

DALSTON PARISH COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2007

DALSTON PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS 2007

Dalston Parish Council resolved to award grants to the following local organisations as follows:

	ORGANISATION	PROJECT	GRANT
1	Dalston Football Club U14's	Set up costs for new team to play in Sunday League.	100.00
2	Barras House	Potting Shed for garden.	200.00
3	Redspearlands Footpath Group	Parish Paths Initiative running expenses.	150.00
4	Raughton Head PCC	Churchyard grass cutting & paths maintenance. Safety rails and wicket to boiler house steps.	1,455.00
5	Raughton Head & District WI	Teapots, milk jugs & sugar bowls.	98.00
6	Gaitsgill Parent & Toddlers	Replace books and toys.	100.00
7	1 st Dalston Brownies	Indoor & outdoor activity equipment.	150.00
8	Dalston Parent & Toddler	Storage boxes, safety mats, sit and ride toys.	200.00
9	Dalston Pre-school Nursery	2 x Storage units in new location.	250.00
10	Dalston Festival Committee	Insurance, advertising & administration.	400.00
11	Dalston WI	Subsidy for minibus travel, guest speakers.	250.00
12	St Michael's C of E School	Benches, chairs and table for new garden - school and community accessibility/use.	250.00
13	Raughton Head School PTA	Establishment of a school garden	200.00
14	Tuesday Club, Gaitsgill	Subsidy for outings & coach hire	100.00
15	Dalston Recreation Association	Public address system	250.00
16	Primrose Hall, Gaitsgill	Seat cushions, induction loop and wall heater parts.	200.00
17	Inglewood Explorer Scout Unit	Feather Flags.	250.00
18	Dalston Tennis Club	Coaching costs	250.00
19	Gateway Software	Dalston website hosting, maintenance and upgrade	150.00
20	St John's, Cumdivock	Churchyard grass cutting/maintenance	125.00
21	St Michael's After School Club	Replacement carpet in After School Room	200.00
	TOTAL	(Total awarded 2006 £5,170)	£5,328.00

STATION ENTRANCE

After a very long period of discussion and communication with Cumbria Highways regarding the possibilities for future adoption, it has been decided not to go down this route, which could have been a 'Rolls Royce' result but rather expensive. Instead it is intended to have the access area made good and re-surfaced, with a pedestrian footway marked out from the main road to the car park, across the Station yard entrance to link in to the already identified path to the platform access. The 'island' will be reduced in size, allowing better visibility for vehicle drivers, particularly exiting the area. The 'Dalston' sign will be moved to opposite the Barras Lane Industrial Estate entrance. Hopefully this long awaited project will be completed by the end of March 2008. The Parish Council is benefiting from some financial assistance towards this work, generously given by various parties.

PARISH PRECEPT

The precept has been set at £33,600 for 2008/09. This will cost a D Band household in the region of £31, an increase of £1 from the current year.

TRAFFIC & PARKING QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to all Parishioners who have returned completed questionnaires. The results are being analysed (thanks to the Chairman for processing the data) and the information emerging appears to endorse some of the answers anticipated by the Parish Council. The final outcomes will be available in December and will form the basis for more focussed plans for consultation and development on the ground. It is proposed to hold an event early in 2008 for you to have a further say in measures which might be taken to alleviate some

of the problems. Meanwhile, if you transport children to the schools by car please can you drop off and pick up in a responsible manner. The particular problem of vehicles blocking access on Carlisle Road and Ninerigg has been repeatedly raised and fears are that emergency vehicles, if required would not be able to get through. Parking on pavements is not allowed and often causes obstruction. Carlisle City Council traffic wardens are being asked to enforce parking restrictions in Dalston again. Illegal parking will attract fines – please avoid getting one and help improve the situation by using the school off-road facilities instead.

DALSTON – CUMMERSDALE CYCLE TRACK

The Parish Council has been pressing both Cumbria and Carlisle City Councils to carry out some maintenance work on this well used environmentally friendly route. It was built by Sustrans, but unfortunately future responsibility was not transferred to any party. Hopefully some remedial work will be carried out in the next few months.

HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE

Cumbria County Council is introducing a different way of carrying out highway repairs on a programmed basis using an Area Highways Team. Work will be undertaken in Dalston for a ten day period commencing on 26th November 2007, followed by a further visit starting on 2nd June 2008. Drainage, traffic sign work, removal of debris and obstructions, cutting back brushwood, small scale repairs to reset loose or damaged individual kerbs, channels and edgings will all be included. Liaison will take place with Parish Council representatives to identify specific minor issues and remedy problems. In addition the Emergency Response Teams will attend to more urgent repairs and the Permanent Repair Teams will carry out surfacing defects. Defects should continue to be reported through the Highways Hotline (0845 609 6609) or email contact@cumbriahighways.co.uk .

CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR

Mrs Cynthia Millar has agreed to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council following the resignation of Mr Roberts.

CARLISLE RENAISSANCE

GROWING CARLISLE - AN ECONOMIC STRATEGY FOR THE CARLISLE CITY REGION

Consultation response from Dalston Parish Council as agreed at the meeting on 13th November 2007.

- 1 Poor, repetitive, difficult document to read. No effort to intimate what funding would be required or where the funding stream would come from. It is possibly a ‘wish’ list with little hope of it becoming a reality.
- 2 Disagreement with Carlisle needing to have such an increase in population size. Parishes such as Dalston wish to retain their village identity and do not want urban Carlisle joined up to them, with the inevitable loss of green space and increased pressure on the already inadequate infrastructure and waste management facilities. There is no mention in the document of the Southern Environment Route. Dalston is heavily used now as a link route from the M6 and elsewhere, increasing pressure on unclassified and ‘C’ class roads.
- 3 Dalston Parish Council endorses the submission made by Carlisle Parish Councils Association. The lack of recognition of the third tier of local government and the omission of the word ‘Parish’ in the document highlights this. The rural areas of the District contribute to the economy of the area and should be better included in any development strategy.

- 4 Cycling facilities should be enhanced, not just for recreational purposes. The suggestion for a park and ride facility at Barras Lane to link into public transport should include secure bicycle storage in order that it can be used by people living in the wider rural area. This development could also encompass a car sharing scheme. The existing cycle track from Dalston to Carlisle must be maintained and developed for increased use for shopping and commuting. The provision of cycle racks in places like Denton Holme should be considered.
- 5 Development plans for Affordable Housing are unclear, especially in terms of location.
- 6 Parishes ought to have been represented on the Economic Development & Enterprise Priority Working Group and perhaps this might be considered for the future. The correct balance between urban and rural must be retained.