



# DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL

## Newsletter

Issue No. 21 Autumn 2009

[www.denbydale.com](http://www.denbydale.com)

### Denby Dale Parish Environment Trust

The Denby Dale Environment Trust was established as a result of a report commissioned by the Parish Council in the late 1980s. Among other things, this report recommended that the Parish Council employ a Countryside Officer whose role would be to help set up local groups to run environmental projects. A sub committee was formed, composed of the Countryside Officer, Parish Councillors and representatives of local environmental groups. It soon became apparent that the group would function more effectively if it were set up independently. This would enable it to apply for grants from external bodies. To achieve this, the group changed the way it was constituted by forming the Denby Dale Parish Environment Trust which was registered with the Charity Commission. The Parish Council retains an interest in the Trust by nominating representatives to the Trust and to its Executive Committee and by providing an annual grant. This year the grant was £3,500.



The DDPET obtained funds to install a new bench at the Packhorse Bridge in Clayton West. The work was carried out by the 10 Villages Conservation Group with help from Andy Wickham, the Countryside Officer, pictured above seated.

Since its formation, the Denby Dale Parish Environment Trust, has provided invaluable support to local groups and to the maintenance of the local environment. The current Countryside Officer, Andy Wickham, whose job is jointly funded by the Parish Council and Kirklees Council, has successfully initiated a number of local schemes, such as the creation of gardens in local primary schools. The current work of the Trust can be viewed on their website:

<http://www.ddpet.co.uk>.

The Parish Councillors of the 1980s should feel proud of their decision to fund to this nationally recognised success story. If you would like to support to work of the Trust by getting involved in its work, please contact the Parish Clerk.

### Skelmanthorpe Youth and Community Association

The renovation of the Savoy Youth and Community Centre being carried out by the Skelmanthorpe Youth and Community Association is almost complete. The final piece of work which needs to be carried out before the centre can be open is to form a car park, drive and grounds. The Parish Council has agreed to donate £4,450 for this work. Applications for the remaining funding have been submitted to the East Peak Innovation Partnership and the Denby Dale Area Committee. The car park will provide 29 spaces which can be used both by Community Centre users and by the wider community. Given the shortage of car parking in Skelmanthorpe, the Parish Council sees this new development as an asset to the village.

### Broadband Update

Residents of Cumberworth, Birdsedge, High Flatts and Upper Denby will be aware that, earlier in the year the Parish Council conducted a survey of

To contact the Parish Council, email [denbydaleparishcouncil@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:denbydaleparishcouncil@kirklees.gov.uk)  
or phone the Clerk, Hazel Chowcat on 01484 222963

Broadband access in these villages. The results, which showed that the service was totally inadequate, was followed up by a working party of Parish Councillors and local residents who successfully brought the matter to the attention of Kirklees officers and councillors. The issue has now been taken up by the Area Committee, which has agreed to commission a feasibility survey by a small East Midlands telecommunications provider. This company has successfully provided high-speed broadband to another rural area (see [www.rutlandtelecom.co.uk](http://www.rutlandtelecom.co.uk)), and it is hoped that the survey will indicate whether such a solution may be feasible within parts of the Parish. The feasibility study will be jointly funded by Denby Dale Parish Council and the Area Committee.



vacancies - 2 to represent Clayton West Ward, one for Skelmanthorpe Ward and is inviting applications from anyone interested in being nominated to fill these vacancies.

**What would you get out of such a role?** Not an income! Parish Councillors act in a voluntary capacity and are not paid any personal or meeting allowances. Councillors are only reimbursed travel costs, if they represent the Council out of its area.

**What does the Parish Council do?** Amongst other things, it helps fund improvements to sports and leisure facilities particularly for young people; it awards grants and supports local events. It funds the Countryside Officer and the Environment Trust. In addition, scrutinising planning applications and making advisory comments to Kirklees MC is an important element of the Council's work. Parish Councillors exist to serve local people, so Councillors will try to help with any problems in their own particular ward. If you are interested in being co-opted onto the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk (contact details overleaf).

### New Parish Councillor

At its October meeting, the Parish Council co-opted Victoria Buyer onto the Council to represent Denby & Cumberworth Ward. Cllr Buyer works in the medical and pharmaceutical sector and has lived in Denby Dale and Kirklees with her husband for more than 8 years. She is interested in rural and environmental matters and has a keen interest in planning matters within all areas of the parish.

### Are You Interested in Serving Your Community?

Would you like to play an important part in deciding what happens in the Denby Dale area? Are you keen to ensure that Emley, Clayton West, Denby Dale, Skelmanthorpe and Scissett are well represented on local issues and continue to be a "good place to live"? Would you like to have a say in how to improve services, or whether to press Kirklees Council to spend more in the area, or, even, to consider allowing the Parish Council to take over providing some services? If you are involved in your local community, are keen, enthusiastic and hard-working, then you may be just the candidate Denby Dale Parish Council needs. You do not need to be allied to a political party, though you may choose to be so, if you wish.

Denby Dale Parish Council is divided into four Wards - Emley, Clayton West, Denby & Cumberworth and Skelmanthorpe (which includes Scissett). The Parish Council currently has 3

### How to Contact the Parish Council

#### EMLEY

Cllr Matt Mills	01924 849934
Cllr Eddie Shaw	01924 848364
Cllr Shelley Wild	01924 848605
Cllr Nick Wilson	01924 840759

#### CLAYTON WEST

Cllr Terry Sigsworth	860534
Cllr Sue Simpson	Via Parish Council
Two vacancies	

#### DENBY & CUMBERWORTH

Cllr Margaret Barlow	862537
Cllr Tony Barlow	862537
Cllr Richard Brook	606275
Cllr Victoria Buyer	07975 934082
Cllr Claire Rimmer	Via Parish Council
Cllr Alison Tribe	606618

#### SKELMANTHORPE

Cllr Philomena Calpin	604677
Cllr Geoff Horton	861932
Cllr Andrew Stimson	866968
Cllr Graham Turner	864446
Cllr Kelyyn Waites	865449
One vacancy	

The Parish Council office is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 9am-4pm or other times by appointment.