

## **Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 1 March 2016 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe**

**Members Present:** Cllrs: William Jewitt, Polly Ann Flinders, Richard Brook, Graham Turner, John Cook, Ray Gott, Eddie Shaw, Cynthia Naylor, Kelvyn Waites, Paula Kemp, Maggie Blanshard, Stuart Merry, Susan Hellewell, Jackie Senior and Neil Denby

**Members Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Cassidy, Depledge and Slater. Late apologies were received from Cllr Hardy.

### **15/170 Chairman's Opening Remarks**

Cllr Cook welcomed the councillors to the meeting and welcomed Duggs Carre who would be speaking about Comoodle.

### **15/171 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests**

No declarations of interest were received.

### **15/172 Open Session**

Neil Denby spoke as a member of the public about the 20 year anniversary of the Dunblane massacre. He stated that the 17 trees planted in memory of the children and teacher who died there at Gilthwaites First School had nearly been felled during the expansion work, but had been saved. There would be a plaque being fixed on Saturday 12 March, with an unveiling on the 14, 15 or 16 March, Neil Denby would email the exact date to the Clerk for distribution when confirmed.

### **15/173 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cassidy, Depledge and Slater. Late apologies were received from Cllr Hardy. Cllr Summers was absent.

**RESOLVED** that the reasons submitted be approved.

### **15/174 Admission of the Public**

**RESOLVED** that no items needed to be taken in private.

### **15/175 Minutes of the last meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the following minutes be approved:

Full Council – 2 February

Plans Scrutiny Committee – 23 February

### **15/176 Comoodle Presentation by Duggs Carre**

Duggs Carre spoke to the council about the project, funded by Mike Bloomberg, and resulting from a 2014 European competition to transform areas. Kirklees Council won this and received \$1 million for this project which they now needed to deliver. This project aims to share Council resources and improve access to resources, for example equipment, vehicles, machinery and tools, sports equipment and insurance support/products to help community projects. Duggs mentioned that this Parish Council was already supporting this initiative via the purchase of the council building to host the library. More information on the project was available at [www.kirklees.gov.uk/newcouncil](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/newcouncil) and [www.comoodle.com](http://www.comoodle.com) . Currently trials were being undertaken and referrals were being looked at.

### **15/177 Ward Councillor's Report**

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- The budget had been approved on 17 February, with continued pressure on services due to the £23 million in Govt. cuts more unpopular decisions would be necessary
- Huddersfield Royal Infirmary consultation dates had been issued, starting 15 March and running for 14 weeks until 21 June with many events taking place. A special Council meeting had been set up to discuss this on the 16 March

- The Local Plan responses would hopefully be sifted through in July, however there were approx. 15,000 comments and 5,000 consultees to sift. It was hoped that this would be signed off in October
- Devolution was on-going but no final financial decision had been reached by Govt.
- Library Services at Skelmanthorpe were progressing well with many volunteers in place

**RESOLVED** that the report be received.

#### **15/178 Report from Andy Wickham, Countryside Officer**

Andy Wickham provided a written report.

**RESOLVED** that the report be received.

#### **15/179 Clerk's Report**

No report was received.

#### **15/180 Working Party on Public Transport Report**

Cllr Waites reported that Tates travel had ceased trading and that the free service from Huddersfield was under threat of a reduction in service and charging in about a year's time. Work at Denby Dale Station was going ahead but was a long-term process but as yet no obstacles had been faced.

#### **15/181 Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum**

Cllr Brook stated that he would update after the meeting next Thursday.

#### **15/182 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report**

Cllr Brook reported that the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund from the Friends of Skelmanthorpe Heritage Textile Centre had been successful.

Cllr Brook reported that the delayed EPIP programme was still awaiting Defra sign-off. A local meeting was being held in the Foresters Arms on Wednesday at 7pm and was open to all.

**RESOLVED** that the report be received.

#### **15/183 Churchfield Update**

The solicitors report had been received and needed studying by the Clerk and Andy Wickham.

#### **15/184 Rural District Committee Meeting**

Cllr Blanshard stated that the parish council's New Homes Bonus grant had been approved. A police report was received from Sally Baines, and discussion had been held around HRI.

**RESOLVED** that the report be received.

#### **15/185 Skelmanthorpe Library Building Update**

The Clerk reported that further to her email, questions had been raised on the Solicitors report which had to be taken back to Kirklees Councils legal services. A meeting would be held of the Library Working group to finalise the agreement.

#### **15/186 Denby Dale Community Project Update**

Cllr Turner stated that building work was nearing completion.

#### **15/187 Countryside Officer Post**

Cllr Brook spoke regarding the recommendation from the Finance & General Purposes Committee to employ a replacement for the Countryside Officer.

**RESOLVED** as per the Finance & General Purposes Committee recommended, that Option 1: the Parish Council is to be the Employer, be accepted with the Clerk to initiate advertising the post and to outsource payroll with Autela Payroll Services

#### **15/188 Scissett Post Office Consultation**

**RESOLVED** to accept the consultation and to return comments on the safety concerns raised by councillors around having a post office on a garage forecourt, and around the lack of bus services.

**15/189 Matters Raised by Councillors**

No matters were raised.

**15/190 Finance Matters**

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment No 650 be approved for payment, totalling £501.62

**15/191 April Council Meeting Items:**

No items were provided.

**15/192 Dates of next meetings:**

- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 15 March
- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 29 March
- Full Council – 5 April

Signed.....  
CHAIRMAN