

DALHAM PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15th May 2024, Dalham Village Hall.**

Councillors present: Councillor Riddell (Chair), Aylott, Corby, Petchey, Ward and Wilkins-Smith

1. **Chair's Welcome** - Chair opened the meeting at 7.45pm.
2. **To receive Apologies of Absence** – None given, all present.
3. **To receive Declarations of Pecuniary and local Non-Pecuniary Interests** – None received.
4. **To receive comment from the members of the public present:**
 - a) On the agenda under discussion – No comments were received.
 - b) Matters regarding Dalham in general – No comments were received.
5. **Planning applications to be considered by the council:**
 - a) DC 24/0568/FUL
Proposal - Planning application - new access
Location - Land Lying North Of Denham Road, Dalham Denham Road Dalham Bury St Edmunds
Applicant - Denham Vicarage Farm Limited

Concerns were raised by the parish council and it was objected to for the following reasons:

 - **Impact on the environment** – the original agreement with Anglian Water included the reinstatement of the hedgerows that were removed when the project was complete. If the new access point remains, the destruction of habitats and disruption of wildlife on the local ecosystem will have permanent repercussions resulting in a decrease of biodiversity value.
 - **Impact on traffic and transportation** – the road that runs adjacent to the land has been recognised and designated a 'Quiet Lane': *a single track, rural road for users to enjoy the natural surrounds and use the road for activities such as cycling, horse riding, jogging and walking.* The field already has two existing access points that are suitable for farm traffic, to add another much larger access point to the field was considered excessive and unnecessary for an agricultural field. 3 exit points in such close proximity to each other was also considered a safety issue for users of the quiet lane.
 - **Impact on the character and appearance of the area** – the new access point was intended for the heavy plant machinery that required access to the Anglian Water project. The hard standing, width of the gateway and clearance of hedgerows was suited to the infrastructure necessary for that operation and as such is an urban worksite. It was understood that this was to be a temporary impact on the aesthetics of the area. For the access point to remain would mean the overall character of the landscape would be threatened, and what was a rural country vista would no longer be preserved.
6. **To receive any items of correspondence not previously circulated:** None received.
7. **Items for discussion at the next meeting:** None raised.
8. **Dates of next meeting:**
 - a) Next meeting – Wednesday 10th July 2024, 7.45pm Dalham Village Hall.
9. **There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.17pm**

Signed (Chair) Dated

Dalham Parish Council – 15/05/2024
So signed by the Chair at the meeting 10/07/2024