



**ANNUAL REPORT
OF
DENBY DALE PARISH
COUNCIL**

2017 - 2018

DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL**ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018****CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW**

It has been both a pleasure and a privilege to be the Chair of Denby Dale Parish Council in the past year. This report outlines some of the activities and achievements of the Council in that period.

The Council continues to maintain its focus on environmental issues and the Countryside Officer has worked throughout the Parish on activities as varied as tree planting, footpath maintenance and clearance of overgrown areas to provide attractive areas for local residents to enjoy. The Council is especially grateful to the large number of volunteers who have assisted in this work. Of particular importance has been the relationships established with local schools to encourage and support their interest of children and young people in environmental issues.

All first and middle schools throughout the Parish have been successful in being awarded £500 School Grants to contribute towards the provision of extra-curricular activities for our young people. Many of those have been so exciting and innovative that some of us 'oldies' would have loved to join in!

Our Parish has a rich history and the Council have been pleased to continue its support of the Heritage Centre in Skelmanthorpe and the further development of the archive collection which can be accessed at <http://www.denbydalekirkburtonarchives.co.uk>.

The Council continues to maintain and improve the Community building, the 'old' Council Offices, in Skelmanthorpe and is pleased that use of the building by the local community is steadily growing.

The Council has produced a Business Plan to cover the years 2018 – 2023. This important document outlines how the Council will manage Council Business to ensure effective and efficient use of the funding available to it. This document is available on the Council website and I would encourage you to read it.

Councillors remain committed to addressing the concerns of local residents and this year have acted on issues as diverse as dog fouling, road and footpath safety, transport difficulties and offensive emissions. Responding to local residents remains a priority for Parish Councillors.

The Parish Council faces a number of challenges in the future but I am confident that with the experience, expertise and enthusiasm contained within the Council those challenges can be met.

I wish our next Chairman every good wish for their year as Chair of the Parish Council from May 2018.

Cllr Janet Depledge
Chair, 2017-2018

May 2018

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.

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.

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.

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETINGS MAY 2017 TO APRIL 2018

MAY 2017

The Annual Council Meeting was held on 2 May 2017 and Cllr Janet Depledge was elected as Chairman of the Council with Cllr John Cook as Vice Chairman.



Out-going Chairman Cllr Billy Jewitt and new Chairman Cllr Janet Depledge

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.

The Council received the Annual Accounts for 2016-2017 and approved the Annual Return.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

JUNE 2017

The Council received a presentation from West Yorkshire Fire Service. An award was made to Nortonthorpe Cricket Club of £4,394 for security arrangements. Speed limits around local schools were discussed.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee awarded grants to the Friends of Churchfield, Denby Dale First & Nursery School and Denby Dale Bowling Club. A loan was agreed to the Friends of Skelmanthorpe Textile and Heritage Centre of £9,200 which was re-paid in full.

JULY 2017

A presentation was received from Neale Wallace from Metro and the MD of Yorkshire Tiger Bus Service. The Ward Councillor spoke to the council on the library consultation process and the Local Plan. Cllrs Depledge and Kemp discussed working with local schools on a road safety initiative with ROSPA and the local police.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

AUGUST 2017

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

SEPTEMBER 2017

The Ward Councillor spoke to the council on the spending challenges faced by Kirklees Council and gave feedback on the 'Men's Shed' Initiative. Cllr Denby spoke about the Tree Charter which was to be implemented by the Countryside Officer. Clayton West Scouts Group were awarded a Community Grant of £3,000. A new bank account was opened with Unity Trust to replace the account with the Co-operative Bank.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

OCTOBER 2017

Schools Grants were awarded to Scissett Middle School, St Aidan's Academy and Birdsedge First. Arrangements for the laying of wreaths on Remembrance Day were agreed. The reform of Data Protection Legislation was discussed. Safety Assessments for the building were agreed.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

NOVEMBER 2017

A Ward Councillor report was received including the timetable for the library consultation and the Local Plan. Further updates were given on the Woodland Trust Tree Charter and the 'Please Slow Down' Initiative. Further information was given to the council on the General Data Protection Regulations.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

The Finance & General Purposes Committee met to decide on the small grants allocation for the year, which included grants to Denby Dale Pie Hall for the upgrade of the building, Denby Cricket Club for a scoreboard, Emley Village Youth Club for projection equipment and Skelmanthorpe Male Voice Choir for music. Community Grants were also awarded to the Denby Dale & District Men's Shed Association and Emley Clarence Cricket Club.

A draft budget was also presented and discussed for recommendation to the Full Council.

DECEMBER 2017

The Ward Councillor's report discussed Children's Services, the library consultation and issues at Phoenix Textile Mill.

A charity event at Churchfields was discussed. The draft budget recommended by the Finance Committee was adopted.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

JANUARY 2018

The Ward Councillor reported on the Council Budget and re-surfacing work on Commercial Road, Skelmanthorpe. Further feedback was received from NALC on GDPR. The precept was discussed.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee recommended to Full Council that the figure of £233,746 be raised via the precept. Policies relating to GDPR were discussed

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

FEBRUARY 2018

The Ward Councillor discussed work on the Kirklees Budget and the cabinet reshuffle which had affected his planned meeting with the library minister. The revised Business Plan was discussed. Further updates were received on the GDPR. Emley footpath/bus stop issues were discussed.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

MARCH 2018

A new Business Plan was adopted by the Council and roof works were undertaken to the Council Building. Further work was undertaken on the Archive Website with more heritage photographs being added.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee awarded the following schools grants; Denby CE First School – request for £500 towards 'Change for Life' Coach, Emley First School – request for £500 towards wellbeing & nurture room equipment, Skelmanthorpe Academy – request for £500 towards cost of polytunnel and planters, Cumberworth First School – request for £500 towards 'Circusology Day', Scissett CE Academy – request for £500 for 'Whole School Maths Day'. Council policies were reviewed including policies on GDPR.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

APRIL 2018

New financial software was purchased due to the increase in financial transactions undertaken by the council, the Clerk and two councillors requested attendance at GDPR training.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 2017-2018

- The Parish Council precepted the sum of £216,136
- The Parish Council continued to employ two staff.
- £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 2017/2018**

	£
Receipts	257,719.17
Payments	<u>183,784.58</u>
Opening Balance 1.4.17	<u>396,118.79</u>
Balance as at 31.3.18	<u>470,053.38</u>
Represented by	
Earmarked grants	1,343.00
Election Fund	5,000.00
General Reserves	20,000.00
Reserves for Future Projects	<u>443,710.38</u>
	<u>470,053.38</u>

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 2017/2018
DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL 2017-18

2016-2017	2017-2018
PAYMENTS	
£	£
1,606.00 Subscriptions	1,752.00
0.00 Councillor Training	611.00
200.60 Councillor Travel	49.05
76.60 Clerk Training	30.00
239.80 Conference fees	43.74
2,286.00 Newsletter	3,132.00
1,182.50 Websites	2,081.75
3,345.00 School Project	5,462.00
2,970.97 Small Grants	4,237.00
3,093.49 Countryside Project	2,562.47
3,000.00 Environment Trust	3,000.00
5,118.91 Community Grants	26,862.09
0.00 Community Grant Aid (loan to FSHTC)	9,200.00
900.00 Christmas Trees	700.00
200.00 Wreaths	200.00
5,280.00 Floral Displays	5,280.00
2,607.50 Dog Bags/dispensers	2,737.65
2,041.23 Insurance	2,665.86
6,095.63 Administration Costs	4,018.58
40,610.41 Employment and Associated Costs	57,286.32
930.00 Audit Fees	1,150.00
1,375.00 Heritage Working Party	0.00
70.00 Civic Do Payments	59.00
1,420.00 Litter Bins	0.00
14,390.33 VAT	7,793.78
200.00 Emley Show	0.00
14,780.21 Allotments	4,118.04
0.00 Election Expenses	0.00
48,563.71 Skelmanthorpe Library Building	38,512.25
30.00 Unpaid items	0.00
406.67 Noticeboards	240.00
<u>163,020.56</u>	<u>183,784.58</u>
19,473.37 Current Account	20,693.70
3,033.42 Deposit Account	2,001.68
373,562.00 Kirklees Investment	447,308.00
50.00 Petty Cash Float	50.00
396,118.79	<u>470,053.38</u>
<u>559,139.35</u>	<u>653,837.96</u>

2016/2017	RECEIPTS	2017/2018
201,749.00	Precept	216,136.00
17,610.00	Council Tax Reduction Grant	17,610.00
816.56	Bank Interest Received	1,000.98
130.00	Heritage Working Party Receipts	134.00
9,640.87	Repayment of VAT	11,001.27
1,553.75	Allotment Income	838.75
859.50	Building Income	1,763.70
0.00	Repayment of Loan to Heritage Centre	9,200.00
19,800.00	New Homes Bonus Grant	0.00
0.00	Other Receipts	34.47
<u>252,159.68</u>		<u>257,719.17</u>
9,695.15	Current Account	19,473.37
3,031.52	Deposit Account	3,033.42
294,203.00	Kirklees Investment	373,562.00
50.00	Petty Cash Balance	50.00
<u>306,979.67</u>		<u>396,118.79</u>
<u>559,139.35</u>		<u>653,837.96</u>