

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 March 2019 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe

Members Present: Cllrs: Polly Ann Flinders, Richard Brook, Ray Gott, Cynthia Naylor, Graham Turner, Mike Wood, Steve Slater, Maggie Blanshard, Stuart Merry, John Cook, Neil Gemmell, Kelvyn Waites, Janet Depledge, William Simpson, Ian Atkinson, Neil Denby, Eddie Shaw & Jeremy Patterson

16/850 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Cook welcomed Councillors to the meeting

16/851 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of interest.

16/852 Open Session

No members of the public wished were present.

16/853 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Hellewell. Cllr Summers was absent

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

16/854 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that no items needed to be taken in public.

16/855 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

Full Council – 5 February approved subject to amendments from Cllr Gemmell
Plans Scrutiny Committee – 26 February

16/856 Ward Councillor's Report

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- Kirklees Council's budget had now been passed.
- The Local Plan had been passed and was now in effect. There were two large applications in for development at Cumberworth Lane and Emley which were now available for comments. The quality of build was discussed by councillors, however internal standards were unfortunately not a material consideration, and under legislation, planning cannot choose who builds.
- Hopefully the Emley bus stop issue would be resolved by the end of the month.
- Cllr Turner had met with the Police Inspector who was permanent in post now.

Cllr Simpson gave a verbal report

- Had met with PC Caroline Newsome and had been speaking with residents around issues such as illegal parking at Holly Rd, near Scissett baths, and speeding issues at Clayton West on Chapel Hill following an accident there. This would be monitored however on the record of accidents this was not a high priority area. AS the data is over 5 years old this would be updated by the police and the council.
- The establishment of a food bank would go ahead at the Skelmanthorpe building but the Welcome Centre would only provide a bin affect assessing need at the location. Cllr Simpson would provide a storage bin in the meantime.
- MP Paula Sherriff had organised a litter-pick on the 30 March which he would be involved in. Sharing of resources were discussed as Cllr Wood was involved in a litter-pick the week after in Emley. The Countryside Officer also may have resources available.

RESOLVED that the reports be received

16/857 Report from Dave Wilde, Countryside Officer

The Countryside Officer tabled a report. Dave highlighted the work undertaken by the Greenhead student who had been working very hard under her own initiative as part of her undertaking the

Duke of Edinburgh Award. It was suggested that the work on litter-picking be included in the next newsletter.

RESOLVED that the report be received

16/858 Clerk's Report

The Clerk tabled a report.

16/859 Finance Matters

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment no 728 be approved for payment, totalling £9806.43
- To Authorise Payment of Salaries: **RESOLVED** that the payment of Clerk's and Countryside Officer's salaries, WYPF and HMRC be authorised for March 2019.

16/860 Matters Raised by Councillors

- Denby Dale Nursery Site – Cllr Turner stated that he was in touch with Exchequer Services at Kirklees to try to establish ownership of the site, and Kirklees would then be able to enforce a new piece of legislation adopted whereby they could charge extra council tax on the site. The issue was to remain on the agenda.
- Damage/theft from Clayton West pack bridge – Cllr Gott advised of the current level of theft from the bridge, and requested that this remain on the agenda, and other sites where theft occurred were to be included. Cllr Simpson had contacted the Conservation and Design team at Kirklees who were ready to help with any restoration and support.
- Citizen's Advice Bureau – Cllr Gott referred to his tabled paper and asked if the parish council should, upon verification of the figures presented at the last meeting, investigate options to continue the service. Cllr Turner stated that he would provide the figures required, and that CAB was an independent provision, however steps were being taken by Kirklees Council on options around assisting with some level of service but it was too early to give fuller details. This item to be put on the April agenda for update.
- Visitor Information Website – Cllr Brook referred to his email regarding the jointly funded website with Kirkburton PC, and informed councillors of the interest expressed by Kirklees College Travel & Tourism Dept to update this site, which would be welcome due to the local EPIP group now meeting less frequently to update the content.

16/861 Churchfields Update – no update.

16/862 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report

Cllr Brook informed councillors that a new section on local coal mining had been added to the heritage website, along with a video of Hayroyds Colliery. He stated that the website would hopefully be added to the national database for community archives. Further photographs had been obtained on 'old Emley' which would hopefully be added at a later date.

16/863 Working Party on Public Transport Report

Cllr Waites referred to minor adjustments to local timetables, primarily route 233. The clerk held copies of the latest timetables. Cllr Turner stated that he had made an official complaint about the Yorkshire Tiger Service provision to the Traffic Commissioner who had stated there could be a case to investigate.

16/864 Skelmanthorpe Council Building Update

- Proposal to create Wildlife area – **RESOLVED** that the Clerk request the solicitor who dealt with the Council Building transfer to investigate land ownership of the strip of land behind the council offices, with a view to having it registered under the Parish Council with land registry. It was also agreed that library volunteers explore the options around a wildlife area and resting area to the front and rear of the building.
- Update on redecoration of building – Cllr Gott referred to the tender document he had produced, and requested that the document be sent out to the 3 contractors received previously. **RESOLVED** that the tender process be undertaken as detailed. Councillors expressed their thanks to Cllr Gott for the detailed work he had produced. Cllr Turner

stated that he was awaiting details of the lighting expert from KNH. Cllr Brook demonstrated the picture rail option which had previously been approved for use by council, this would be sited initially in the IT room, at an approximate cost of between £2-300.

- Provision of storage for user groups – **RESOLVED** that the group interested in providing craft sessions on a Monday could use the larger storage area in the IT room for storage of their craft supplies.

16/865 Denby Dale & Skelmanthorpe Libraries update:

Cllr Depledge stated that a meeting with Carol Stamp, Principal Librarian, had taken place at Denby Dale Library, and one would follow at Skelmanthorpe. Reassurances had been given that back office provision and renewal of book stock would continue, but that there would still be some staffing cuts. Cllr Depledge stated that the parish council could begin to look at helping to develop libraries by integrating tourist information, local information, history... and to bring these together in a more co-ordinated fashion. Cllr Depledge also stated that the success of the two libraries was largely due to great volunteer support, however concerns had been expressed about the lessening of staff hours which could be disproportionate. Cllr Turner stated that staffing structure was still being talked through, but that there was a commitment to maintain libraries and invest where necessary, and that any staffing reduction would be the same across the board, but that any change was still undecided.

Cllr Denby stated that Denby Dale Library was now exporting power to the grid due to the solar panels funded by the parish council.

16/866 April Council Meeting Items:

16/867 Dates of next meetings:

- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 12 March
- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 26 March
- Full Council – 2 April

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN