

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 2 July 2013 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe

Members Present: Cllrs John Cook, Bev Rushforth, Richard Brook, Rob Pickford, Ray Gott, Edward Shaw, Jamie Summers, Graham Turner, Lynn Hardy, Kelvyn Waites, Mark Fahey, William Jewitt, Stephen Kinchin, , Michael Watson, Allan Hinde King, Cynthia Naylor and Jim Dodds

Members Apologies: Cllrs Tim Bennett, Stephen Slater and Claire Rimmer

In attendance: Carole Wadsworth (Clerk to the Council)

12/256 Chair's Opening Remarks

Cllr John Cook welcomed the Councillors to the meeting. He informed the meeting that he and the Vice Chairman had been attending local schools to make the cheque presentations for schools grants, and had been impressed by teaching staff and pupils alike.

12/257 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

RESOLVED no declarations of interest were received.

12/258 Open Session

3 members of the public were present. Barbara Priest spoke on behalf of the Environment Trust against the allocation of the Churchfield site, Denby Dale as allotments.

12/259 Apologies

Reasons for absence were submitted from Cllrs Tim Bennett, Stephen Slater and Claire Rimmer. **RESOLVED** that the reasons submitted be approved.

12/260 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that no items needed to be taken in private.

12/261 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved: Full Council 4 June 2013

12/262 Churchfield Site – Options (brought forward)

Cllr Dodds stated that the Parish Council has a mandate to provide allotments as a statutory requirement where there is available land and a demand for this, and as long as there was support from the local community. Cllr Naylor suggested that this site was not necessarily the best site for allotments, and suggested the councillors who had not seen the site should visit. Cllr Brook stated that there was a misconception by the public that the proposal was for allotments only, whereas the proposals did include areas for open space and public access. He referred back to the 2010 Area Committee Meeting set up under the Environment Portfolio where the area committee had agreed, in principle, to allotments on part of the site. Public consultation, led by the Parish Council, as agreed with Kirklees Council, had followed. A proposal for village green status was eventually not approved. It was reiterated by Cllr Watson that the Parish Council could not deliver a 'fourth option' of open space/village green status as the land is owned by Kirklees Council, and the Parish council budget for allotments is not transferrable.

After discussion, it was agreed that as the land is owned by Kirklees, the Parish Council could not propose alternative use for this site. It was proposed therefore that there should be a fourth option added to the three site proposals for use of some of the land as allotments, which should be 'do nothing'. It was agreed that this should be publicised, and as a meeting was already set up for the 29 July at Denby Dale Methodist Hall, representatives from the Parish Council should attend.

RESOLVED that a fourth option of leaving the land alone should be added to the proposals
RESOLVED that the Churchfields group contact the Clerk and establish a meeting with the six ward councillors prior to the public meeting to be held on 29 July. (Cllrs Naylor, Watson, Slater, Pickford, Brook and Rimmer.)

RESOLVED that the public meeting be publicised by the Parish Council, with attendance by ward councillors.

12/263 Report from the Ward Councillors

Cllr Dodds gave a verbal report:

- The LDF will be withdrawn at the next full council meeting, due to the inspector claiming there had been inadequate communication with neighbouring councils.
- 'Time to Talk' – there had been a disappointing turnout at the meetings he had attended.
- Wind Turbines – the Government emphasis on heritage, environmental and visual impacts would influence planning applications. The proposed wind turbine at Birdsedge was on going.
- Denby Dale Library Project – a timeline had been agreed to get the first spade in the ground by April 2014. It had also been agreed that the car park and the building would be signed over. A meeting was being held on 3 July to discuss building designs, which would be submitted to a public meeting on 16 September. A draft constitution for the Trust was being prepared, and Cllr Dodds was discussing financial aid. An editor from 'Calendar News' had been in touch and shown interest the project.
- School funding was changing and this would affect all but one schools in our area. Cllr Dodds was meeting with some schools to discuss the issues they would face.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- Reiterated that the LDF will be withdrawn, and that the lack of housing proposed had been a factor in the inspectors decision.
- Time to Talk – Cllr Turner was also disappointed with the poor turnout at events which had been the public's opportunity to speak out.
- Cllr Turner made mention of the Scissett Baths improvements.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/264 Report from Countryside Officer

Andy Wickham attended the meeting and provided a written report. He particularly wanted to thank his volunteer, Chris Wall, for all his hard work. Chris has now obtained permanent employment. **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

12/265 Clerks Report

The Clerk provided a written report. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk's report be received.

12/266 Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum

No meeting had taken place.

12/267 Heritage Working Party

Cllr Brook reported that the five books produced were selling steadily, and the set of postcards would be reprinted for sale.

12/268 EPIP Report

Cllr Brook reported that the local walks as part of the festival were reasonably well attended, and that there had been 80 visitors to the Heritage Centre.

12/269 YLCA Meeting Report

Cllr Gott advised that a replacement needed to be considered from Kirklees area, who would be willing to act as Vice Chairman. Cllr Shaw advised that he would still be attending the meetings.

12/270 Youth Engagement Project

Cllr Dodds spoke to the meeting and recommended that the council contribute to this project. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would send a grant application so that the project could formally request a fixed amount.

12/271 Clayton West Scouts Gala 2014

RESOLVED that the council agreed in principle to support the Gala, and would assist in publicising it.

RESOLVED that upon checking dates, the Council would take a stand at the Gala.

12/272 Bromley Park Residents Association Grant Application

RESOLVED that a more detailed discussion was needed at the September Full Council Meeting.

12/273 Emley Show update

RESOLVED that a working group be established consisting of: Cllrs Shaw, Waites, Hinde King and Jewitt via the Clerk.

12/274 Matters raised by Councillors

- Blocked footpath at Emley – **RESOLVED** that the Clerk submit the signed forms to Kirklees Public Rights of Way Unit.
- Parish Flag – **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council undertake to take responsibility to fly the flag outside the Council Offices.
- Time to Talk – Cllr Hinde King had been unable to attend the meeting.
- Broadband Update – Cllr Brook stated that we were waiting to see if we were successful for the Stage 2 bid.
- Cllr Gotts referred to an email received from resident regarding an incident with an air rifle, which was not the first in the Skelmanthorpe area.
- Cllr Dodds requested that a contribution of £5,000 be made by the council towards the full cost of £20,000 for the scheme. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk speak with Andy Wickham to provide a costing for this path and these costings be discussed at the next Finance & General Purposes Committee. **RESOLVED** this item would also be discussed at the Full Council meeting in September.

12/275 Finance Matters

RESOLVED that orders for payment No.585 be approved for payment, totalling £4330.98

12/276 September Council Meeting

RESOLVED Items for agenda were received as follows:

- Litterbins in Parish
- Bromley Park Grant Application
- Funding for footpath no 136

12/277 Date of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Committee Meeting – 30 July
- Plans Scrutiny Committee Meeting – 27 August
- Full Council Meeting – 3 September

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN