



DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter

Issue No. 36 Winter 2014

www.denbydale.com



UPDATE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As it is now just over six months since my election as Chairman I would like to remind people of what the Parish Council has been doing this year.

One of the issues we have been working on has been trying to raise awareness of the Parish Council and the various ways it is able to work for the benefit of the community it serves. I believe we have achieved a significant degree of success in this regard and this is evidenced by the attendance of members of the public at the monthly Parish Council meetings. We warmly welcome anyone coming along to raise matters with us.

The Council has been active in allocating part of Churchfields in Denby Dale as allotments, with the rest left as open access land. We will be working closely with the local community to develop this area as sensitively as possible.

In addition to attending Parish Council meetings councillors undertake a variety of other activities which have included attending the Penistone Line Partnership AGM, attending the Heritage Working Party, Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum and the Public Transport Working Party.



As well as the Small Grants given as detailed in this newsletter, we have awarded £8,500 in Community Grants this year to three separate local groups.

As Chairman of the Council I personally have had the privilege of attending a number of schools throughout the area in order to meet the staff and pupils and to present grant cheques on behalf of the council. More recently various councillors have attended Remembrance Sunday services throughout the area laying wreaths on behalf of the local community.

KIRKLEES WINTER ~ GRITTING

Kirklees must concentrate winter maintenance on the main routes in Kirklees and on making sure that key locations such as schools and hospitals are as safe as possible. When they carry out a 'full grit' (all priority routes, secondary routes and key locations), they use all their resources so are unable to accept requests at the same time.

Once a 'full grit' has been completed, they may be able to grit other areas as requested by residents. If you ring Highways Customer Care on freephone: 01484 414700 they'll be able to give you up to date information on this service.

Keeping Warm and Saving Energy:

Kirklees Council have also published details on keeping warm this winter, and on how to save money on your energy bills, to find out more visit:

<http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/community/yourProperty/houseWarm.aspx#contact>

DENBY DALE COMMUNITY PROJECT



The Denby Dale Community Project continues to move forward at a rapid pace, they will soon hopefully be granted charity status by the Charity Commission. They will shortly be appointing a project manager to cover the construction period, and have secured two anchor tenants, The Denby Dale Centre, and Kirkwood Hospice. People are still needed to step forward and join the working party, if you want to help please contact the Project via the website www.ddcp.org or Jim.dodds@kirklees.gov.uk.

UK ONLINE CENTRES

Do you need help to improve your computer and internet skills, or get connected at home? The Denby Dale Centre, based in Springfield Mill, Denby Dale, and at The Hub, Kirkburton, can help. Call in for details or phone 01484 860077. You'll also be able to try out tablets, androids and kindles. The Centre can also visit people in their homes, should they be housebound.

UPDATE FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE OFFICER ANDY WICKHAM

As some volunteers will be aware our countryside officer, Andy, had to take some time off through November and in to early December due to Lyme disease. The good news is that he appears to be making a full recovery from the disease and should be back to normal early in the New Year. Andy has attempted to keep things progressing during this period and has managed not to cancel any volunteer sessions due to his illness, and he would like to pass on his thanks for your patience over this period and for the well wishes of those of you he has seen.

Great Crested Newt Link Project Phase II

The 10 Villages Conservation Group had sessions in October and November excavating a pond which they will continue with for their December task. Enviroyouth will be providing a session excavating the same pond for their December task.

Walkers are Welcome

An open meeting for the WAW group was held on the 4th November (Andy did not attend due to illness) which was well attended. New members were present with around half a dozen people attending the meeting, some of these new to the group. The upshot of the meeting was that an inaugural meeting / AGM will be called in the New Year when officers (chair, secretary, treasurer) will be elected to formally set up the group.

The adopt a path scheme was discussed with new volunteers needed to take on the tool kits provided by the WAW group in order to keep promoted routes clear of vegetation and other obstructions. This is good timing as Kirklees PROW are looking for volunteers to help maintain rights of way. Discussions with PROW will be started to look at how the adopt a path scheme instigated by WAW will fit in with the PROW footpath maintenance programme.

Support for and from local businesses is to be further promoted. Twenty one businesses are signed up to the WAW scheme presently within Denby Dale Parish.

Church Field Denby Dale

Negotiations are underway to secure a lease for the site. A first meeting to look at consolidating a 'friends of' group was held while Andy was on leave in October. There was some opposition towards the Parish after the vote for allotments was passed but it appears that many of those who were against allotments on the site will join in to have a 'friends of' group to develop and maintain the rest of the site. A sub group of the Parish Council to progress the allotment project has been set which will aid in progressing the project.

Kayes Millennium Green Clayton West

Following a tender process the contract for the work on the Green was awarded to a local company from Clayton West (Martin Holden). The works installing interpretation boards with information on the history and wildlife of the site, signs at the entrances to the Green, Seating along the main Kirklees Way footpath across the site and a circular seating area under the shelter of mature trees central to the site were completed on Monday 4th November. This brings to a conclusion the £32,500 improvements funded by EPIP. A launch event is planned for spring with ideas being developed in the mean time.

Cliffe Woods Clayton West

A meeting was held on 11th September to gauge interest in re-establishing the Cliffe Woods conservation Group. The idea met with a warm reception and a meeting to progress the idea was planned for 23rd October. This was unfortunately cancelled due to ill health. A new date will be set in the not too distant future to get this group up and running.

DENBY DALE PARISH ENVIRONMENT TRUST

DDPET is looking for new trustees. Are you interested in the environment of the Parish? Are you already an activist in your own patch or village? Would you like to help other interested folk get the resources to carry out local projects?

DDPET is an independent trust which can raise and distribute funds within the parish. It gives small grants (up to £500) throughout the year which can be used as match for other funds or which can provide materials for volunteer activity. In addition it can access larger funding through the landfill community fund, and can help submit applications to this and other bodies. It organises talks, visits and occasional training sessions and working parties often in conjunction with the Denby Dale countryside officer.

Trustees can be representatives of local action groups or interested individuals and we are always keen to involve local businesses. If you think you'd like to take a look come along to the next meeting on 14 January or email cowen.chris@yahoo.com. Further information is available at www.ddpet.co.uk.

SMALL GRANTS

The following groups have been recently awarded a small grant from the parish council.

Organisation	Project	Amount £
St Augustine's Church	maintenance of church clock	200.00
Skelmanthorpe Brownies	Creation of garden habitat and seating area	450.00
Friends of Skelmanthorpe Textile Heritage Centre	Purchase of photocopier/printer for publicity material	390.00
Clayton West Darby and Joan Club	Seating for meetings held in hall	500.00
Old Folks Treat	Old Folks lunch	210.00
Cumberworth Football Club	Provide portable goals for junior teams	500.00
Skelmanthorpe Brass Band Community	Purchase of a new set of trestle tables	250.00
Skelmanthorpe Scout Group	Replacement of tents and equipment	250.00
Skelmanthorpe Male Voice Choir	Purchase of new music	250.00
Girlguiding West Yorkshire South (WYSholme)	New tables	250.00
Denby Cricket Club	Scoring display board and stand	250.00
Skelmanthorpe United Junior Football Club	Football equipment	500.00
Emley Moor Miners Recreation Ground & Institute – Emley Clarence Cricket Club	Refurbish and extend the pavilion	500.00

The deadline for small grant applications is **14 October 2014**. Application forms are available on the website or by contacting the Clerk. The Community Grant scheme is open for applications all year round.