

DALSTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

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Minutes of the monthly Parish Council Meeting held at Primrose Hall, Gaitsgill on the 10th June 2025 at 7.15pm.

S. Milburn Clerk

Present

Cllr McKerrell (Chair) Cllr Kyle Cllr Kaye-Krzeczowski Cllr Newton Cllr Baxter Cllr Craig
Cllr Potter Cllr Irving Cllr Byers Cllr Dinning Cllr Clarkson Webb Cllr Drouet

Apologies

The following apologies were approved:-

Cllr Melrose – Holiday
Cllr Ebbatson - Holiday

Minutes

Resolved to authorise the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 13th May 2025.

Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

64/25 Public Participation

There were 8 members of the public present.

The following issues were raised:-

- Speeding in Raughton. This was addressed in agenda item 70/25.
- Request for temporary 30mph signage in Raughton during the Carlisle Southern Link Road closures.
- The 7.5 tonne weight restriction sign to be placed back at the Raughton junction leading from Buckabank.
- Request for the forage in the beck at Gaitsgill to be removed.
- Request for railings in Gaitsgill to be painted.
- Give way road markings at Gaitsgill to be re painted.
- Signage showing a 90 degree bend to be placed at Gaitsgill.

65/25 Planning Applications:

Planning Decisions and Applications

Notification of Withdrawn Application

Appn Ref: 22/0710 Land North Of Tanglewood, Grange Park Road, Orton Grange, Carlisle. Erection Of Detached Self Build Single Storey Dwelling.

Notification Of Amended Details / Further Information

Appn Ref: 24/0128 Dalston Hall Hotel, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7JX. Variation Of Condition 2 (Temporary Permission) Of Previously Approved Application 19/0243 (Erection Of Marquee) To Extend The Permission For A Further 2 Years No Observations.

Applications:

Appn Ref:25/0264 Cardew Hall, Cardew, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7JQ. Extension To Existing Feed Store Building. No Observations. A comment was made on a previous application (18/0917), Clerk to follow up.

Appn Ref:25/0038/S211 Red Rocks, 14 The Green, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7QB. Removal of Leylandi Hedge. No Observations.

Appn Ref: 25/0289 Westwood Nurseries, Orton Grange, Carlisle, CA5 6LB. Change Of Use From Plant Nursery To Car Sales. No observations

Appn Ref: 25/0298 Bishops Lough Farm, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7JP. Proposed Extension To Provide A Body Shop For Private Use Associated With The Business. To request clarification on the application wording/meaning.

Appn Ref: 25/0042 S211 2 Bishops Mill, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7QN. Crown Raise To 1no Willow Tree In Dalston Conservation Area. No observations.

66/25 Cumberland Councillor Report

Cllr Allison's report is detailed below:

As ward Councillor for Dalston & Burgh, the issue of parent parking at school times was raised with me at the last meeting of Dalston Parish Council.

Parent parking on the highway outside rural primary schools is a constant issue. St Michael's school at Dalston is no exception. Nine Rigg is routinely affected.

The first short section of Nine Rigg from the junction with Carlisle Road, is double yellows where parking is supposedly prohibited. The second section up to the junction with Caldew Drive has white lines to restrict parking to between the house drives. Further along there are no restrictions.

I was shown photographs recently by a resident of two cars parked on opposite sides of the road such that it was limited to anything but the smallest vehicles to get through and impossible for emergency vehicles.

I have requested as the line markings in the area have been refreshed and are now enforceable, can this be followed up with unannounced visits from parking officers.

67/25 Clerk and Chairman Report

- A report is to be submitted to Cumberland Council on the 8th July proposing the alignment of Parish Councils election dates. Dalston Parish Council's next election is due in May 2026, following Council approval and subsequent public consultation, it is intended to delay the next election date to May 2027. This would extend the term of the current Parish Councillors by one year, but holding combined elections would minimise the cost to the Parish Council, Cumberland Council and reduce confusion to the electors.
- The next meeting of the Fells and Solway Community Panel is on Monday 30 June at 10 am in Great Orton Village Hall.

68/25 Correspondence

Cllr Drouet Electric Vehicle Charger Report as follows:-

After spending a short time decoding the data received as a pdf of a spreadsheet, back to a rough Excel spreadsheet for analysis the following information was determined.

NB! Using the year 2021/22 (in brackets) to compare with 2024/25 as received, only basic information included at this stage.

Number of charging sessions attempted,	345 (112)
Number of successful charging sessions,	256 (83)
Success rate	74% (74%)
Total power used (Charge)	6,025.12 kWh (914.72 kWh)

The good news is that usage has increased by just over three times what it was when the system was first installed. This is partly because people have got to know that the chargers are available but also a reflection of the increase of EVs on the road.

Comments I have received from the small number of EV users that I know are;

- these chargers are very slow compared with other local sites (e.g. Orton Grange)
- the tariffs for these chargers are relatively high for the time taken to charge a significant amount of power

The intended users for these chargers were always those who cannot use chargers at home for various reasons, no off-street parking, congested unreliable local parking places not adjacent to their home, etc.

I note that the power connection to these chargers was specified to be sufficient to supply a higher power (quicker) charging system available for future upgrading.

Unfortunately, the data supplied does not give any indication as to whether the user is local or not. As all the payment are made by credit card it should be possible to obtain at least locality information of the card holder. This could be in the form of a concatenated post code revealing just the first three or 4 characters. I know when we have asked in the past about this GDPR is raised as a barrier to this information but in my opinion, this would be necessary for us to evaluate whether this facility is worthwhile and meeting its aims and objectives.

69/25 Dalston Public Toilets

Parishioner correspondence detailing various options available regarding the public toilets was circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

Cllr McKerrell reported that Cumberland Council had interviewed 2 candidates one of whom was suitable. A third candidate is to be interviewed on the 13th June. It was agreed to wait and see how successful the new cleaner is and go from there.

Cllr Allison will raise the matter at the next Cumberland Council meeting.

Clerk to contact Patterdale Parish Council to ask how they manage their toilets. It was noted that some toilets are sponsored by local businesses.

70/25 Speed Indicator Device

Councillor Allison report regarding alternative traffic monitoring/control at Raughton:

I have been involved in the Speed Indicator Device (SID) at Burgh-By-Sands (BBS) which unlike the others features number plate recognition. This is being supported by the police as an alternative to the Speedwatch due to Parish Councils having difficulty in recruiting volunteers.

It operates in the same way in that the Clerk to the Parish Council or volunteer Councillor, downloads the data from the SID which is forwarded to the Police Support Officer (PCSO) who then decides which offenders should be contacted. This is not an exercise in points on licence, but they receive a warning letter from the police. If they continue to offend then this becomes a more formal process.

These devices are not nearly as visible as Speedwatch which could mean that the occasional user of the Raughton route may not be picked up unless the speed on a single occasion was dangerously high to warrant intervention. I have offered BBS funding for signs to complement the standard ones issued with the SID to make it as visible as Speedwatch and informing road users that there is a number plate recognition in operation. At BBS we intend to start with the standard signs.

In my opinion it is more effective than Speedwatch as it extends every day over all the daylight hours. The recording device is less costly than others at £800 each excluding installation and they can be deployed on both carriageways and moved to different locations. My only concern for Raughton/Gaitsgill is the current speed limit of 60mph. Up to now we have been involved in deployment in 30mph zones. As I recall, the police regard the safe speed limit as that travelled by the fastest of 2/3rds of the recorded traffic.

Following discussion all the Councillors present agreed to purchase 2 units. Cllr Allison agreed to fund half of the cost which will be in the region of £1,100.

71/25 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Drouet stated that the Carlisle District Local Plan would need to be completed before Dalston look at updating Dalston's Neighbourhood Plan. RFO to contact Richard Wood to find out the current progress with the plan.

72/25 Carlisle Rural Traffic Regulation Order Review

Response below given by Keiron Wilkinson Traffic Management Officer, Cumberland Council.

“Thank you for your email regarding the Dalston area and the Carlisle Rural Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) Review. I appreciate the Parish Council taking the time to compile and submit these requests.

I'd like to clarify that the current TRO review is focused solely on matters directly related to Traffic Regulation Orders—primarily the implementation, amendment, or removal of formal parking and waiting restrictions (e.g., double yellow lines, disc parking zones, loading restrictions, etc.).

I can confirm the following:

- **Making the advisory disabled bays in The Square enforceable** – This is a TRO-related matter and will be reviewed as part of our current process. The Parish Council have concerns over policing.
- **The existing request to extend the double yellow lines on Station Road** – This will be included in our upcoming informal consultation.

- **The existing request for limited waiting in The Square** – Following recent monitoring visits and discussions with Cllr Allison, it is the officers’ recommendation that this proposal be formally abandoned. There appears to be sufficient turnover and availability of parking. However, we are open to exploring marked bays in The Square to create a more formal layout in the future, subject to local support.

The remaining requests fall outside the scope of this TRO review. However, I have ensured these items are logged in our general requests file for future consideration and potential investigation by the relevant teams or as part of any wider schemes. They are: -

- To review the installation of a roundabout at the Post Office (please see attached information), or to modify the existing junction or to consider the installation of traffic lights here. Parishioner correspondence regarding this issue was discussed and will be held on file.
- Alterations to the right-hand bend from Barras Brow at the junction taking you to Dobbie’s.
- To change the profile of the road at the dangerous Dobbie’s bend. Chevrons have recently been installed.
- Downgrading the Kingsway to Bridleway.”

An informal consultation will run from the 16th June to the 11th July 2025

Cumberland Council Traffic Team is now in a position to move forward with the (TRO) regarding speed limits for the Carlisle Southern Link Road and its adjoining roads, comments welcome, the consultation will take place between the 9th June and the 9th July 2025.

73/25 Electoral Review of Cumberland Council Draft Recommendations

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has published proposals for new electoral arrangements for Cumberland. The electoral arrangements for Dalston may change because of the proposals. Proposed are 55 Councillors to be elected over Cumberland Council in future and new ward boundaries across the authority. A public consultation will run from the 3rd June – 11th August, all comments are welcome. The Parish Council remains the same however they propose changes to the Ward which means Raughton, Gaitsgill, Raughton Head and Stockdalewath will be in a separate ward to the rest of Dalston Parish. More details can be found on the Parish Council website. James Bainbridge to be invited to attend the July Parish Council meeting.

74/25 To Receive The Annual Internal Audit Report

The RFO reported that the internal audit has been completed. The Internal Audit Report section of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for submission to the external auditor was signed by the internal auditor on 28th May 2025. No issues were raised. The written report to the Parish Council has not been received yet.

75/25 Annual Governance Statement 2024/25

The document had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Kaye-Krzczkowski proposed the Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 be approved, Cllr Baxter seconded this, all Councillors present were in favour.

76/25 Accounting Statements 2024/25

The document had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Kaye-Krzczkowski proposed the Accounting Statements 2024/25 be approved, Cllr Baxter seconded this, all Councillors present were in favour.

77/25 Financial

- The RFO reported that £7,519.86 solar panel money had been received which is £251.23 more than last year. It was resolved to pay this into the Dalston Parish Charitable Trust as in previous years.
- The following payments were approved:-

Chq	Payee	Details	£
BACS	Sue Milburn	June PC Notices	9.00
BACS	Martin Broatch	Windows 30/5/25	5.00
BACS	SH Electrical	PAT testing	69.00
BACS	Dalston Parish Charitable	2025 Solar Farm income	7,519.86

	Trust		
BACS	Dalston Victory Hall	Hire Hall for Annual Parish meeting	50.00
CHQ 800	Ian Davidson	gravedigging Mary Jackson	60.00
CHQ 801	Primrose Hall Gaitsgill	Hall hire June PC meeting	15.00
Total			£7,727.86

The Clerks/RFO agreed Salary, PAYE and National Insurance were paid.

It was approved to transfer £20,000 from the Building Society 30-day deposit account to the current account.

78/25 Cemetery

The following cemetery matters were approved:-

- The purchase of cremated remains space in Ward 4, Section C, Space 43e by Maria Ross.
- The interment of the late Mary Jackson in Ward 4, Section C, Space 43e on the 27th May 2025.
- The purchase of burial space Ward 5, Section L, Space 6 by Mr & Mrs Rowcroft.
- The additional inscription for the Late Margaret Vide Avril Jackson in Ward 2 Section A space 33. To read 'In Loving Memory of Charles Greville Jackson, 1913-1997, of Manor House, Dalston, Also His Wife Margaret Vide Avril Jackson, Nee Morison 1919-2024, Also Mary Winifred Macleod, Nee Jackson 1909-2005, Wife of Lt Col Norman Macleod 1895-1944'.
- A Kendal Green polished granite plaque, sandblasted and gilded in Ward 4, Section C, Space 43e to read 'In the garden of memories you would bloom forever. Mary 'Molly' Jackson, 1944-2025. Beloved Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma'.

.79/25 Councillor Matters

- Cllr Baxter thanked everyone for their support in helping to get the lines outside Carlisle Road re marked.
- Cllr Baxter also thanked the volunteers who have made a fantastic job of clearing the vegetation on the cycle path. Cllr Drouet thanked the volunteers who have repaired the gate on the footpath towards Ikes Wood. It was agreed a thank you be put into the Parish Paper as there are so many fantastic volunteers within the Parish.
- Cllr Baxter reported the poor condition of the footpaths by the Post Office and stated that there had been an accident there due to the uneven paths. The issue is to be reported to Cumberland Council.
- Cllr Baxter reported that the market garden has 12 complimentary nest boxes. Clerk to advertise on the website.
- Cllr Kaye-Krzeczkowski reported that a volunteer has kindly fixed the kissing gate on the footpath behind Bridge End Inn. It does however have an extra post by the gate which makes it awkward to negotiate when opening the gate.

Date of Forthcoming Meetings

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to take place on the 8th July 7.15pm in Forge Freen.

Policy & Resource Meeting Dates for 2025 – TBA.

Property & Maintenance Meeting dates for 2025 – TBA.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

