



**ANNUAL REPORT
OF
DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL**

2012 - 2013

DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL**ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013****CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW**

Another year has passed in the history of this council. We have had much to discuss and many decisions to be made. There are also many debates we have had on subjects which in themselves are ongoing and we will rely on future chairmen (and chairwomen) to lead.

We continue to serve our community in the most appropriate way. The parish precept is our main (or only) source of income, which by definition is sourced by the community and so the main beneficiaries should be that wider community.

We have continued to improve the street scene by installing new waste bins in the streets of many villages (the blue ones, clearly marked 'Denby Dale Parish Council') and tried to keep the streets, footpaths and public areas clear of animal excrement by offering and making available suitable bags which dog owners can use to dispose of this waste. A new initiative in this line was to make these bags available from dispensing machines at critical points, the first trial being in Clayton West. It is unfortunate, however, that despite our efforts, many dog owners continue to allow this waste (which is also a health risk to our citizens) to be created or to dispose of this waste inappropriately (for example, waste bags left in trees and hedges).

We have given financial support to new public notice-boards installed in Clayton West, Denby Dale (Cricket Club) and Upper Cumberworth.

We have continued to fund the Small Grants Scheme for numerous projects for the benefit of all, or part of, our community.

We have again provided small grants to every school in the parish (12 in all), specifically intended to be used for extra-curricular items.

We have a number of sub-committees and Working Parties which continue to work on schemes for the benefit of all.

The Heritage Working Party continues to support the Textile Museum in Skelmanthorpe, which is now driven by the Friends of Skelmanthorpe Textile Heritage Centre. This is a very active group of volunteers who have been involved in producing DVDs of the museum and continuing the activities. There are Open Days planned in June (for 5 days) and September (4 days) where all assistance will be required. If any councillors should find themselves able to help, I am sure a most rewarding contribution can be made.

This Working Party continues to publish books on the history of our area, particularly Scissett, based on the work and records of Leslie Robinson.

The Local Transport Working Party keeps a watch on transport issues, although there has been little activity or change in the past year.

There are many ongoing subjects, which will be debated in the next year and will lead to some hard decisions being made.

An on-going problem is that of improving car parking provision at Denby Dale Station. We attempted to acquire the use of 'spare' land near the station, but obstacles have been put in our way (physical and metaphorical!). This will continue to be debated.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee considers all plans lodged within the parish and passes on their opinions to Kirklees Planning Department. Members of the public are at liberty to attend these meetings and pass on their concerns or support for any planning application.

The provision of Allotment sites wherever a need is perceived. Our hopes to develop land at Churchfields, Denby Dale came to no conclusion. Again an ongoing debate.

The thorny subject of a Neighbourhood Plan was discussed in council and by a working party set up for the purpose, and although unable to conclude until Kirklees LDF is released later this year, the feelings were that we would not take on this mantle as being too expensive without any guarantee of any power to the Council

The Council has pledged support for the new Denby Dale Library project which will provide a newly built library and community centre. Much work and decision making has still to be completed.

Following the Council's involvement with the East Peak Innovation Partnership, we have brought into the area large sums of money for Community Projects, eg. village halls, community centres, etc. This facility is coming to an end as EPIP's funding has stopped, so another source has ended.

It has been a busy year and the signs are that the future will be similar or worse! However, I hope that we can continue to be a force for good in the parish and that we can continue to make the right decisions - at least some of the time!

Cllr Kelvyn Waites
Chairman, Denby Dale Parish Council 2012 –2013

May 2013

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 about their objections against Redrow Homes building a new housing estate in Scissett and Skelmanthorpe and an application for an open cast mine in Clayton West.

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.

This year the Committee requested that the Council set aside an additional £20,000 for a Community Grant Aid fund to help groups and organisations who may be affected by government cuts within the parish. Discussions are in place to help keep Denby Dale Library open using this grant funding through setting up a new body and building a new building on the library site which would not just accommodate the library, but also other community services.

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETINGS MAY 2012 TO APRIL 2013**MAY 2013**

The Annual Council Meeting was held on 15 May 2012 and Cllr Kelvyn Waites was elected as Chairman of the Council with Cllr Ray Gott 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.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

JUNE 2013

At this meeting, members received a presentation from Andy Rushby on the pros and cons of doing a Neighbourhood Plan.

Inspector Dave Barnett from West Yorkshire Police gave a verbal update on crime figures in the area.

The Internal Audit Report, Annual Return, Statement of Internal Control and the Annual Review of Effectiveness of Internal Control were all agreed by the Council.

The Annual Return was approved and sent to the auditors and £400 was granted to each local school.

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

JULY 2013

PCSO Chris Nelson gave a verbal report on crime in the area.

The councillors received information about the plans to develop Scissett Mount into a care home.

The council agreed to adopt the NALC Code of Conduct.

A grant for £2,050.00 was awarded to Scissett First School for the provision of security fencing.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

AUGUST 2013

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

SEPTEMBER 2013

Jim Dodds was co-opted onto the council.

The council agreed to offer £75 to each village towards the purchase of a Christmas Tree and dog bag dispensers were discussed.

The Friends of Skelmanthorpe Textile Heritage Centre was awarded £600 and All Saints Church was granted £426.00.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

OCTOBER 2012

Inspector Dave Barnett provided a verbal report on crime in the area.

The council was made aware of the plans by Shelley College to invite year 7 pupils to the academy.

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 agree the small grants for the year.

NOVEMBER 2013

The council discussed the plans for Shelley Academy and a large number of local parents attended the meeting in objection to the plans.

Cllr E Shaw was elected as Vice Chair of the Yorkshire Local Councils Association.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

DECEMBER 2013

The council discussed speeding issues and provision of cycling storage in the parish.

The draft budget was approved totaling £147,165.00

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

JANUARY 2013

The council discussed the provision of grit bins and decided not to progress with a Neighbourhood Plan at the present time.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

FEBRUARY 2013

Councillors discussed the provision of car tax payments at Scissett Post Office and parking and sewage issues at Emley.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

MARCH 2013

Jamie Summers, William Jewitt and Allan Hinde King were co-opted onto the council.

The Heritage Working Party sent their 5th local history book to print. The new book was written by local historian Leslie Robinson and describes life at Spring Grove Mills in Clayton West.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

APRIL 2013

The council discussed dog fouling and litter bins and the provision of allotments at Denby Dale.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee met.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 2012-2013

- The Parish Council precepted the sum of £108,915.00
- 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 2012/2013**

| | £ |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Receipts | 118,977.79 |
| Payments | <u>105,554.23</u> |
| | 13,423.56 |
| | |
| Opening Balance 1.4.12 | <u>104,527.84</u> |
| | |
| Balance as at 31.3.13 | 117,951.40 |
| | |
| Represented by | |
| Earmarked grants | 455.60 |
| Election Fund | 5,000.00 |
| General Reserves | 40,000.00 |
| Reserves for Future Projects | <u>72,495.80</u> |
| | <u>117,951.40</u> |

2011/2012

2012/2013

PAYMENTS

| £ | | £ |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1,270.50 | Subscriptions | 1,302.00 |
| 720.00 | Conference Fees | 0.00 |
| 634.25 | Councillor Training | 130.00 |
| 89.10 | Councillor Travel | 181.33 |
| 2,320.00 | Newsletter | 2,100.00 |
| 382.50 | Emley Show | 205.00 |
| 835.00 | Notice board | 0.00 |
| 4,720.00 | Websites | 319.50 |
| 4,800.00 | School Project S137 | 4,800.00 |
| 2,638.27 | Small Grants | 9,562.33 |
| 25,000.00 | Countryside Project | 25,000.00 |
| 3,000.00 | Environment Trust S137 | 3,000.00 |
| 2,962.23 | Community Grants | 22,098.15 |
| 580.00 | Christmas Tree S137 | 675.00 |
| 102.00 | Wreaths S137 | 112.00 |
| 5,280.00 | Floral Displays | 5,280.00 |
| 620.33 | Dog Bags/dispensers | 1,318.81 |
| 2,309.63 | Insurance | 992.19 |
| 3,526.64 | Administration Costs | 2,784.15 |
| 666.86 | Petty Cash | 155.78 |
| 23,096.84 | Employment, Training and Associated Costs | 21,093.65 |
| 0.00 | Equipment Maintenance | 0.00 |
| 0.00 | Office Equipment/Furniture | 0.00 |
| 99.00 | Clerks travel | 33.30 |
| 1,355.84 | Chair's Allowance and Memento | 0.00 |
| 1,015.00 | Audit Fees | 1,055.00 |
| 15,233.64 | Election Expenses | 0.00 |
| 122.91 | Bank charges | 24.22 |
| 3,711.06 | Telephone kiosk restoration | 0.00 |
| 2,687.00 | Heritage Working Party | 998.00 |
| 7,564.00 | Litter Bins | 0.00 |
| 5,545.67 | VAT | 2,333.82 |
| <u>122,888.27</u> | | <u>105,554.23</u> |
| 8,455.75 | Current Account | 3,876.44 |
| 22.09 | Deposit Account | 3,024.96 |
| 96,000.00 | Kirklees Investment | 111,000.00 |
| 50.00 | Petty Cash Float | 50.00 |
| 104,527.84 | | 117,951.40 |
| <u>227,416.11</u> | | <u>223,505.63</u> |

DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL 2012-13

| 20011/2012 | | 2012/2013 |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | RECEIPTS | |
| £ | | £ |
| 108,915.00 | Precept | 112,835.94 |
| 259.80 | Bank Interest Received | 305.84 |
| 2,064.33 | Heritage Working Party income from sale of books | 633.15 |
| 2,604.59 | Repayment of VAT | 4,535.36 |
| 218.75 | Chairman's Civic event | 0.00 |
| 62.00 | Refund of Bank Charges | 0.00 |
| 4,400.00 | EPIP Grant for digitised website/archives | 0.00 |
| 1,424.00 | Kirklees Council telephone kiosk restoration grant | 0.00 |
| 210.00 | Refund from DBS newsletter distributor | 0.00 |
| 0.00 | Contribution towards Emley Show from Kirkburton PC | 82.50 |
| 0.00 | Donations towards Christmas Trees from local businesses | 585.00 |
| 50.00 | Petty Cash Float | 0.00 |
| <u>120,208.47</u> | | <u>118,977.79</u> |
| -403.16 | Current Account | 8,455.75 |
| 8,610.80 | Deposit Account | 22.09 |
| 99,000.00 | Kirklees Investment | 96,000.00 |
| 0.00 | Petty Cash Balance | 50.00 |
| <u>107,207.64</u> | | <u>104,527.84</u> |
| <u>227,416.11</u> | | <u>223,505.63</u> |