In essence Dalton with Newton Town Council are satisfied with the current warding arrangements and given a choice would retain them, however it is acknowledged that with a projected growth in population numbers and the need for equality in electoral representation from members of Westmorland and Furness Council a review and change of warding arrangements will be necessary.

Prior to 1974 Dalton was an Urban District Council covering Dalton, Newton, Askam, Ireleth, Lindal and Marton with Barrow having a Town Council to deal with their own wards. Historically there have been strong geographical and community links between the former Dalton UDC areas with the common tie being the Iron Ore mines and mining communities.

Following the 1974 Local Government Reorganisation and the demise of Dalton UDC the communities looked to Barrow as the service provider being within the Borough of Barrow in Furness council area, however the strong community ties between the former mining areas remain.

There was no common link or noticeable community cohesion with the Low Furness villages of Aldingham, Pennington, Urswick, Bardsea and Stainton despite the close geographical nature of the landscape, the Low Furness villages were in the former South Lakeland District Council and mainly looked to Ulverston as their main service provider.

The Town Council have looked at the current warding arrangements and projected electoral numbers and would offer the following suggestion as a possible solution to warding arrangements.

**Askam and Ireleth (currently Dalton North Ward represented by 2 members)**

Askam & Ireleth are projected to see significant increase in the electorate by 2031 and it would therefore be acceptable to create a single member ward who would represent a projected electorate of 2,886 in 2031 with a +1% deviation from the acceptable 10%.

**Dalton with Newton (Parish Council boundary currently straddles Dalton North & South Wards – represented by 2 members for each ward)**

Projected electorate figures provided by Westmorland and Furness Council show an increase of 383 between 2024 and 2031. It is unclear how accurate these figures are given the fact that Westmorland and Furness are currently undertaking the review and creation of a new Local Plan; if the plan already been completed, it would have allowed for much more reliable figures for electorate numbers based on the number of housing allocation sites and their indicative property numbers.

Using the current projected number of electors for Anty Cross & Newton, Beckside and Dowdales wards at 6446 in 2031 it is recognised that a Ward for Dalton with the village of Newton would not be within the 10% tolerance and the Town Council would therefore suggest the following:

Create a 2 member Dalton Ward (excluding the Village of Newton) with an electorate of 6173 in 2031 with a deviation +8% from the acceptable 10%

**Newton Village (Currently Dalton South – represented by 2 members)**

Dalton Town Council would be very reluctant to move Newton Village away from its close associations with Dalton South and are mindful of future implications of any Community Governance review conducted by Westmorland and Furness, however to allow equal representation the suggestion would be to move Newton Village to the Low Furness Ward.

**Lindal & Marton and Low Furness**

Lindal and Marton are currently located within Dalton North Ward along with the Askam, Ireleth, and part of Dalton. If the proposals to create a 2 member Askam & Ireleth Ward and a 2 member Dalton Ward are accepted, Lindal and Marton could not be included in either as the inclusion would take the electorate for both wards over the 10% permitted variance.

The Town Council’s suggestion, although reluctant to remove Lindal & Marton from the close community links with the current Dalton North & South Wards, would be to move Lindal and Marton to the Low Furness Ward. The Low Furness Ward would include Lindal, Marton, Aldingham (North & South), Urswick, Bardsea, Stainton and Newton Village.

Low Furness would be a 1 member ward with an electorate of 3012 in 2031 with a +6% deviation on the acceptable 10%.