

## DALSTON PARISH COUNCIL PROPERTY AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Dalston Parish Council Property & Maintenance Committee held in Forge Green on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

---

### PRESENT:

Cllr Auld            Cllr Lancaster    Cllr Craig            Cllr Potter            Cllr Roberts

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies for absence received from Cllr Byers and Cllr Newton.

#### 2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2016 were signed by Cllr Auld as true record.  
Clerk is to speak to Civils & Lintels regarding replacing the damaged ecoblock on the Kingsway car park.

#### 3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 4. Public Participation

There were no public in attendance.

#### 5. Forge Green Tenancy Agreement

The updated tenancy agreement was given to the councilors before the meeting. Work to both the chimney and roof is to be completed before the property can be carpeted and decorated. As Forge Green is a listed building Cllr Craig has completed the specification / tender for the rebuild of the chimney and 3 quotes are to be sought. A specification is also to be written in regards to damp proofing the building. This is to be discussed further at the PC meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

#### 6. CIB/BIB Award Ceremonies Report

Cllr Auld reported that Dalston received a Silver Gilt Award in the Large Village category at the Britain In Bloom awards, as a first time entrant this was an amazing achievement. The awards were held in Birmingham at Edgbaston Cricket club. There were over 500 guests representing categories from the best villages through to the outstanding large towns in the Country.

Cumbria In Bloom has invited Dalston to represent the County in the competition again next year. All the councilors present agreed to this however they would like to know that the volunteers also support the decision. Cllr Auld is to put together a plan, this will incorporate ideas on how to improve the areas where the village fell short. Areas that the village could improve on included more business participation and the inclusion of a wild flower area. Next year Dalston will aim to achieve the Gold award.

It was suggested that signs should be placed at the entrance to the village acknowledging the Silver Gilt award this could also incorporate the village emblem. Clerk to put this onto the PC agenda for discussion on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

It was reported that the 3 pots located at the Forge are to be planted with tulips over the winter months. A celebratory American supper has been organised for all the volunteers, this will be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Victory Hall.

#### 7. Oak Tree Forge Green to be re-located

It was decided that the oak tree at Forge Green is to be re located to the triangle at the turn off for Unthank. Cllr Auld to organise.

#### 8. Church Yard Maintenance Plan

- The church yard maintenance plan was distributed to councilors before the meeting. It was reported that 8 headstones in the cemetery need attention. Cllr Craig to ask Mr Horn if he is able to carry out the work. It was agreed that the headstones should be checked annually. The Clerk is to try and contact family members as the maintenance cost is their responsibility. Other areas that need attention in the cemetery include re surfacing the paths, leveling the cremated remains area and replacing a damaged seat.

- Permission has been given from the Archdeacon to go ahead and level the cremated remains area, he confirmed that in this instance a faculty is not needed. He did however state that only the surface of the soil is disturbed, all the stone slabs are kept in the same order and no additional material is introduced into the area, ie, railings or stone chippings. Cllr Craig is to speak to Mr Horn to see if he would be able to carry out the work.
- A letter regarding the Margaret Gore Will Trust has been written to Reverend Steve Carter. The purpose of the letter is to request confirmation from the Trustees that in the year to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 and the years thereafter the income arising from the Margaret Gore Trust will be at least £2,500, ie, around 3.5% per year on the funds bequeathed. The money is to be used for projects in the cemetery.

#### **9. Village Programme Of Work**

- The village maintenance plan was distributed to councilors before the meeting. It was proposed that all the seats/benches in the parish should be maintained. This will need to be completed in the spring, it was suggested that Peter Hunter is contacted to carry out the work.
- It was agreed that the grasscrete on The Green needs attention. Cllr Craig to add this to the village programme of work.
- The fence outside the car park at St Michaels School is in disrepair. Cllr Newton to speak to the headmaster Mr Marsh.
- The Charitable Trust has agreed to keep a reserve fund of £5,000. Alan Dinning requested that the trust fund a new picnic table, this would be placed on the Kingsway. Cllr Craig stated that previous picnic tables funded by the PC have a 25 year guarantee.

#### **10. Councillor Matters**

- Cllr Roberts kindly volunteered to do the necessary tree work at Mitchell Brow.
- Cllr Roberts requested a directional sign to be placed at the entrance to the Kingsway car park. It was agreed to have this as an agenda item at the PC meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016.
- Cllr Potter reported vehicles parking on the pavement outside the Cutting Room.
- It was requested that a progress report is given in regards to the village sign, this will be done at the next PC meeting.
- It was also requested that an update be given on the Sheepfold seat.

#### **11. Date Of Next Meeting**

Next meeting of the Parish Council to take place on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.15pm at Forge Green.

Next meeting of the Policy & Resource Committee to take place on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 at 7.15pm at Forge Green.

Next meeting of the Property & Maintenance Committee to take place end March/beginning of April 2017, this will take place in Church House, time to be arranged.

The meeting closed at 9pm