

DALSTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Forge Green
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Minutes of the monthly Parish Council Meeting held at Forge Green on the 9th June 2026 at 7.15pm.

Present

Cllr McKerrell (Chair) Cllr Baxter Cllr Byers Cllr Dinning Cllr Drouet Cllr Kyle
Cllr Newton Cllr Potter Cllr Clarkson Webb

Apologies

The following apologies were approved:-

Cllr Ebbatson – holiday
Cllr Irving -family commitments
Cllr Laycock – holiday
Cllr Melrose- work commitments
Cllr Warburton -sickness

Minutes

Resolved to authorise the Chairman to sign, as a true record, the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 12th May 2026.

Requests for Dispensations

There were no requests for dispensations.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

70/26 Public Participation

Cllr Allison & 7 members of the public were present.

71/26 Cumberland Councillor Report

A draft letter to Cumberland Council from Cllr Allison had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Allison asked if the Parish Council would agree to be a vehicle through which to channel funding to maintain the Sustran Cycleway. He hoped to persuade Story Homes to maintain the cycleway annually and obtain a portion of S106 money.

Cllr Kyle commented that there were more important projects in the Parish than any potential S106 money could be spent on.

Cllr McKerrell commented that no discussion should be taking place on S106 money that does not exist from a development that the Parish Council is objecting to. The cycleway should be adopted by Cumberland Council and they should maintain it. Cllr Allison is entitled to submit his comments to Cumberland Council in his own right but these are not the opinion of the Parish Council. The matter will be discussed at a later date when & if S106 money exists.

72/26 Planning Applications:

Appn Ref: 26/0254 Holly Oaks, The Gill, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7JP. Demolition Of Existing Utility & Store; Erection Of Single Storey Side Extension To Provide Living/Dining Room & Kitchen & 1no. En-Suite Bedroom. No observations.

Appn Ref: 26/0215 3 Courtyard Barns, The Square, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7PJ. First Floor Link Extension And Conversion Of Store To Provide Kitchen/Dining Area; External Works To Include New Doors And Windows, Replacement Roof, Existing External Staircase To Be Repaired And Reinstated. No observations.

Appn Ref: 26/0276 Crispen House, The Gill, Dalston, Carlisle, CA5 7JP. Change Of Use Of Land To Create Private Equestrian Arena/Manege; Provision of New Field Access. No observations.

Appn Ref: 26/0294 Rose Cottage, 3 The Square, Dalston, Carlisle CA5 7PJ. Erection Of Single Storey Rear Extension To Provide Utility Room & Shower Room. No observations.

Appn Ref: 26/0295 Rose Cottage, 3 The Square, Dalston, Carlisle CA5 7PJ. Erection Of Single Storey Rear Extension To Provide Utility Room & Shower Room (LBC). No Observations.

Appn Ref: 26/0228 Land South of Nook Lane, Dalston, Carlisle. CA5 7JG. Erection of 99no. Dwellings Including New Vehicular Access, Landscaping And Associated Works.

Cllr McKerrell reported that the working group continue to work on the Parish Council response which must be submitted by 19 June 2026. Dialogue has been started with a planning consultant to assist with the response. Parishioners have been raising funds towards the cost of the consultant.

Cllr Kyle commented that the draft response which had been circulated prior to the meeting was excellent.

Cllr Baxter commented that he considered there should be two entrances to the proposed development for road safety.

Cllr Kyle proposed that the Parish Council should formally accept the quote of £5,151 and engage the planning consultant with a maximum contribution of £3,000 from the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Clarkson Webb. Seven Councillors agreed and one Councillor abstained.

Cllr Drouet remarked that the Dalston Neighbourhood Plan was a crucial document in the Parish Council objection to the planning application. There is a defined development boundary, the proposed Nook Lane development falls outside of that boundary. He suggested that this is now the time to form a subcommittee to look at updating the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr McKerrell reported that the period for the call for sites for development for the Cumberland Council Local Plan expired in January. It was agreed to ask Cumberland Council if a list of sites was available.

Cllr Allison reported that he would request that the application should not be dealt with under delegated powers and should be heard by a planning committee. He also offered to speak on behalf of the Parish Council at any planning committee.

All Councillors are welcome to attend the working group meetings. The next meeting is at Forge Green on 10 June at 7pm.

Withdrawn Application:

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).

73/26 Clerk and Chairman Report

- The tenants of No 1 and No 2 Forge Green have both been provided with The Renters' Rights Act Information Sheet 2026 as required under the new legislation which came into force on 1st May 2026.
- Dalston Parish Charitable Trust have funded £337.50 toward the cost of the Rural Fun Time sessions.
- A quantity of bulbs is available. Notify the clerk if there is anywhere in the parish which would benefit from them.
- The necessary bat licence has been obtained from Natural England.
- The start date for the replacement of Forge Green roof has been delayed by one week and is now due to start week commencing 15 June 2026.
- Cumbria in Bloom judging day is Friday 10th July 2026.
- Funding applications for The Kingsway project made to Nestle and The National Lottery Awards For All Fund have both been rejected. An application is to be made to Cumbria Waste Management Environmental Trust.
- The next meeting of Fells & Solway Community Panel is Monday 29th June at 10 am in Silloth Community Hall.
- A rearranged Carlisle West Rural Neighbourhood Policing Pledge meeting will be on 1st July at 6pm on Teams.

74/26 Correspondence

- Parishioners correspondence concerning the weight restriction for HGVs through the village being ignored had been circulated. PCSO Kirkpatrick had addressed this matter at the Annual Parish Meeting. Some leeway has been permitted until the Carlisle Southern Link Road is open but heavy goods vehicles will be monitored more closely once the road is operational from 12 June 2026.
- A parishioner requested drop kerbs from Kingsway Car Park to the Co-op. Cllr McKerrell advised that a similar request had been made in 2021. Cllr Allison agreed to follow this request up again with Cumberland Council.
- Parishioners' correspondence regarding access to The Bay had been circulated. Cllr Clarkson Webb reported that a combination lock has now been provided for the swimmers. A rapport has been built up with PCSO Kirkpatrick regarding antisocial behaviour and he has attended the site. No further major issues have arisen, however the school holiday is over. The situation will continue to be monitored and reported to PCSO.

75/26 Policy & Resources Meeting 21st April Update

- The draft minutes of the meeting were circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Baxter proposed that the recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Clarkson Webb and all Councillors present were in favour. The annual review of Standing Orders, Policies and the Emergency Information Sheet is now complete. A subgroup will be formed later in the year to consider moving to Parish Council e mail addresses for Councillors and reviewing what is published on our website.
- The circulated policy for the provision of defibrillators in the parish was approved.
- It was agreed to place an advert in the Parish Paper and on the website to try and engage volunteers to organise a community emergency hub and develop a community emergency plan. The matter will be an agenda item in September when feedback from Victory Hall & Primrose Hall has also been received.

76/26 Annual Governance Statement 2025/26

The document had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Clarkson Webb proposed the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 be approved for submission to the external auditor, Cllr Drouet seconded this. All Councillors present were in favour.

77/26 Accounting Statements 2025/26

The document had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Baxter proposed the Accounting Statements 2025/26 be approved for submission to the external auditor, Cllr Clarkson Webb seconded this. All Councillors present were in favour.

The RFO reported that the internal audit has been completed. The written report to the Parish Council has not yet been received.

78/26 Financial

- The following payments were approved: -

Chq	Payee	Details	£
BACS	Dalston Victory Hall	Hire of Hall for Annual Parish Meeting & May PC meeting	£50.00
BACS	Brian Hetherington Ltd	Install seats and picnic bench	£595.86
BACS	Ms J Cornah Wade	Locum Clerk for May meetings	£140.49
BACS	Cache4 IT	Upgrade microsoft licence 30/3/26-01/07/26	£47.77
CHQ 815	Ian Davidson	Dig grave for O Gardhouse	£60.00
CHQ 816	Dalston & District Gardening Club	Dalston in Bloom Grant for Jubilee & Millenium Garden	£216.50

Total	£1,110.62
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The Clerks/RFO agreed Salary, PAYE and National Insurance were paid.

- The RFO confirmed that a payment of £2,307.27 was made on 1st June 2026 to Zurich for the 2026/27 insurance premium.

79/26 Cemetery

The following cemetery matters were approved:

- The interment of the Late Olga Gardhouse in Ward 1, Section Q, Space 20 on 28th May 2026.
- To clean, repaint existing inscription and add additional inscription to head stone in Ward 3 Section S space 35. Inscription to read “Their son Robert Gilbert Diggle, 1929-2020”.
- The purchase of grave space in Ward 5, Section L, Space 19, by Amanda Simpson.

80/26 Councillor Matters

Cllr Newton reported that there was no water in the gents public toilet. The RFO will report this to Cumberland Council.

Cllr Byers reminded everyone to tidy their gardens before Cumbria in Bloom judging on 10th July 2026.

Cllr Baxter reported the paper recycling bins in Glave Hill car park were overflowing and wads of paper had been deposited. The RFO advised that the overflowing paper bins has been reported to Cumberland Council.

Cllr Drouet enquired if householders had to pay to replace damaged recycling bags and boxes. Cllr Allison agreed to find out.

Cllr Dinning reported that the slats on the John Kelsey memorial seat on The Kingsway are damaged. The seat has been taped off until it is repaired. This should be within the next week.

Cllr Dinning stated that the new seats and picnic bench which have recently been installed are an asset to the village.

Date of Forthcoming Meetings

The meeting of the Parish Council to take place on 14th July 2026 at 7.15pm in Primrose Hall, Gaitsgill.

Policy & Resource Meeting Dates for 2026 – TBA

Property & Maintenance Meeting Dates for 2026 TBA

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm