

DALSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary monthly meeting held at Forge Green on Tuesday 12th September 2006.

PRESENT	Mr A R Auld (Chairman)	Mr O J Rickerby
	Mr D B Craig	Mr R J Potter
	Mr D W Hand	Mrs J L Rawstron
	Mr G Harrison	Mr S A Sinclair
	Mr A G Jackson	Mr M I Smillie
	Mr I Newton	

56 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs P Dalton (holiday), Messrs D C Cowen (work), O Roberts (holiday) and J F G Kelsey.

57 MINUTES

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 8th August 2006 were agreed and signed as a true record.

58 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Mr M Smillie declared and recorded an interest in agenda item 9a – resident near Station entrance.

Mr G Harrison declared and recorded an interest in agenda item 5 – planning application 06/1027 Sunnycroft, High Bridge.

Mr A Jackson declared and recorded an interest in agenda item 5 – planning application 06/0972 Land adjacent to Green Farm Cottage, Stockdalewath.

Mr A R Auld declared and recorded a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 7 – Clerk's contract of employment.

59 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public was present. Mr Jasper Kirkman sought Parish Council feelings about the possibility of opening a fish and chip shop in the current Maurice Dalton premises in the Square. The Planners had raised issues regarding the need for an extraction system without a chimney in a Conservation Area, litter, noise and loitering. Mr Kirkman indicated that extra bins would be provided with opening hours being restricted to 11.30am - 1.30pm and 4.30pm - 8.45pm, Monday to Friday and part of Saturday. The business would be closed on Sunday and Bank Holidays. He had experience of operating a similar business in a residential area, where short-term parking was not a problem and there was no all day parking required. There were no concerns raised and Mr Kirkman was thanked for attending.

The Clerk reported that the Police had recorded 14 crime, 3 anti social behaviour and 5 road safety incidents since the last meeting. An update of other and ongoing matters was also received.

60 PLANNING DECISIONS

06/0761 Flatt Bank Farm. Gaitsgill – erection of agricultural shed to house cattle – phase 1 – approved 1 condition.

06/0762 Flatt Bank Farm. Gaitsgill – erection of agricultural shed to house cattle – phase 2 – approved 1 condition.

03/0910 Close Head House, Lingey Close – change of use of land to domestic curtilage together with the erection of boundary fence (retrospective) – refused.

06/0688 Church View, 16 The Square – change of use from domestic dwelling to solicitors office – approved 1 condition.

06/0797 Lingey Close Farm – erection of agricultural building – withdrawn.

06/0695 Nestle UK Ltd – upgrading of existing trade effluent treatment plant to include 2no. new tanks and replacement of existing control room – approved 2 conditions.

06/0851 Fernlea, 1 Carlisle Road – widening of access and erection of a boundary garden wall (retrospective) – approved.

06/0555 The Surgery, Townhead Road - revised application for retail pharmacy, replacement roof and variation of condition no. 2 attached to planning approval 06/0080 to allow opening on Saturdays between the hours of 08.00 and 19.00 hours – approved 16/06/06.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

06/0972 Land adjacent Green Farm Cottage, Stockdalewath – new dwelling house, garage and garage store (renewal of consent) – no observations.

06/0997 34 New Road – demolition of garage and utility and formation of garage, utility and kitchen extension with conservatory ground floor and 2 bedrooms over with bathroom (Revised proposal) – no observations.

06/0907 Dalston Pharmacy, 2 Vicars Cottages – display of illuminated fascia and projecting sign – no observations.

06/1045 The Surgery, Townhead Road – replacement of flat roofs with pitched roofs over entrance porches and installation of roof windows to rear elevation – no observations.

06/0961 4 Glebe Close – kitchen extension – no observations.

06/0864 7 The Green – erection of satellite dish to be fixed to gable at rear (LBC) – no observations.

06/1020 The Bakery, 20 The Square – single storey extension to provide w.c/cloakroom facilities within the bakery/shop premises – no observations.

06/1027 Sunnycroft, High Bridge – single storey extension to provide sunroom and utility – no observations.

06/0878 Dalston Service Station, The Green – erection of steel framed shed for use as commercial garage (revised plans) – **resolved** to express appreciation for the height reduction of the roof line, but the concerns regarding visual impact in a conservation area remained.

06/1061 The Oak House, Cardew – erection of garden shed – **resolved** to object to the proposal as it was felt to be out of keeping with the surrounding landscape, isolated and unrelated to existing buildings. The building was considered to be inappropriate as a garden shed, as it was large and more suitable as a livestock building.

Kingswood Centre, Cumdivock – the Clerk reported on the Development Control meeting held on 18th August 2006, when the Committee were told that further investigations were being made regarding enforcement action in relation to the summer camp activities and it was suggested as premature to limit the timescale for the signing of the s106 Agreement. A letter had been received from the Managing Director of Kingswood regarding the delay, together with a copy of the response from Carlisle CC Legal Services to Mr Searle, Kingswood Legal Advisor relating to correspondence from Kingswood to Messrs Harle and Armstrong on the same matters. Indications were that the s106 Agreement had now been signed.

Thackwood Landfill Site – the Clerk reported that a letter of complaint had been sent to Councillor Collier regarding the conduct of the site visit on 14th August 2006. Councillor Prest, Chairman of the Cumbria CC Development Control Committee, had followed this up, responding with an endorsement of the complaint and notification of actions taken. The Planning Officer had advised that Parish Council representatives were not permitted to speak at the Development Control meeting on 28th September 2006, but individual representation was allowed.

Carlisle CC Local Development Framework Draft Supplementary Planning Document for Dalston – document only circulated to 7 Councillors for comment. **Resolved** to respond as follows:

- 1 A good, positive document.
- 2 Rivers Recommendation 2 – preserve Parishioners ancient rights and continue to permit gravel extraction from Silent Quarry downstream of Hawksdale Bridge to assist in the control of bank erosion (Recommendation 4) particularly on the opposite bank.
- 3 The Square 5 – greater emphasis on ‘enhance’ and improve.
- 4 Estate Houses 5 – better definition of housing needs. Low-cost housing ‘as near as possible to the centre of Dalston’ was questioned. An alternative suggestion was ‘where appropriate near the centre of villages such as Dalston and Raughton Head’
- 5 Industrial and Commercial 4 – add ‘and to prevent the detrimental increase in associated traffic’.

- 1 Cumbria CC Minerals and Waste Development Framework Discussion Paper – Mr Auld reported on the Special Forum meeting on 4th September 2006. The main discussion was regarding the proposal for a household waste management site (4.5ha greenfield) at Peter Lane, Cummersdale, as well as a site (at least 10ha) for a Green Resource Recovery Park. The two options for awarding the contract 1) Incinerator 2) Bio option were being considered by the Cumbria CC Cabinet for a decision, but it was thought that the second one was preferred. **Resolved** to comment on the increase in vehicles that might service the site, if it were to be approved.
- 2 Carlisle CC reminder letter re Members Registrable Interests and notification of changes – **resolved** to respond indicating that the Parish Council was content with the training and support received for the Code of Conduct.
- 3 Copy correspondence from Mr Eastburn to Councillor Collier re speed reducing measures on the Green – indications were that red slurry strips were to be introduced.
- 4 Carlisle CC Cleaner than Ever campaign advertising literature.
- 5 VAC AGM 8th September – no attendance.
- 6 Dalston Agricultural Society letter of thanks for Show support.
- 7 Cumbria in Bloom Presentation of Awards report and judges comments – report given.
- 8 Friends of the Lake District Overhead Wires Project Newsletter Summer 2006
- 9 CALC September Circular, Events and Training Programme Autumn-Winter 2006/07, nomination form for CALC Executive Committee, advance notice of AGM 4th November, Kendal 10.30am. Messrs I Newton and O Rickerby to attend the ‘Being a Good Councillor’ training on 1st & 15th November 2006. **Resolved** to pay £25 per person fees.
- 10 Notification of Carlisle Environment Forum AGM 21st September
- 11 Rural Voice – copy for information.
- 12 Local Transport Plan 2001-06 Delivery Report.
- 13 Clerks & Councils Direct September 2006, Cumbria Playing Fields Association Annual Report 2005/06, Raughton Head September magazine.
- 14 Carlisle CC Sports Facilities Feasibility Study consultation – **resolved** to pass to Recreation Association for a response.
- 15 Copy letter from Skelton Parish Council to the Land Registry re land at Lintongill – information only.
- 16 Draft Cumbria Rights of Way Improvement Plan – **resolved** to pass to Redspearlands Footpath Group for a response.
- 17 Notification of ‘Charter’ meeting on 28th September – the Clerk to attend. Comments regarding the draft Charter currently circulating requested by the Clerk.
- 18 Notification of Dalston & Cummersdale Neighbourhood Forum meeting 25th September – attendee required.

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT

- 1 It had been **resolved** to form a Sub-Committee to consider the Clerk’s Contract of Employment. A meeting was arranged for 11th October 2006.
- 2 Preliminary budget figures and a Development Plan for capital schemes had been considered. These could be funded by grants/loans as well as an annual increase in the Precept. Year 2 might be focussed on the sale of Forge Green and a replacement building, as well as with car parking provision. A further meeting with representatives of the Agricultural Society was to be arranged. **Resolved** that the Parish Council accepted in principal the production a 10 year Plan for capital projects, bearing in mind that other proposals might come forward during that time – approved. Ideas for projects from the wider Parish were invited and website consultation on schemes put forward was to be considered for the future. A Policy and Resources meeting was arranged for 24th October 2006 to discuss the budget figures and Precept for 2007/08 for presentation to the full Parish Council in November 2006.
- 3 Mr Craig was compiling a report of information obtained on Youth Councils. He advised the meeting that there was substantial Government funding available. A positive approach was required from youth groups, the schools and young people. It was **resolved** to leave convening a meeting with Caldew School until there were specific items to discuss with identified groups.

64 FORGE GREEN/PARISH BUILDING UPDATE

Communications had been received from Cumbrian Properties and Hayward Tod regarding the withdrawal of Forge Green from the market. A draft letter to the Chair of Governors at Caldew School was discussed. Subject to the possibilities for school use of the facilities being included in the letter and a firmer request for a meeting with the Governors, it was **resolved** that the communication should be sent, together with a copy of the requirements that Cumbria CC Library Service might have in a new building. The Clerk reported that she had tried to contact Inspector Coates re any Cumbria Constabulary involvement. The school location was questioned as to whether it was central enough, but the availability of other suitable sites nearer the Square was limited.

Messrs Auld and Craig had interviewed Mr and Mrs White and two children as potential tenants for 2 Forge Green. The written references were satisfactory. **Resolved** to offer the White family the tenancy from mid October at £95 per week. **Resolved** to provide some paint for internal decoration. The Clerk was instructed to arrange the Contracts for signing.

65 GARDENS AND MAINTENANCE

- a) The Clerk had written to Mr Cowen regarding the Station entrance project, and his response indicated that the revised schedule would be completed by the end of the week. A site meeting had been arranged for 2nd October at 10.30am with Mr Hammond, Carlisle CC Open Spaces regarding undertaking the work required to the hedge on the East side of the access. Messrs Craig and Smillie agreed to attend. Mr Smillie offered to design a sign for the island, if nothing suitable was forthcoming from Mallinson Fabrications.
- b) The Clerk reported that the Agricultural Society was waiting for a valuation on the land that might be used for car parking. The Committee was deliberating on the village use of part of the Show Field for an annual charge or as a free facility for parking. It was **resolved** to pursue arranging a further meeting of the Agricultural Society Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary with Parish Council representatives – Messrs Hand and Craig offered to attend. Councillor Collier had indicated that Mr Pickering, Cumbria CC Client Services was not optimistic about a 20mph being possible for Dalston. **Resolved** to ask Mr Pickering for the reasons behind this being unlikely and in relation to the Government review of speed limits in urban areas. It was suggested that the MP might be asked to support the Parish stance.
- c) Councillor Collier thought that it could be possible to move the 30mph sign further North on Carlisle Road away from the bend and he had asked for this to be put in motion. Moving the HGV limit sign on Barras Lane would be more legally complex to attain, therefore unlikely to happen.
- d) Westwood Nurseries had sent written confirmation that they wished to be released from both the Cemetery and Grass cutting and Ground works contracts at the end of the first year, but that they requested consideration for inclusion in the re-tendering process.
- e) Reported that the replacement railings on the railway bridge were not substantial enough – Clerk to pass on the matter to Network Rail for attention.
- f) Reported that the notice board at Stockdalewath required some treatment. **Resolved** that refurbishment of all the notice boards should be considered by the Property and Maintenance Committee at its next meeting.

66 ACCOUNTS

Resolved to approve the following expenditure and record of income:

1	Audit Commission – audit fee	293.75
2	Barry Faulder – Cemetery access lane wall additional work	1,830.00
3	R M Capstick – Potentilla plants s137	16.85
4	Staples – paper, cartridges	74.17
5	Barry Faulder – seat removal from the Green	40.00
6	British Telecommunications – telephone charges 19/05-18/08/06	75.09
7	Cumbrian Newspapers – 2 Forge Green residential letting advert	17.63
8	Biffa Waste Services – Cemetery waste collection 30/09-29/12/06	115.17
9	Dalston PCC – Festival Committee Church House room hire s137	5.00
10	Maurice Dalton Ltd – Forge Green gas appliances service/safety check	380.71

11	Mrs E Auld – salary £633.37, expenses £22.73	656.10
12	United Utilities - ½ year Cemetery water rates	26.77
13	Mrs M Watson – cleaning Forge Green offices 6 months	45.00
14	Westwood Nurseries – Churchyard/Cemetery maintenance contract 75%	2,275.39
15	Westwood Nurseries – grass cutting & ground works contract 75% - £1,582.50, Forge Green grass cutting/weeding - £324.00 + VAT	2240.14

Income:

1	Corner Shop – Fishing permits	143.00
2	P Rowcroft & R Willatt – 1 Forge Green August rent	261.25
3	HM Customs & Excise – VAT repayment	745.79
4	Step Saver a/c - interest	140.27
5	CPCA – Gaitsgill railings refurbishment grant	750.00

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CEMETERY MATTERS

- a) & b) No matters to report.
- c) 1 - Copy letter of apology from Westwood Nurseries to Mrs Lyder for damaging her husband's grave. The Clerk reported on a site meeting held with Mr Walker, Westwood Nurseries on 29th August 2006 regarding various maintenance matters in the Cemetery that required attention as part of the contract.
- 2 – Literature received from JEM Electronics regarding a surveillance product – for filing.
- 3 – TownsWeb Archiving Ltd literature on archiving Cemetery records.
- 4 – Clear Skies Software – BACAS in a Box Cemetery Registers administration system used by Carlisle CC. Filed for future consideration.
- 5 – StoneGuard News, ABA information newsheet Summer 2006.
- d) The Clerk advised that the Cemetery Fees and Regulations were due for a review, the last update being December 2004 – **resolved** that the Property and Maintenance Committee should consider the matter.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.