

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

Members Present: Cllrs: William Jewitt, Tim Bennett, Polly Ann Flinders, Eric Wrench, , Cynthia Naylor, Claire Rimmer, Richard Brook, Graham Turner, Kelvyn Waites, Lynn Hardy, Eddie Shaw, Jim Dodds, Ray Gott, Janet Depledge and Stuart Merry.

Members Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllrs: Michael Watson, John Cook, Jamie Summers and Steven Slater

In attendance: Carole Wadsworth (Clerk to the Council)

12/ 571 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed the councillors and members of the public to the meeting, and reminded all about the upcoming Local Elections on 7 May.

12/572 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr Gott and Cllr Shaw regarding item 13: Taylor Hill Wind Farm.

12/573 Open Session

The applicant for Taylor Hill Wind Farm, James Eastwood, spoke in favour of the application, on grounds of green energy. Two local residents, Paula Kemp and Jolanta Ownsworth, spoke against the Taylor Hill Wind Farm with objections including size and visual amenity.

12/574 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs: Michael Watson, Jamie Summers, John Cook and Steven Slater.

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

12/575 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that no items needed to be taken in private.

12/576 Discussion item: Taylor Hill Farm Wind Turbine proposal, Emley Moor

A discussion was held around the Taylor Hill Farm wind turbine proposal. Cllr Shaw advised the meeting that the Plans Scrutiny Committee had previously returned comments following their meeting on the 25 November of: 'No objections, however councillors expressed concern over the actual size of the turbine and the visual aspect'. Ward councillors advised that due to the objections received and as the proposal was on greenbelt land, this application would be heard at the Planning Committee, where any objections could be raised. This would be in late January.

12/577 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

- Full Council Meeting – 2 December
- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 16 December

12/578 Ward Councillors Report

Cllr Graham Turner gave a verbal report:

- A meeting on Skelmanthorpe Library would be held next Tuesday at 7.30pm to look at forming a committee/friends of/user group for the Library.
- Budget work was on-going with all party talks and group discussions to be held prior to 18 February.
- The Chancellors Autumn statement and the financial settlement was as anticipated, but with further cuts of £50,000 to be made.
- Early Intervention consultation comments were available.
- 12 weeks consultation period on Library services would begin on the 19 January however results would be delayed until late May due to the elections. This would be a comprehensive consultation including paper/sample/street surveys

RESOLVED that the report be received.

Cllr Jim Dodds gave a verbal report:

- Save our Scissett were expressing concerns over drainage/flooding regarding the Redrow development and Cllr Dodds had been in touch with Yorkshire Water who had approved of Redrows procedures in place to mitigate. The ransom strip was still in discussion, Redrow were yet to approach Kirklees council.
- Cllr Dodds had met with the heads of the three schools in the catchment with concerns over increased pressure on local schools due to the development.
- Cllr Dodds had met with CityFibre regarding broadband. This was to be demand driven by local businesses, and would then be linked to residents. CityFibre are a private company, and would only go where there was demonstrable demand. It was reiterated that broadband was a service that would have to be paid for.
- The pie dish at Gilthwaites First School had now been emptied ready for removal and assessment. Cllr Dodds would inform the council as soon as he received an estimate. Area Committee had agreed to part-fund this work.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/579 Report from Andy Wickham, Countryside Officer.

It was highlighted that Andy and the volunteers from Cummins did a huge amount of work which largely went unrecorded.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

RESOLVED that thanks be recorded for Andy's hard work.

12/580 Clerk's Report

- It was agreed that Cllr Depledge take on work on car parking at Denby Dale Station.
- Cllr Turner stated he would bring the results of the traffic survey at Emley to the February Full Council meeting, and would email them to councillors in the meantime.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/581 Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum

Cllr Brook reported that he attended a meeting of the PROW Forum where it was felt that the service was now close to the minimum staffing possible to run the service. It was also clear that volunteer groups were absolutely necessary to maintain rights of way. A booklet 'Guide to Problems and Protocols' had been produced. The clerk was requested to obtain copies.

12/582 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report

Cllr Brook stated that the reprint for the Bagden Hall book would be ready next week.

He advised that the Friends of the Heritage Textile Museum in Skelmanthorpe were in the process of becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in order to apply for grants, primarily from Heritage Lottery Fund, to look at the taking over of the museum.

Cllr Brook stated that the successful bid for EU funding would not yet be announced to allow unsuccessful applicants to appeal. This funding would be focussing on economic growth and job creation. A public meeting would be held tomorrow at 7pm at the Council offices.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

12/583 Kirklees Council Consultation on Devolution

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Council make an approach to Kirklees expressing interest in being a pilot area (para 4.24) without commitment from either side at this stage, and emphasising the electoral accountability and infrastructure already held by this Parish Council, as well as the need for further resources and funding to ensure effective implementation of any powers devolved.

Cllr Brook at this point welcomed Louis from the local Youth Council who had made a submission on the role of Parish Council's and requested that the council's appreciation of his work be minuted.

12/584 Churchfield Update

No further meeting had been held by the Working Group.

12/585 Rural District Committee Update

No further meeting had been held.

12/586 Skelmanthorpe Library Building

Cllr Brook stated that the working party were working on the asset transfer of the building. Further information had been received from Sally Beaumont, including on the running costs, which unfortunately showed that business rates were applicable. Quotes were being sought for a structural survey by Cllr Jewitt.

Cllr Turner reiterated that a meeting was to be held next Tuesday to look at forming a committee to take forward the running of the library itself.

12/587 Denby Dale Community Project Update

Cllr Dodds stated that the phase two application was being prepared for the Big Lottery, and a big lottery officer had been made available to them to assist with this. An application to the Big Community Foundation was also to be undertaken.

12/588 Matters Raised by Councillors

- Pelican Crossing at Denby Dale – Cllr Naylor stated that this was requested in the middle of the village. A previous request had been turned down due to insufficient sight lines and loss of parking provision. **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact Aiden Hopson in Highways to request they look at this possibility.
- High Flatts issues deferred until February meeting due to illness of Cllr Cook

12/589 Finance Matters

Orders for Payment - **RESOLVED** that orders for payment No.620 be approved for payment, totalling £420.00

Expenditure Review – noted.

Precept Update – provisional figures had been received which would be confirmed after 14 January, and would then be discussed at the next Finance & General Purposes Committee to be held on 20 January, with recommendation being submitted to the Full Council in February.

12/590 February Council Meeting Items:

- Gritting (Cllr Hardy)
- Double Yellow lines at junction of Church Street/School Lane and on Upper Lane, Emley (Cllr Shaw)
- Deferred High Flatts issues (Cllr Cook)

12/591 Date of next meetings:

- Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting – 20 January
- Plans Scrutiny Committee Meeting – 27 January
- Full Council Meeting – 3 February

Signed.....
CHAIRMAN