. It was **resolved** to increase the Clerk's salary to NALC Scale LC1 SCP 22 - £9.59 per hour for 19 hours/week. Any National Joint Council for Local Government Services rates of pay increases should be backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007 when agreed.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.