

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 3 November 2015 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, Susan Hellewell, Paula Kemp, Paul Cassidy, Steven Slater, Maggie Blanshard and Neil Denby

Members Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Depledge, Hardy, Summers and Senior

15/086 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Cook welcomed the councillors to the meeting and informed Councillors that he had recently attended the successful Ripponden PC Civic Sunday.

15/087 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

Declarations of interest were received from Cllrs Turner and Brook for item 17.

15/088 Open Session

There were no members of the public present wishing to speak.

15/089 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Hardy, Depledge, Summers and Senior.

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

15/090 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that discussion around item 10 needed to be taken in private.

15/091 Vacancy in Skelmanthorpe Ward (brought forward)

RESOLVED that Stuart Merry be co-opted to the council.

15/092 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

- Full Council – 6 October
- Plans Scrutiny – 27 October (amended to include apologies from Cllr Naylor)

15/093 Ward Councillor's report

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- The Library Report had been referred to Cabinet for the 17 November with revisions to be made to clearly define the two tier model and a clearer understanding of the service level.
- Two refugee families would be received in the Kirklees area under the Home Office fast track system for those most in need, and would be supported by a Government grant for two years and receive support and assistance from officers working with other charitable groups.
- Monitoring of the reported groups in Skelmanthorpe would continue.
- Budget – still awaiting the Autumn Statement, however talks were continuing to look at detailed finances and ideas through Cabinet and individual meetings.
- A Bill of Sports Facilities Strategy had been produced and a Playing Field Strategy was to be published, looking at provision and need.
- Cultural Museums were under review with difficult decisions to be made.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/094 Report from Andy Wickham, Countryside Officer

Andy Wickham provided a written report which was tabled.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/095 Clerk's Report

- Denby Dale Station – Cllr Depledge was absent so no further information was available.

- Path at Denby Dale Station – it was noted that the problem was worse at this time of year, and it was decided in the first instance to approach the Countryside Officer to work with Easthills volunteers to clear the path. If this was not possible, Walkers Are Welcome Group may be able to assist as Public Rights of Way now needed volunteers to undertake clearance and maintenance work.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/096 Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum

No further meeting had taken place.

15/097 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report

Cllr Brook reported that he would be meeting with Heritage Lottery representatives in Leeds on Thursday regarding the bid to purchase the Textile Heritage Centre. He also reported that Huddersfield University History Department were now on board as partners and would be sending a group of 28 students to look at how they could work with the HWP. St Aiden's First School would also be sending groups of children to the Textile Heritage Centre.

Cllr Brook reported that there had been no progress on the EPIP Leader Programme, as Defra had not signed off the new scheme. This was now not likely to be running until the new year.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/098 Rural District Committee Meeting (brought forward)

Cllr Blanshard reported that two presentations had taken place, by Kirklees Dementia Action Alliance and Mencap's Safe Places. Both schemes looked at providing an initiative whereby those in need of help could approach local shops/businesses displaying the assistance sticker. The Rural District Committee had identified these initiatives as ones which they would look to work with. Cllr Blanshard would look at if the Parish Council could also provide assistance. Several grants had been awarded, mainly around Christmas related items. Funds had also been put in place by the RDC for environmental projects on estates.

15/099 Skelmanthorpe Library Building Update and Churchfield Update

No further movement was reported on either issue.

15/100 Clerk's Delegated Authority and addition to Job Description

It was noted that the Clerk's increased workload could lead to increased expenses should further assistance be needed.

RESOLVED that the Clerk's delegated authority be increased as requested, and that the addition to the Clerk/RFO job description be accepted.

15/101 Denby Dale Community Project Update

Cllr Brook reported on progress on the now single storey building, He reminded councillors that to date, of the £40,000 committed by the council to the project, £18,000 had been drawn down, the balance of £22,000 be drawn down when construction started. Following concerns by Cllr Denby around the contractors used, Cllr Turner stated that the construction company was a new company, and as well as providing the cheapest quote, had provided the more attractive option for the building. It was accepted that there were risks associated with any planning project, however the Council should be concerned only with working with DDCP who had fulfilled the conditions set for the drawdown of the remaining funds.

RESOLVED that the balance of committed funds of £22,000 be drawn down immediately using the power provided under Local Government Act 1972 s133.

15/102 Calendar of Meetings for 2016/2017

RESOLVED that the calendar of meetings for 2016/17 be accepted.

15/103 Local Plan Discussion

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk distribute the relevant section of the Local Plan to Councillors immediately, with a view to discussing this at the 1 December meeting.

15/104 Matters Raised by Councillors

Public Health – Denby Dale Surgery – Cllr Denby asked for any ideas for increasing use of the surgery out of its hours of operation. After discussion, it was agreed that the council could not support a private business and that the problem lay in how surgeries were funded.

Dog Waste Dispenser/Litterbins at Denby – **RESOLVED** that further dispensers and bins be provided, Cllr Turner to inform the Clerk of exact amounts and locations.

15/105 Finance Matters

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment No 641 be approved for payment, totalling £134.95

15/106 December Council Meeting Items:

- Council Leader David Sheard to be invited to the December meeting (*Cllr Cook*)
- Local Plan
- Xmas Tree Festival (*Cllr Merry*)

15/107 Dates of next meetings:

- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 17 November
- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 24 November
- Full Council – 1 December

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN