



DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL *Newsletter*

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CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME TO THE NEW YEAR

Over the last few weeks of the year I had the pleasure of going with Dave Wilde, the Parish Countryside Officer, to the planting of trees in National Tree Week. This week acknowledges the foresight of our ancestors some 800 years ago when they recognised the importance of trees not only to the countryside, but also to our own good health and well-being.

I have to say the newly planted saplings looked rather like many of us do at this time of year! Not too keen on the cold weather, hoping for not too much snow and counting the days till Spring when they can start to blossom! Be reassured ... Dave left them well wrapped up for the winter. We are so lucky to live in a beautiful part of Yorkshire. The Parish Council will maintain its commitment to ensure that, just like those trees, our part of the world will give much pleasure to folks in years to come.

Every good wish for the New Year

Janet Depledge, Chair, Denby Dale Parish Council.

Parish Council Grant Support



This time of year, when the nights have drawn in and it is cold and miserable, seems like a good time to highlight some of the (very) good things that your Parish Council helps with throughout the

year. The items below only refer to the last couple of years, but I think that, from them you will get an idea of the range of financial support available.

All of our first schools and Scissett Middle School, for example, receive a grant (if they ask for it, within the constraints and on the forms as required) for equipment or activities that enhance the education of our children but which would not normally be provided by the Local Authority as part of the education budget. The pirate ship (a climbing and play space, at Denby Dale First & Nursery School is an excellent example of this partnership. The school population, including those on the school council pictured, raised most of the cash required, in a nine-month fundraising marathon led by the children, and the Parish Council chipped in with a £500 grant to bring them to the target. Other support has included grants towards a wildlife pond at Joseph Norton Academy, raised beds at Scissett Middle School, playground equipment at St Aiden's CE(A) School, life saving equipment at Kayes First & Nursery School and outdoor play equipment at Birdsedge First School. Over the years, therefore, many of our children have benefited from enhanced activities and opportunities.

Other small grants may be accessed by legitimate local community organisations to enhance the work that they do. Here, the Parish Council have provided help ranging from music, musical instruments and music stands through craft materials, ICT equipment and food hygiene training. Grants to sports clubs include swimming, football and cricket and range from scoreboxes and projection equipment to uniforms for volunteers.

In addition the PC provides much larger grants towards fairly major community projects, from which many more people have gained benefits. These larger grants are for community organisations. Money has been given, for example, towards expensive items such as lawnmowers, (essential for our cricket and bowls fraternity but not cheap and not everlasting,) and to the refurbishment of Denby Cricket Club's tea room. The Parish Council has

also contributed to the purchase of life-saving defibrillators, including at the Savoy, Skelmanthorpe (in concert with The Rotary Club).

These sums are often quite substantial but community groups need them to continue with their work - the Denby Dale Centre, for example, received £5,000 towards their new minibus and Clayton West Scouts £3,000 towards a new heating system for their meeting premises, whilst the new Men's Shed initiative has also been given a boost for equipment. Denby Village's History Board – an initiative from Denby Village Conservation Group, was also supported financially and has recently been unveiled (see below).

All of this support means that the Parish Council has had a positive impact on many, many people. If you are one of them, – a volunteer, a musician, a sports player or supporter, an allotment holder, a user of any of these services (and we know, for example, that the defibrillator has been accessed on several occasions) a schoolboy or girl ... it would be good to publish in the newsletter the positive impact that the Parish Council has had on you. Let us know!

Cllr Denby

Denby Village History Board



The Denby Village Conservation Group's History Board was unveiled on 25th November. This has been the flagship project of the group, and its unveiling attracted a small crowd.

The Board relates key times and places in Denby's history, from its place in the Domesday Book to archaeological discoveries that take it even further back; and from the history of the Burdet family (Lords of the Manor for around 350 years from 1300 onwards) to that of the Inns, many of which have now closed, leaving only the Dunkirk at Lower Denby and the hub of the village – The George.

Men's Shed Project

The local men's shed project is up and running, and whilst there is still some work to do to finish the space, great progress has been made.

If anyone wants to get involved or knows of someone who would like to get involved then please contact either Cllr Graham Turner on 07772643361 or 01484 864446 or alternatively Robert Barber on 01484 861197. The shed is open on Wednesday and Thursday, so if you want to see the space and range of equipment we now have, just pop in and have a look, and a chat. *Cllr Turner*

COUNTRYSIDE OFFICER DAVE'S UPDATE



During National Tree Week and beyond the Parish Council are supporting the Tree Charter, an initiative instigated nationally by the Woodland Trust. You can pledge your personal support at:

<https://sign.treecharter.uk/page/6023/petition/1>



Various sites in the Denby Dale parish have been encouraged to apply for native 'legacy' trees, celebrating 800 years since the signing of the initial charter and the importance of trees to people and places.

Sessile Oak have been planted at Churchfield in Denby Dale with Wild Cherry also being planted at Churchfield, East Hill Woods and Bluehills/Bromley Park Estate. Another oak is to be planted at Clayton West Millennium Green.

The planting at Churchfield was particularly poignant due to the loss of trees there in the summer and was accompanied by 'tree dressing' to brighten them up in the depth of winter and celebrate their importance to our wellbeing in so many ways. There was also a Christmas Tree festival in the church, contributed to by both the Friends of Churchfield and the allotment-holders there. A fitting celebration of Churchfield, National Tree Week and Tree Dressing Day!

