



**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
DENBY DALE PARISH  
COUNCIL**

**2014 - 2015**

**DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL****ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015****CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW**

We are at the end of another Council Year with many successes to report.

Much of the Parish Council's work continues as before, with even more responsibility as a result of tightening budgets and devolved power. Housing development in the parish goes ahead at an ever increasing pace and there seems little we can do about it but to report the concerns of our residents and our Plans Scrutiny Committee. Remember that we are faced with an unprecedented national shortage of homes.

Discussion still moves ahead with the project to increase car parking space at Denby Dale Station. We have some prospect of a solution to this problem – Watch this space!!

The development of an allotment site at Churchfields, Denby Dale is moving ahead, led by the Parish Council in close liaison with the Friends of Churchfields group, hopefully to reach a satisfactory solution of providing the dual facility of 14 allotments and a recreation area for the community.

The Denby Dale Community Centre project is moving ahead with the working party moving towards raising the funding required to complete the new building which will house the Library, The Denby Dale Centre and new premises for Kirkwood Hospice.

The parish council still keeps a close working relationship with the Friends of the Textile Heritage Centre in Skelmanthorpe, who have now formed a Trust and thus will be able to apply for grants to secure the future and development of this museum of early 20<sup>th</sup> century life.

The library in Skelmanthorpe, which might have been threatened with closure or having to move location, has been saved by being granted an asset transfer from Kirklees Council to Denby Dale Parish Council. This means that for the foreseeable future this building will be managed, maintained and run by and for the local community. This, of course, means the whole parish, not just Skelmanthorpe. It is hoped that in the near future we will be able to offer accommodation for local groups or small businesses to meet in one of a number of rooms of varying sizes in this centrally located building. If your group might need this service in the near future, keep us in mind.

Exciting and interesting times ahead!

By the time this report is published, we will have passed Election Day, where electors will have cast their votes for Parliament, Kirklees Council and the Parish Council. Whoever is elected in each of these three representative bodies will be prepared to give their time and skills (many times unpaid) to helping our community to progress and flourish. Residents of the parish are encouraged to attend our council meetings where they can witness the decision-making process and, in a limited way, can contribute to the meetings.

**ClIr Kelvyn Waites**  
**Chairman, Denby Dale Parish Council 2014 –2015**

**May 2015**

### **Plans Scrutiny Committee**

There has been a meeting every month and the Council discusses approximately fifteen applications at each meeting.

There have been many meetings attended by members of the public who have had the opportunity at the beginning of each meeting to give their views about the applications. This included residents speaking against various applications regarding wind farms in this area.

The Committee does its best to consider the views of the public when making decisions and input from local residents is very much appreciated.

All planning applications and decisions are available for the public to view on Kirklees Council's website.

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### **Finance & General Purposes Committee**

The F&G Committee met quarterly throughout the year to monitor expenditure against the Council budget.

The Committee is responsible for routine and administrative matters of the Parish Council, in particular setting and monitoring of the budget and expenditure.

This year the Committee requested that the Council set aside an additional £30,000 in next year's budget for the Skelmanthorpe Library Building.

**SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETINGS MAY 2014 TO APRIL 2015****MAY 2014**

The Annual Council Meeting was held on 14 May 2014 and Cllr Kelvyn Waites was elected as Chairman of the Council with Cllr John Cook as Vice Chairman.

Members were appointed to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the Plans Scrutiny Committee, the Staffing Committee, the Appeals Committee, the Working Party on Public Transport, the Business Plan Sub Group, and the Heritage Working Group and as representatives to a number of other outside organisations.

It was resolved to apply for a grant from Locality to run a one-off meeting to explore the interest in producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

**JUNE 2014**

No Full Council meeting was held this month.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications and the Finance and General Purposes Committee met.

**JULY 2014**

Ward Councillors reported on the difficult financial situation within Kirklees due to budget cuts.

A grant was awarded to Emley Moor Rugby Club,

The WW1 and WW2 archives were successfully uploaded to the archives website.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

**AUGUST 2014**

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications. (No full council meetings are held in August)

**SEPTEMBER 2014**

Pat Wright of Denby Dale Bowling Club spoke to the Council regarding vandalism at the club.

A report from the Police was received on neighbourhood crime issues.

Discussions were held around the future of the Skelmanthorpe Library Building.

A Community Grant was awarded to Denby Dale Cricket Club.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

**OCTOBER 2014**

A minute's silence was held in memory of Councillor Rob Pickford, and for Leslie Robinson, local historian.

Ward Councillors reported on the budget work on-going at Kirklees.

A report was received from the new Kirklees Rural District Committee meeting.

Arrangements for the laying of wreaths on Remembrance Day were agreed.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications and the Finance & General Purposes Committee met to decide on the small grants allocation for the year totalling £3,945.30, and to discuss next year's budget.

**NOVEMBER 2014**

The council resolved in principle to adopt the Skelmanthorpe Library Building, putting in place a £30,000 budget to do this.

The budget for the next financial year was set at £211,799.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

**DECEMBER 2014**

Jegs Morris from the Friends of Churchfield, spoke regarding the allocation of allotments at Churchfields.

A report was received from the police detailing arrests following thefts from garages and vehicles.

A report was received from Cllr Graham Turner regarding City Fibre.

A discussion was held around Churchfields allotments and the allocation of these.

Councillor Janet Depledge was co-opted to the Council.

A report was received from the YLCA.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

**JANUARY 2015**

Proposed wind turbine at Emley Moor was discussed.

Kirklees Council's proposals for devolution were considered.

Skelmanthorpe Library Building discussions continued.

The future of the Heritage Textile Centre in Skelmanthorpe was discussed.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications. The Finance & General Purposes Committee discussed the draft budget and precept. Grants procedures were also reviewed.

**FEBRUARY 2015**

Cllr Susan Hellewell was co-opted onto the Council.

The Skelmanthorpe Library Building Working Party reported back on progress being made around the building and asset transfer.

Dog fouling issues around the ward were discussed.

The precept was agreed totaling £189,170.00

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

**MARCH 2015**

Further progress was reported back from the Skelmanthorpe Library Building Working Party on the asset transfer process.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications. The Finance and General Purposes Committee met.

**APRIL 2015**

The Council formally agreed the asset transfer of the Skelmanthorpe Library Building. The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

**SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 2014-2015**

- The Parish Council precepted the sum of £189,170.00.
- As a co-funding partner, the Parish Council's contribution to the Denby Dale Parish Countryside Management Project was £25,000.
- £3,000 was allocated to the Environment Trust for the environmental small grant scheme.
- The Parish Council has also supported, by grant aid, the Primary, Nursery, Special and Middle Schools within the Parish.
- A donation was also made to the Royal British Legion.

**Unaudited Balance Sheet****BALANCE SHEET 2014/2015**

	<b>£</b>
Receipts	164,561.64
Payments	<u>92,198.49</u>
	72,363.15
Opening Balance 1.4.14	<u>158,488.07</u>
Balance as at 31.3.15	<u>230,851.22</u>
<b>Represented by</b>	
Earmarked grants	3,781.98
Election Fund	13,000.00
General Reserves	20,000.00
Reserves for Future Projects	<u>194,069.24</u>
	<b><u>230,851.22</u></b>

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 2014/2015

2013/2014	PAYMENTS	2014/2015
£		£
1,313.00	Subscriptions	1,439.00
379.60	Councillor Training	165.00
192.50	Councillor Travel	28.80
2,820.00	Newsletter	3,175.00
100.00	Emley Show	0.00
507.00	Websites	1,005.00
4,800.00	School Project S137	4,800.00
4,181.52	Small Grants	2,873.32
25,000.00	Countryside Project	25,000.00
3,000.00	Environment Trust S137	3,000.00
5,000.00	Community Grants (inc Library building exp)	8,380.38
18,000.00	Community Grant Aid	50.00
1,185.00	Christmas Tree S137	0.00
112.00	Wreaths S137	200.00
5,280.00	Floral Displays	5,280.00
1,194.05	Dog Bags/dispensers	1,373.35
806.21	Insurance	816.89
2,112.04	Administration Costs	3,129.81
45.99	Petty Cash	0.00
18,798.42	Employment, Training and Associated Costs	20,727.82
99.00	Chair's Allowance and Memento	0.00
905.00	Audit Fees	905.00
63.88	Telephone kiosk restoration	0.00
660.00	Heritage Working Party	525.00
150.00	Civic Do Payments	145.45
284.00	Litter Bins	4,066.00
2,283.69	VAT	3,322.67
0.00	Allotments	635.00
0.00	Neighbourhood Planning	1,155.00
<b><u>99,272.90</u></b>		<b><u>92,198.49</u></b>
8,755.34	Current Account	17,738.61
3,027.73	Deposit Account	3,029.61
146,655.00	Kirklees Investment	210,033.00
50.00	Petty Cash Float	50.00
<b>158,488.07</b>		<b>230,851.22</b>
<b><u>257,760.97</u></b>		<b><u>323,049.71</u></b>

## DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL 2014-15

2013/2014

2014/2015

## RECEIPTS

£		£
118,045.00	Precept	140,768.00
17,610.00	Council Tax Reduction Grant	17,610.00
645.40	Bank Interest Received	719.89
949.21	Heritage Working Party income from sale of books	248.00
2,432.20	Repayment of VAT	3,360.75
103.56	Other receipts	0.00
24.20	YLCA branch conference refund of refreshments	0.00
0.00	Locality Grants	1855.00
<b><u>139,809.57</u></b>		<b><u>164,561.64</u></b>
3,876.44	Current Account	8,755.34
3,024.96	Deposit Account	3,027.73
111,000.00	Kirklees Investment	146,655.00
50.00	Petty Cash Balance	50.00
<b><u>117,951.40</u></b>		<b><u>158,488.07</u></b>
<b><u>257,760.97</u></b>		<b><u>323,049.71</u></b>