

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 7 February 2017 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe

Members Present: Cllrs: Polly Ann Flinders, Richard Brook, Cynthia Naylor, Kelvyn Waites, Paula Kemp, Neil Gemmell, Eddie Shaw, Graham Turner, Billy Jewitt, Susan Hellewell, Janet Depledge, Ray Gott, John Cook, Maggie Blanshard, Stuart Merry, Mike Wood and Lynn Hardy

Members Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllrs Denby and Slater.

16/390 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Jewitt welcomed the councillors to the meeting and informed them of the sad news of former Councillor Allan Hinde King's passing. Cllr Hinde King had been with the council from 2011 to 2014 and had been extremely active in the community. Cllr Jewitt also informed councillors that the Vicar at Clayton West church, Joy Cousins would be leaving. She had been very involved in the community and with local schools.

16/391 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

There were declarations of interest from Cllrs Depledge and Gott in item 10 on Emley Show.

16/392 Open Session

Robert Barber, who had spoken recently to the council about the Men's Sheds Initiative, informed councillors that a proposed site at the Baptist Chapel in Clayton West could possibly be used but it was in a state of disrepair. As there were only 3 trustees left, they would need to re-write their constitution to allow for new trustees to be added, in order for them to apply for grants to bring the building back into public use. Robert handed out a flyer to be circulated asking for anyone interested in becoming a trustee to contact him.

16/393 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Denby and Slater. Cllr Summers was absent.

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

16/394 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that no items needed to be taken in private.

16/395 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

Full Council – 10 January

Finance & General Purposes Committee – 17 January

Plans Scrutiny Committee – 31 January

16/396 Ward Councillor's Report

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- Work was on-going with the budget, with a consensus hopefully being reached on the 15 February. There was a proposed cut to library services of £1.9 million which would require the council to look at re-designing the service again, and Cllr Turner would be meeting with other councils to investigate options. The council had to provide a comprehensive service, but this had not yet been defined. Further public consultation would be taking place.
- A final settlement figure had not yet been received from Government, therefore the budget work was based on what the council were led to believe would be the settlement.
- The Children's Services Team had been strengthened following the OFSTED report.
- The council would be employing a private company to take over some areas of enforcement such as littering/dogs fouling to collect fines on a 12 month trial period.
- The Men's Shed Initiative was progressing well and would hopefully soon have a constitution.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

16/397 Report from Dave Wilde, Countryside Officer

The Countryside Officer attended the meeting and gave a written and verbal report.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

16/398 (brought forward) Churchfield update

Dave Wilde requested that the recommendations in the Churchfield update be approved:

RESOLVED that one of the allotment plots became a community plot for use by schools/older people etc to get the community involved.

RESOLVED that the tenant's agreements commence from 2 February, with a 25% reduction in rent for this year only.

RESOLVED that the smaller allotment plot should be a lower rent of £40 (less 25% this year only).

16/399 Clerk's Report

The Clerk provided a written report:

It was requested that the Clerk write again to the Post Office re: Scissett post boxes siting.

It was reported that the trees on Elm Street, Skelmanthorpe had now been cut back to ground level.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

16/400 Finance Matters

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment No 674 be approved for payment, totalling £686.44
- To Authorise Payment of Salary: **RESOLVED** that the payment of Clerk's and Countryside Officer's salaries, WYPF and HMRC be authorised for February 2017.
- Precept: **RESOLVED** that the precept for 2017-18 would be £233,746 as proposed by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.
- Schools Grant Application: **RESOLVED** that a grant of £500 would be awarded to St Aidan's CE First School towards the cost of outdoor play equipment using the Power of General Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011.
- Budget 2017/18: **RESOLVED** that the Dog Waste Bag budget be increased by £1,000 increasing next year's budget to £209,483.
- Emley Budget line 2017/18: **RESOLVED** that a portion of the budget line, approx. £200 be used towards providing a minibus (currently operated by the Denby Dale Centre) from the village of Emley to transport people to the show ground.

16/401 Matters Raised by Councillors

- Flagpole: It was **RESOLVED** that the flag and flagpole be retained by the council.
- Footpath at Shelley Woodhouse Lane: Cllr Naylor informed councillors that this was now dangerous for use by students using it as a path to and from school as they are having to walk in the road as the path surface has eroded. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to Kirklees to request improvements are made.

16/402 Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum

Cllr Brook stated the Forum had not met.

16/403 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report

Cllr Brook reported that it had been agreed to vire funds to the working party to enable historic photographs to be uploaded to the archive website, work was on-going with himself and Cllr Cook identifying and captioning photographs. He also reminded councillors that the Textile & Heritage Centre would be open to the public every second Saturday of each month on a trial basis.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

16/404 Working Party on Public Transport Report

Cllr Waites stated that there were problems with unreliability of service due to Tiger buses breaking down. Cllr Turner asked for any problems to be reported to him as he would be meeting with a representative shortly.

16/405 Rural District Committee Meeting

Cllr Brook reported that he had attended a recent planning meeting where it had become apparent that less money would be available for grants. A public meeting was to be held on Saturday 25 February.

16/406 Skelmanthorpe Council Building Update

A report from the Building Working Party had been circulated. Cllr Turner questioned the costs to volunteer groups being proposed by the Friends of the Library in the Working party report. It was agreed that the Building Working party would re-consider these.

16/407 Denby Dale Community Project Update

Cllr Turner reported that a very successful open day was held with over 500 people attending. Potential new volunteers had shown interest in both the library and the hospice. The café also reported very good business on the day. He would report back further following a trustees meeting to be held on Wednesday.

16/408 March Council Meeting Items:

- Signage at High Flatts (*Cllr Cook*)
- Update on Emley Mast and issues of the transport of rubble through Emley village (*Cllr Kemp*)

16/409 Dates of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 28 February
- Full Council – 7 March
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 14 March

Signed.....
CHAIRMAN