

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 2 September 2014 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe

Members Present: Cllrs: Richard Brook, Ray Gott, Edward Shaw, William Jewitt, Lynn Hardy, Kelvyn Waites, Tim Bennett, Polly Ann Flinders, Michael Watson, Graham Turner, Eric Wrench, Stephen Slater, John Cook, Bev Rushforth, and Jim Dodds

Members Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllrs; Cynthia Naylor, Claire Rimmer, Stuart Merry, Jamie Summers. Cllr Pickford was absent.

In attendance: Carole Wadsworth (Clerk to the Council)

12/ 476 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Chris Nelson to the meeting and informed the council of various events and public meetings he had attended over the summer since the last Full Council meeting. He also advised that as he and the deputy Chairman could not attend the Emley Boundary Walk that Cllr Eddie Shaw would deputise. It was agreed that Cllr Shaw could wear the Chairman's Chain whilst deputising.

12/477 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of interest made.

12/478 Open Session

Pat Wright, Secretary of the Denby Dale Bowling Club, spoke to the meeting concerning issues of vandalism at the bowling club. PCSO Chris Nelson advised that the police had been contacted regarding the issue, and he had spoken to the club and moved a group of youngsters on. The police team had been informed and would attend when possible.

12/479 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Merry, Summers, Naylor and Rimmer. Cllr Pickford was absent.

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

12/480 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that no items needed to be taken in private.

12/481 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

- Annual Council Meeting – 1 July
- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 29 July
- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 26 August

12/482 Report from the Police

PCSO Chris Nelson gave a verbal report:

- There had been three house burglaries from August
- One theft from a motor vehicle
- One theft of a motor vehicle
- He was aware of the situation at Denby Dale Bowling Club, and had spoken to the club, advising them to invest in security lighting and/or CCTV. He had also already moved a group of youngsters off the club premises.
- The 'rural riders' scheme, a new way of reporting crime, particularly for horse riders, was about to commence.
- Applications for the Explorers Programme were now available, to enable youngsters to tour the police station etc.
- Speeding check request at Upper Cumberworth on Barnsley Road had been received

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/483 Report from the Ward Councillors

Cllr Graham Turner gave a verbal report:

- Budget proposals for 2017/2018 were being prepared early to allow for public representations with many services to be reduced or removed.
- A public meeting regarding Skelmanthorpe library had been attended by approx. 80 members of the public. A further meeting to be held in the council chambers was pencilled in for the 24 September. In answer to Cllr Shaw's question Cllr Turner stated that no mobile libraries would be maintained as their use was minimal and couldn't be financially supported.
- A strategic committee will be looking at the planning system with part of the proposal to limit public speaking time.
- Broadband – there were still possibilities to be developed on this but it was still early days.
- Application for open cast mining, Bretton – this had been refused unanimously.
- Following the Rotherham cases, Cllr Turner stated that Kirklees Council (along with all councils in the country) were looking closely at their practices.
- Gritting rounds would be considered in the coming weeks, with the possibility of new technology being put in place.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

Cllr Jim Dodds gave a verbal report:

- Advised that the budget proposals could be viewed on-line.
- He did not agree that public speaking time should be limited in the proposals for the planning system, as long as the members of the public weren't addressing the same issue.
- Broadband – now with Peter Butters having left, unsure who was leading on this.
- Advised that Kirklees Council had done all it could under the safeguarding committee, and he and Cllr Turner were both confident that no one at Kirklees was turning a blind eye, and that there had not been any suppression of reports. All policies were being revisited and cases re-investigated by the police and within the departments.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/484 Report from Countryside Officer

Andy Wickham provided a written report.

RESOLVED that the report be received and thanks given to Andy for his on-going work.

12/485 Clerks Report

The Clerk provided a written report.

It was agreed that the Clerk investigate Emley bandroom regarding clearance.

Emley Traffic Issues – Cllr Turner advised that the police had informed him that no evidence had been seen of speeding problems. Cllr Waites advised he would again conduct a survey of the school buses.

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be received.

12/486 Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum

Cllr Brook reported that no meeting had been held. He noted on the Countryside Officer's report that progress had been made on reports on stone stiles, and that 14 trails had been put on the PROW mapping system so we can see which areas are covered by the Walkers are Welcome adopt a path scheme. He understands that Kirklees are looking for as much volunteer support as possible.

12/487 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report

Cllr Brook advised that EPIP had submitted its bid to Defra this week to be included in the next Leader Funding Scheme running for 5/6 years from next January. They should hopefully hear back if they have been successful in November. Cllr Brook stated that the full report was available from him.

Cllr Brook advised that National Heritage Open Days were running from next Thursday to Sunday (11 -14 September) and that the Skelmanthorpe Textile Museum and the Friends Meeting House at Quaker Bottom would be open.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/488 Churchfield Allotments

RESOLVED that the clerk could apply for a Lawful Development Certificate and possibly a change of use planning application to be submitted at an estimated cost of £600.

RESOLVED that a recommended solicitor be instructed to act on the council's behalf to arrange registration of land with HM Land Registry at an estimated cost of £182.

RESOLVED that the Chairman sign the finalised Heads of Terms when these are available from Kirklees Council and that these can be signed in-between meetings.

12/489 Skelmanthorpe Library Building

A discussion was held around the future of the Skelmanthorpe Library Building. Cllr Brook reminded the council that it had been agreed that the Clerk investigate the annual running costs of the building with no commitment whatsoever. Cllr Brook proposed that the Clerk obtain more accurate figures to be taken to the October Finance & General Purposes Committee, and reported back to Full Council at the November meeting.

RESOLVED that the Clerk obtain further accurate figures to take to the F&G meeting on 21 October, which will be reported back to the Full Council on 4 November.

12/490 Denby Dale Pie Dish

Cllr Dodds informed the meeting that he had been in contact with a local metal worker who would take a look at the dish to see if it could be renovated at no cost. Nothing further had happened with the school and Cummins Turbo due to school holidays.

RESOLVED that Cllr Dodds would take a look at the pie dish with the metal worker and would liaise with Andy Wickham.

12/491 Community Grant Application from Denby Dale Cricket Club

It was noted that the club holds reserves and had not detailed any match funding.

RESOLVED that Denby Dale Cricket Club be awarded a grant of £250 under the Local Government Act 1976 s19(e), with the Clerk advising of the reasons for half the grant being awarded, and requesting names of those being trained.

12/492 LGPS Discretions Statement Scheme

RESOLVED that the LGPS Discretions Policy Statement prepared by the Clerk be adopted. (vote taken, one abstention from Cllr Rushforth, rest in favour.)

12/493 Neighbourhood Planning Update

The Clerk reminded the council of the investigative meeting to be held at St Augustine's Church, Scissett, on Wednesday 10th September at 7.30pm.

12/494 Kirklees Rural District Committee

Cllr Turner advised that the council could elect for two non-voting members to attend the Kirklees Rural District Committee.

RESOLVED that Richard Brook and Polly Flinders were elected as non-voting members from Denby Dale Parish Council.

12/495 Guidelines for Councillors on dealing with the Press and Public

RESOLVED that the Guidelines be accepted as they stand.

12/496 Denby Dale Community Project Update

Cllr Dodds informed the meeting that one more small grant had been obtained and a large grant application had been submitted. A large grant would also be submitted to the Big Lottery Fund next week. A local developer had been selected following a tender process, and subject to

meeting the financial target the build would commence in January 2015. The business case was near completion. More work needed to be done in terms of fundraising in order to pursue the project, however back-up plans were in place.

12/497 Matters Raised by Councillors

Phone box, Upper Denby – Cllr Cook reported the poor condition of the box, and that responsibility for the box was now untraceable.

RESOLVED that Cllr Cook speaks to local residents to see if there is an interest in taking responsibility for the maintenance of the phone box, and come and speak to the council about their plans for it, otherwise, the council would consider having it removed.

Vandalism at Denby Dale Bowling Club – already dealt with on the agenda

Traffic Speeding, Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth – Clerk to respond to Mr Tomlinson advising that the Parish Council do take an interest in road safety issues, however highways is a Kirklees Council concern. Clerk also to confirm that this issue has been raised with the police at this meeting.

12/498 Finance Matters

Christmas trees - **RESOLVED** that the contribution towards Christmas trees in the parish be raised to £100 per tree.

Orders for Payment - **RESOLVED** that orders for payment No.611 be approved for payment, totalling £482.59

External Audit – The Clerk reported that the external auditors stated that the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

RESOLVED that the report be received

12/499 October Council Meeting – Further agenda items

- Timbernast at Clayton West (Cllr Watson)
- Cricket Field, Clayton West, for the Plans Scrutiny Committee meeting 23 September (Cllr Rushforth)

12/500 Date of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Meeting – 23 September
- Full Council Meeting – 7 October
- Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting – 21 October

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN