

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 6 October 2015 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe

Members Present: Cllrs: William Jewitt, Polly Ann Flinders, Richard Brook, Graham Turner, John Cook, Ray Gott, Lynn Hardy, Eddie Shaw, Cynthia Naylor, Kelvyn Waites, Susan Hellewell, Janet Depledge, Paula Kemp, Paul Cassidy, Steven Slater, Jackie Senior and Neil Denby

Members Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllrs Blanshard and Summers.

15/063 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Cook welcomed the councillors to the meeting.

15/064 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of interest.

15/065 Open Session

Christopher Ward spoke in support of the grant application submitted by the Parkgate Sports and Community Trust and thanked various members of the council for their support. Kevin Hill, a resident of Skelmanthorpe, spoke to the meeting regarding anti-social behaviour in the village and nearby woods. The Caretaker of Skelmanthorpe First and Nursery School spoke to the meeting regarding damage around the school area and evidence of drug use.

15/066 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Blanshard and Summers. Cllr Banawich was absent.

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

15/067 Police Report (brought forward)

PS Marsland informed the meeting that the police were aware and were acting on the anti-social behaviour in the village, and that due to cuts in the service and changes occurring at the moment, less resources were available. From February the ward would be covered by a Ward Manager, supported by PCSOs. She emphasised the need for reporting of issues, via the 101 number, which recorded the information in an evidence log for historical purposes, or via email, which were not kept historically, or by looking on the website for the 'contact us' icon. The Clerk was asked to publicise these in the newsletter. Cllr Turner reported that he had seen a high police presence in the village at the weekend, and also re-iterated the need for public to ring in and report issues. Cllr Denby asked about the Neighbourhood Watch and PCSO reduction. PS Marsland stated that Mark Wall was leaving and would not be replaced, and that following consultation with local watch teams, it would be the new Ward Managers who would be responsible for this in the future.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/068 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that no items needed to be taken in private.

15/069 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

- Full Council – 1 September
- Plans Scrutiny – 27 September

15/070 Ward Councillor's report

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- The library report had gone to Cabinet on the 22nd, and would be sent to the Scrutiny Panel on the 23rd October, after which it would be active if approved. For Skelmanthorpe, this would mean one member of staff for 15 hours per week with volunteers.
- A very successful deal had been struck around Broadband, and a postcode checker was now available for residents to check their connectivity.

- Little was happening around the Budget, as Kirklees were waiting for the Autumn Statement from Government to hear what their settlement would be, it would possibly be January before this was known.
- By Christmas, in line with Government policy, there would be refugees in the Kirklees area with a 2 year support package from the Government.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/071 Report from Andy Wickham, Countryside Officer (Kirklees Rights of Way Forum Brought Forward)

Andy Wickham provided a written and verbal report.

A discussion was held around volunteer action in the area, Andy stated that Kirklees were looking into various legal issues, issues on risk assessments, PPE...and the need for a structure to be put in place initially. This needed to be done without putting people off volunteering however. Cllr Brook stated that with the reduction in Public Rights of Way, the Walkers are Welcome group were doing low level path maintenance which would hopefully be expanded but this depended on volunteers coming forward. Andy stated that any issues at the moment should be reported to Kirklees, who would refer them to the Walkers are Welcome Group to see if they could assist. Kirklees would still undertake any enforcement necessary.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/072 Clerk's Report

- Denby Dale Station – Cllr Depledge advised she had contact from Andy Manning at Naylor's who had discussed gifting a piece of the site to the Council. A meeting would be set up with them to discuss the plans further, when Naylor's would be requested to attend a Full Council meeting to clarify their proposals.
- Land at Upper Cumberworth – Cllr Cook requested that as no progress could be made that this item be removed from the Clerk's report.
- Overhanging Branches – Cllr Turner advised that the relevant legislation was held in the Highways Act 1980 s154.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/073 Vacancy in Skelmanthorpe Ward.

The Vacancy in Skelmanthorpe Ward was formally reported, with procedures in place for co-option.

15/074 Grant Applications:

- **RESOLVED** to award The Parkgate Sports and Community Trust the full grant of £2,431 for security gates and equipment for the office portakabin using the power provided by the Localism Act 2011, (ch 20 pt1 ch1 s1 General Power of Competence).
- **RESOLVED** not to re-consider the appeal from St Augustine's Church due to the reasons raised initially when considering the grant.

15/075 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report

Cllr Brook reported that 100 people had visited the Textile Heritage Centre during the Heritage National Open Days in September. He also reported interest from History Department at Huddersfield University in forming a possible partnership. Cllr Brook also distributed flyers advertising the latest EPIP Leader Programme grants.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/076 Churchfield Update

- To formally report that the Lease Agreement document had still not been received for signing by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

15/077 Rural District Committee Update

Cllr Blanshard was absent from the meeting so this item was deferred.

15/078 Local Council Award Scheme

It was **RESOLVED** not to reapply for accreditation for the coming year, but to investigate this in the future.

15/079 Revision of Standing Orders

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the revised Standing Orders as recommended by NALC to include the new Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

15/080 Skelmanthorpe Library Building Update

- To formally report that the Asset Transfer document had still not been received or signed by Cllrs Cook and Jewitt
- **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the Working Group Report recommendations as per the paper submitted by the Clerk.

15/081 Denby Dale Community Project Update

Cllr Brook reported on progress on the now single storey building, with the next public meeting to be held on Monday 19th October at 7.15pm. 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 starts.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/082 Matters Raised by Councillors

Public Health – Denby Dale Surgery – item postponed

Litterbins at Denby – item postponed

Reduction in bus services – Cllr Waites had produced a paper which the Clerk would send on to Crigglestone Parish Council

Remembrance Day Arrangements

- All Saints Church, Clayton West – Cllr B Jewitt
- St Michael’s Church, Emley – Cllr P Kemp
- St Augustine’s Church, Scissett – Cllr K Waites
- St Aiden’s Church, Skelmanthorpe – Cllr G Turner
- War Memorial, Denby Dale – Cllr J Cook
- War Memorial, Birdsedge – Cllr J Cook or Cllr C Naylor

Local Plan - Cllr Turner stated that the new Local Plan was now available to view on Kirklees Website and at various locations around the district. Cllr Kemp would provide the link to the councillors.

15/083 Finance Matters

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment No 639 be approved for payment, totalling £547.93
- Training: **RESOLVED** to approve training requests for Cllrs Kemp, Senior and Jewitt at a total cost of £435.00
- Xmas Trees: **RESOLVED** that the council contribute £100 towards the cost of 9 Christmas trees within the ward as per last year’s arrangements

15/084 October Council Meeting Items:

- F&GP November – Clarification on the grants process (*Cllr Denby*)

15/085 Dates of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 27 October
- Full Council – 3 November
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 17 November

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN