

## DALSTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Forge Green  
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Minutes of the monthly Parish Council Meeting held at Forge Green on the 8th July 2025 at 7.15pm.

S. Milburn Clerk

James Bainbridge attended the meeting and answered questions on Cumberland Councils proposed electoral review and ward boundaries.

### **Present**

Cllr McKerrell (Chair) Cllr Kyle Cllr Newton Cllr Craig Cllr Robson Cllr Baxter Cllr Irving Cllr Byers  
Cllr Dinning Cllr Melrose Cllr Clarkson Webb Cllr Drouet

### **Apologies**

The following apologies were approved:-  
Cllr Kaye-Krzeczkowski – Visitors.  
Cllr Potter – Care duties.

### **Minutes**

**Resolved** to authorise the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 10th June 2025.

### **Requests for Dispensations**

There were no requests for dispensations.

### **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **80/25 Public Participation**

There was 1 member of the public present, they spoke objecting to agenda item 5 (request for 2 bird tables on The Green).

### **81/25 Cumberland Councillor Report**

Cllr Allison noted his disappointment that the current Carlisle Rural Regulation Order review doesn't cover speed restrictions. The Clerk stated that this will be reviewed in August 2026.

The speed limit at Raughton was discussed and it was agreed the Clerk will ask Keiron Wilkinson if parishioners / individuals are able to make an application for a TRO to reduce a speed limit and what costs would be involved.

### **82/25 Planning Applications:**

#### **Decisions:**

**Appn Ref: 25/0255** 1 Cardew Hall Cottages, Cardew, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7JQ. Demolition Of Garage & Erection Of Replacement Garage. Grant Permission.

#### **Applications:**

**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. The Council feel the application wording is conflicting and requested a restriction be placed on the application stating that it will not provide a service to members of the public.

**Appn Ref: 25/0220** Dalston Hall Hotel, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7JX. Internal Alterations To Reconfigure The Dining Space & Toilet Facilities Together With The Replacement Of The Existing Fire Escape & Recladding Of The External Façade Of The Dining Room (LBC). No Observations.

**Appn Ref: 25/0351** 9 Lingyclose Road, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7LB. Demolition Of Existing Detached Double Garage; Erection Of Two Storey Detached Car Port With Gym At First Floor. No Observations.

**Appn Ref: 25/0029/TPO** Paragon Veterinary Centre, Carlisle House, Townhead Road, Dalston, CA5 7JF. Removal Of Branches To 2no. Beech And 2no. Lime Tree Subject To TPO227. No Observations.

### **Notification of Amended details/Further Information**

**Appn Ref: 25/0121** Hazel House, Carlisle Road, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7NQ. Formation Of New Access Road To Serve Proposed Swimming Pool (Approved Under Ref 23/0108). To ensure the application meets highways safety regulations due to its location.

### **83/25 Clerk and Chairman Report**

- Cllr Craig proposed standing order 5d be altered to say: - In addition to the annual meeting of the Council, at least three other ordinary meetings shall be held in each year on such dates and times as the Council decides. There will be no meeting held in August unless urgent business dictates otherwise. This was seconded by Cllr Melrose, 9 Councillors were in favour and there was 1 abstention.
- Cumbria In Bloom judging is to take place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025. Cllr Byers reported that the railway station had already been judged. She also thanked Cllr Dinning for volunteering to help on the day of judging.
- Richard Wood's response to the Neighbourhood Plan was circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting and discussed. It seems he is saying don't do a new plan because the Cumberland Council is doing one of their own. They are asking for development land options and will decide where they will be. When we do a new Neighbourhood Plan it will be in response to the plan that Cumberland Council have devised. This is back to front as the residents who know the area well will effectively be told where will be developed by the Council. It would seem the Neighbourhood Plan would only be allowed to consider the options already decided by Cumberland Council and so would be unlikely to be allowed to make suggestions of alternatives or provide tangible resistance to development that was felt to be inappropriate.

The Parish Council agreed it might be worth considering an approach to gather the opinions of local people at an early stage so that the Parish Council can confidently state the opinion of the community and support the community having a voice in the process. A Neighbourhood Plan meeting will take place in September. Cllr McKerrell, Cllr Melrose and Cllr Kyle agreed to join the group. Cumberland Council has launched its call for sites in the Cumberland Plan. Interested parties are invited to identify sites they would like to see protected or developed for a particular use. The closing date is 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

NALC have reported that the Government have ceased funding for Neighbourhood Plans.

- The complimentary nesting boxes from Hickson's Garden Centre have been distributed to the schools in the parish.
- The leaking stop tap in the toilet at Forge Green has been replaced.
- PCSO Graham Kirkpatrick is holding a police desk in the Co-op on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 11am-1pm.
- Cumberland Council are offering shop front improvement grants. Grants of 50% of the costs (max £5,000) can be applied for using the following link – **UKSPF-2025/26Grants**. The closing date for applications is the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025.
- The proposal to have parking bays marked out opposite The Square was discussed. Cllr Allison to ask Keiron Wilkinson to provide a plan of how this could be done, the item will be discussed further once this has been completed.

### **84/25 Correspondence**

- A parishioner has expressed concern regarding the poor state of the pavement at the corner on Townhead Road. The Clerk reported the issue to Cumberland Council who stated that the surface of the footway does not meet their investigatory level, therefore no works will be done at this time.
- Parishioner correspondence regarding HGV weight restrictions not being adhered to in the village was discussed. It was agreed to look at this at a later date when the Carlisle Southern Link Road is completed.
- The request to place 2 bird tables on the Kingsway was discussed and permission was refused. 2 Councillors abstained from the vote and 10 Councillors objected.
- The request for seats on the cycle path was discussed and it was agreed to replace the damaged seat that is already there. Cllr Newton to ask United Utilities if they will replace it as they are working in the area.

### 85/25 Dalston Public Toilets

Cumberland Council have been unsuccessful in recruiting a mobile toilet cleaner; therefore, they have made the decision to tender the work to a contractor. Orian are tendering.

As requested at the last meeting the Clerk contacted Patterdale Parish Council who are responsible for looking after their toilets. It costs in the region of £10,000 ex VAT to run them per annum.

### 86/25 Parish Notice Boards

The Parish notice boards are to be inspected to ascertain if new boards are needed. The responsible Councillors to report back to the Clerk.

### 87/25 Forge Green Roof

- The Clerk reported that there had been a leak in the living room of No.1 Forge Green due to slipped slates. (It was agreed the damaged ceiling be repaired). Keith Davidson has repaired the hole in the roof but stated that it is in poor condition. Following discussion Cllr Dinning proposed Forge Green be re roofed, Cllr Byers seconded this, and all Councillors present were in favour. Clerk / RFO to obtain an update to the procedure to obtain a bat licence and roof tender.
- The Clerk also reported that the outbuildings are leaking in. The sandstone ridge is to be replaced.

### 88/25 To Receive The Annual Internal Audit Report

The internal audit report for 2024-2025 has been received and circulated prior to the meeting. No issues had been raised by the auditor.

### 89/25 Financial

- The following payments were approved:-

Chq	Payee	Details	£
BACS	Sue Milburn	July PC Notices £4.50 Eye Test £65.00	69.50
BACS	Eden Fabrications	Manufacture The Beacon	2,035.20
BACS	R & M Lowther	Clear trees with ash die back required by Cumberland Council	2,025.00
BACS	Margaret Watling	Norton Internet Security subscription £49.99 Postage- Exclusive right of burial £ 3.45	53.44
BACS	Capsticks	Summer planting parish £1,939.32 Summer planting The Forge for Cumbria in Bloom £167.40	2,106.72
BACS	Roadware Ltd	Litter bin for Recreation Centre to replace planter bins	241.14
BACS	James Finn-caile	weed spraying and village gardening works	1,760.00
Total			<u>£8,291.00</u>

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

- Cllr Kyle proposed a gift card for Marks & Spencer to the value of £150 should be purchased to thank the internal auditor for the work carried out. Cllr Drouet seconded this. All councillors were in agreement. RFO to action.

- The accounts for the 3 months to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2025 which had previously been circulated were approved.
- The Clerk / RFO salary scales were discussed.

#### **90/25 Cemetery**

The following cemetery matters were approved:-

- The interment of the late John Holliday in Ward 5, Section L, Space 12 on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 2.30 pm.
- The purchase of burial space Ward 5, Section J, Space 42 by Mr John Gardhouse.
- The burial of the late John Norman Gardhouse in Ward 5, Section J, Space 42 on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

#### **91/25 Councillor Matters**

- Cllr Byers thanked Capsticks for the excellent job they are doing.
- Cllr Newton reported that United Utilities will be installing an overspill tank on the river side of the cycle path and they will be using the car park of St Michaels School to store equipment. This will take 9 months to complete. The footpath will be closed during this period.
- Cllr Kyle enquired when the cemetery levelling works would be completed. The Clerk stated that Rob Jackson is still to provide a quote. Clerk to follow this up.

#### **Date of Forthcoming Meetings**

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 7.15pm in Forge Green.

Policy & Resource Meeting Dates for 2025 – TBA.

Property & Maintenance Meeting dates for 2025 – TBA.

The meeting closed at 9pm