

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 3 December 2013 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe

Members Present: Cllrs John Cook, Richard Brook, Ray Gott, Edward Shaw, Jamie Summers, Graham Turner, William Jewitt, Cynthia Naylor, Kelvyn Waites Claire Rimmer, Stephen Kinchin, Rob Pickford, Lynn Hardy and Tim Bennett

Members Apologies: Cllrs Bev Rushforth, Michael Watson, Allan Hinde King, Stephen Slater and Jim Dodds

In attendance: Carole Wadsworth (Clerk to the Council)

12/339 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr John Cook welcomed the Councillors to the meeting.

12/340 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

There were two declarations of interest on agenda item 17 from Cllrs Brook and Turner.

12/341 Open Session

Peter Belsey of the Denby Dale Community Project addressed the council regarding the progress being made by the Project, with the Charity Commission agreeing to grant charity status, and a revised design for the building to ensure it fully serves the community and is financially stable. The building will have two anchor tenants, the Denby Dale Centre and Kirkwood Hospice, who will both pay rent. The project is now looking to fund a project manager at an estimated cost of up to £25,000, and has put in a request for the Council to release funding urgently to ideally fully fund this position from the £40,000 the Council has committed to this project. This would be a one-off payment from now until the end of construction, and the project had identified two respectable local project managers who have provided quotes at reduced rates.

Alison Gilbert, a resident from Emley, spoke to the council about residents' concerns on the traffic and safety issues on the main road in Emley, specifically for young children. She stated that ideally a zebra/pelican crossing was needed at either end of the village.

12/342 Apologies

Reasons for absence were submitted from Cllrs Bev Rushforth, Allan Hinde King, Stephen Slater, Jim Dodds and Michael Watson

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

12/343 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that item 19 be taken in private.

12/344 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

- Full Council 5 November 2013 (subject to amendment of minute 12/334)
- Plans Scrutiny 29 October 2013
- Annual Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting 14 May 2013

12/345 Denby Dale Community Project (brought forward)

A discussion was held on whether to release the whole committed amount of £40,000 to the project, or a partial payment towards costs, including for the project manager, as requested. Concerns were raised about handing over funds at this stage, when the work had not commenced on the ground, and about the tendering process for the project manager post. It was stated that there are three councillors who are trustees of the Project, and that the Project was clear on the issue of transparency when it came to the spending of public money. It was proposed to vote on giving a lump sum of £40,000 to the project. This was amended to giving £40,000 with the proviso that sufficient due process was being followed in appointing a project manager. It was also suggested that the project could approach the two councillors in the building trade for advice.

RESOLVED that £40,000 was to be drawn down subject to assurances that due process was being followed by the charitable body, this to be provided to the Full Council meeting to be held on 7 January 2014. (8 votes for the amendment, 0 against)

RESOLVED that if assurances are not available by then, they should be provided to the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting to be held on 21 January 2014. (voted unanimously)

Cllrs Brook and Turner abstained from voting.

12/346 Traffic Speeding (Cllr Shaw) (brought forward)

Cllr Shaw advised the meeting of the lack of speed limit in Emley, other than the moveable speed sign, and the lack of any other measures in place to control speed and ensure safety for residents, such as a zebra crossing/speed counters. Cllr Turner advised that it was possible that the sight line was not sufficient along any stretch of the road through Emley to allow for a crossing, he would however seek advice from the traffic officer on this. A zebra crossing would also remove parking provision and this would need to be considered. Illegal parking was discussed, however it was agreed that it was a police issue. Cllr Rimmer suggested that the council suggest places in the parish where the video van be more usefully deployed, as at present she had only seen it in Denby Dale.

RESOLVED that Cllr Turner would, following his meeting with Dave Barnett on 12 December, raise the concerns of the Emley residents regarding the video van and parking at Emley.

RESOLVED that the council write to Kirklees Council expressing concern about the safety issues at Emley and to find out what measures could be taken by them and the parish council.

12/347 Report from the Ward Councillors

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report including:

- Budget process still taking up a lot of time for the council
- The withdrawal of the LDF has caused many problems in the planning process
- Public appeal re: Piggeries to be held on 10th and 11th January
- Redrow application for pilling lane to be considered at next planning meeting

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/348 Report from Countryside Officer

Andy Wickham provided a written report.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/349 Clerks Report

The Clerk provided a written report.

Cllr Brook reported that Cllr Rushforth had had a successful meeting with Naylor's, and would hopefully be able to feedback soon.

Cllr Rimmer reported that some progress had been made re: land at Upper Cumberworth and was hopeful for further progress for the next meeting.

Litterbins – exact locations needed to be emailed to the clerk in order for progress to be made on this.

Green Hollows – Cllr Cook reported that the 2 applications had been withdrawn, there was no further information from Kevin Walton.

RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be received.

12/350 Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum

Cllr Cook had not been informed of any meeting being held. Cllr Brook stated that Kirklees Council were now looking to volunteers to manage paths. Various options were discussed, including the use of community service in order to undertake maintenance.

RESOLVED Andy Wickham to investigate community service volunteers in the new year/spring

12/351 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report

Cllr Brook stated that nothing at present to report on the Heritage Working Party. It was noted that EPIP would soon be finishing in its present form.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/352 Churchfield Allotments Update

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/353 Neighbourhood Plans Update

Cllr Brook reminded the council that a meeting had taken place with councillors attending with Helen France and others from SCAN/SOS, who were keen to have the organisation 'Planning Aid' address a public meeting. He advised that Helen France had contacted the organisation, who proposed to send a consultant to speak to the group.

12/354 Report from YLCA

Cllr Shaw spoke to his report and highlighted examples of what parish councils are doing in order to save money and run projects. He suggested that the council discuss a budget line for funds set aside for emergency repairs or work to undertake on behalf of Kirklees.

RESOLVED that discussion on the provision of a fund to undertake emergency work or work on behalf of Kirklees be discussed at the next meeting.

12/355 To discuss implementation of NALC revised Standing Orders

Item postponed until the next Full Council meeting due to the absence of Cllr Watson

12/356 Resignation of Cllr Mark Fahey

The Chairman advised that procedures were being put in place firstly by advising the Elections Office of the vacancy.

12/357 Budget 2014/2015

RESOLVED that the current funds position submitted by the Clerk be accepted.

12/358 Clerk's Probationary Period

RESOLVED that the Clerk's probationary period was satisfactory and there were no issues to address.

12/359 Broadband Update

Cllr Brook stated that the Council leader would be meeting with the relevant minister to express concerns on the changes to procedures. As we had no update as yet, Peter Butters would be asked to address the Full Council meeting when an update was available.

RESOLVED that Peter Butters, the Kirklees Officer dealing with Broadband, be invited to the next Full Council meeting to speak to councillors if update was available.

12/360 Matters Raised by Councillors

Deputy for Chairman – **RESOLVED** that the previous year's Chairman would deputise for the Chairman when necessary.

Neglected areas of Emley & Overgrowth by Council Offices – Cllr Shaw highlighted areas which were in need of maintenance, and suggested that this was something the Parish Council could look at taking over, if a sum could be set aside in the budget for repairs/emergency works. Cllr Summers also highlighted the overgrowth by the council offices which could cause structural damage eventually. Discussion followed on looking at voluntary groups to undertake some work that Kirklees could no longer undertake, however there was concern over overloading existing voluntary groups. It was suggested that an article could be included in the next newsletter about volunteering.

RESOLVED that the Finance & General Purposes Committee look at setting aside funds for repairs within the budget.

RESOLVED that an article on volunteering be included in the next issue of the newsletter.

Sovereign Crossroads – Cllr Naylor stated that there had been another accident here, and asked what we could look at to make this area safe. Cllr Cook reported that three options had previously been looked at by Kirklees in a 2009 report but none had been approved. This had been done under a 3 ward discussion, as the crossroads are not part of Denby Dale Parish. Cllr Turner agreed to take the councils concerns back to Kirklees Highways.

Traffic Speeding – already addressed in meeting
Funding for Great War Commemorative Event – Cllr Kinchin requested the council consider making funds available over the next 5 years.

RESOLVED that the Finance & General Purposes Committee discuss this further.

12/361 Finance Matters

RESOLVED that orders for payment No.593 be approved for payment, totalling £267.90

12/362 January Council Meeting

No further items were received for the next meeting.

12/363 Date of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Committee Meeting – 17 December
- Full Council Meeting – 7 January 2014
- Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting – 21 January 2014

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN