

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 April 2016 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe

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

Members Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllrs B Jewitt, S Slater, J Senior & P Cassidy

15/193 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Cook welcomed the councillors to the meeting.

15/194 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

No declarations of interest were received.

15/195 Open Session

No members of the public were present.

15/196 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Jewitt, Senior, Slater and Cassidy
RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

15/197 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that no items needed to be taken in private.

15/198 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

Full Council – 1 March

Finance & General Purposes – 15 March

Plans Scrutiny Committee – 29 March

15/199 Ward Councillor's Report

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- A Full Council Extra Meeting had been held as a one item agenda concerning Huddersfield Royal Infirmary where there had been a consensus that the council did not agree with the proposals, and that the council write to the Secretary of State. This process was now in the consultation stage, with on-going public meetings, with one to be held on 14 April at Scissett Working Men's Club.
- The Council was now in Purdah in preparation for the May elections.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/200 Report from Andy Wickham, Countryside Officer

Andy Wickham provided a written report.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Andy to thank him for all his hard work on behalf of the council and express a wish that he keeps in touch.

15/201 Clerk's Report

The Clerk provided a written report

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/202 Working Party on Public Transport Report

The letter concerning bus services at Upper Denby was discussed. Cllr Turner stated he would pass on the concerns expressed to the operative from West Yorkshire.

15/203 Kirklees Public Rights of Way Forum

Cllr Brook stated that he had attended the last meeting on 10 March where a presentation had been given on a Walking and Cycling Strategic Action Plan being developed alongside a Government scheme. This could be of interest in this area due to the reputation of the area for outdoor pursuits.

15/204 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report

Cllr Brook reported that the Friends of the Textile and Heritage Centre had received a small initial payment from HLF and the next step would be to obtain a larger amount for the purchase of the building.

There would be a local EPIP meeting on Thursday 14th April at the Forester's pub, which was open to all.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/205 Churchfield Update

The solicitors report had been received, a photographic schedule of the boundary had been requested, this still had not been completed, Andy was to now ask the Friends of Churchfield to undertake this as he had now left his current post.

15/206 Rural District Committee Meeting

Cllr Turner updated the meeting on the on-going work awarding grants, including to the Friends of Churchfields Group.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

15/207 Skelmanthorpe Library Building Update

The Clerk reported that the Asset Transfer document had now been signed in accordance with Standing Order 15a by Cllrs Cook and Jewitt and witnessed by herself, using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011 with the official hand-over date being the 31 March 2016.

The Clerk reported on issues around IT provision by Kirklees Council, which had been removed as a clause from the lease-back agreement but seemed to have come to a head again with the removal of the Countryside Officer post. This, along with the building hand-over issues, were issues outside the Clerk's control and would impact on her work, but which should have been dealt with by Kirklees Council sooner and therefore the Clerk would not accept responsibility for them. An update was received stating that Kirklees would give an extension of time to allow for IT change-over.

The Clerk requested that she source a minimum of two quotes for IT provision, for future change over of IT system.

15/208 Denby Dale Community Project Update

Cllr Turner stated that a meeting would be held to discuss the official opening date.

15/209 Grants

Clayton West Scout Group – **RESOLVED** that a partial grant of £1,000 be awarded, with information sent about Comoodle, and with the Council's evidence of cheaper mowers for information.

15/210 Countryside Officer Post

The Clerk reported that eight applications had been received, and the closing date was 7 April. A sift would need to be arranged by the Staffing Committee/DD Countryside Project Committee. An interview date had been arranged for Tuesday 26 April.

A vehicle still had not been agreed upon.

RESOLVED that a vehicle be leased for one year initially from Kirklees Council once the new Countryside Officer was in place.

15/211 Matters Raised by Councillors

Woodland Trust Charter for Trees – **RESOLVED** that the council undertakes the initiative.

Academy Status for Primary Schools – Background information on the Multi Academy Trust being formed by four primary schools, St Aiden’s, Scissett First, Skelmanthorpe First and Kayes First, was given by Cllr Waites.

Queen’s Birthday Beacon – **RESOLVED** that as things have progressed in terms of public attendance that the letter be noted and not acted upon. The possibility of the chairman officially lighting the Beacon was discussed.

Siting of Gas Main, Jagger Lane, Emley – Cllr Kemp stated that she would keep the council updated on the situation as she was in touch with all parties. Re; the highways issue, Cllr Kemp stated that the senior PCSO supervisor would be out with the handheld speed gun over the coming weeks.

YLCA Report – Cllr Shaw gave a report, which highlighted police issues.

15/212 Finance Matters

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment No 653 be approved for payment, totalling £2,689.40
- To Authorise Payment of Salary: **RESOLVED** that the payment of Clerk’s salary, WYPF and HMRC be authorised
- Financial Regulations: **RESOLVED** that the revised Financial Regulations as recommended by the F&GP Committee be adopted.

15/213 May Council Meeting Items:

As PKF Littlejohn had agreed to extend the audit return date the May meeting no longer needed to be moved.

15/214 Dates of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 26 April
- Full Council – 3 May

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN