

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 February 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, Susan Hellewell, Janet Depledge, William Simpson, Ian Atkinson & Jeremy Patterson

16/831 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Cook welcomed Councillors to the meeting

16/832 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

Cllrs Brook and Cook declared interests in item 10.7, the Walkers Are Welcome grant application, and Cllr Cook declared an interest in item 10.8, the Denby Village Conservation Group grant application.

16/833 Open Session

No members of the public wished were present.

16/834 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Waites, Denby and Shaw. Cllr Summers was absent
RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

16/835 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that Item 10.4 be taken in private session.

16/836 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

Full Council – 8 January

Finance & General Purposes Committee – 15 January

Plans Scrutiny Committee – 29 January

16/837 Ward Councillor's Report

Cllr Simpson gave a verbal report:

- Cllr Simpson had attended the Mens' Shed meeting and was looking at ways to support the group in terms of funding and free tools, as well as on social media.
- Referring to his work on period poverty, he stated that the number of schools involved in the Red Box project was increasing and he was looking at working with a Wakefield company and charities to develop this.
- He had attended a meeting with Cllr Turner and PC Caroline Newsome to discuss reports of burglaries in Emley and Anti-social behaviour in Skelmanthorpe.
- He and Cllr Turner had met with John Thompson to discuss further how they could raise awareness of the Community Plus team's work and how this could also be raised with local GP services to reduce the impact on these.
- Cllr Simpson reported that unfortunately CAB would no longer be able to provide outreach services on a national basis. Services would remain in Huddersfield and Dewsbury. He would be approaching them again to re-consider however this was unlikely.

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- He would be attending a briefing in two weeks to look at any way of replacing Citizens Advice Bureau outreach services.
- The Kirklees Budget had been published and was now available on line.
- The final letter on the financial settlement had been received from Government and the Kirklees budget was compliant.
- The Local Plan had been signed off by the Inspector and was considered sound, legal and compliant, once passed on the 22 February this would become enforceable. Cllr Gemmell noted that he did not feel that this plan was good for this area, as there was no investment in infrastructure to cope with the increased housing or in the local rural economy.

- The Cumberworth Lane Development had had an application validated and this would be on the planning portal in 2/3 weeks.

RESOLVED that the reports be received

16/838 Report from Dave Wilde, Countryside Officer

The Countryside Officer tabled a report.

RESOLVED that the report be received

16/839 Clerk's Report

The Clerk tabled a report. Cllr Turner stated that they were still looking at the budget regarding the path at Shelley. The letter from UDVET was discussed and it was commented that the ward councillors had discussed the issues raised with the police in their meeting.

16/840 Finance Matters

- Budget 2019/20 and Precept: Cllr Brook referred to the detailed minutes from the Finance & General Purposes committee and noted that in the December meeting, revisions to the budget may be needed.

RESOLVED that the revised budget recommended by the Finance & General Purposes Committee be accepted giving a budget of £199,330

Precept: Cllr Brook referred to the discussion paper and advised that the further options 5,6 & 7 had been added with an aim to reduce the level of reserves. He stated that the Finance Committee recommended option 7 thereby reducing reserves over 2 years to the target level so as to avoid overly reducing the council tax one year which would then significantly be raised the next year. This option would cut the parish council element of council tax by over 30% and enable stability the following year. Cllr Gott stated that the precept should be lower than proposed, with consideration for required reserves of £400,000; and he wished to place on record that in proposing the precept for 2018-19 council had also stated a commitment to reducing reserves to the level specified in the business plan, at the time of calculating the next precept.

RESOLVED that a precept of £150,000 be raised as recommended by the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment no 726 be approved for payment, totalling £1293.95
- To Authorise Payment of Salaries: **RESOLVED** that the payment of Clerk's and Countryside Officer's salaries, WYPF and HMRC be authorised for February 2019.
- Payroll/Pension issue (taken in private session): **RESOLVED** to note the update on the issue from the Clerk.
- Vehicle for Countryside Project update: **RESOLVED** that Cllr Gott arranges the stencilling of the vehicle which would be enlarged and including an extra cost of approx.£30 to mark up the back of the vehicle after removing the vehicle name.
- Schools Grant: **RESOLVED** to award Denby First School a grant of £500 using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011
- Community Grant: **RESOLVED** to award Denby Dale Walkers are Welcome a grant for £1560 using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011
- Community Grant: **RESOLVED** to award Denby Village Conservation Group a grant of £250 using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011

16/841 Terms of Reference. RESOLVED to adopt terms of reference for the Finance & General Purposes Committee and Plans Scrutiny Committee as circulated by the Clerk.

16/842 Matters Raised by Councillors

- Request for a dog waste bag dispenser adj Chartist **RESOLVED** that the Clerk order a dispenser which would be placed with consideration of the improvements to the play area.

- Lighting system in the council building **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact a green expert to give advice on what would bring the building into compliance, and then a tender process would be arranged to renew the lighting in the building.
- Use of council building as a collection point for food for food banks **RESOLVED** that Cllr Simpson and Cllr Merry arrange a storage bin and co-ordinate this initiative as this required commitment from the Council to ensure it was properly managed.

16/843 Churchfields Update – no update, a meeting was taking place next week.

16/844 Heritage Working Party/EPIP Report

Cllr Brook spoke to the meeting about the Skelmanthorpe Freedom Flag which was having conservation work done to it at the Peoples History Museum in Manchester and would be part of the Peterloo massacre commemoration event. Representatives from Skelmanthorpe would be attending the opening ceremony and it was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Flinders and Merry attend on behalf of the parish council.

Cllr Brook then spoke about the on-going work on the Archives website, informing council of further photographs and videos from David Flack, whose family owned the private coal mine at Hayroyds colliery which he was willing to have added to the Archives website. TDV were able to do this at an additional cost of £300.

RESOLVED that the request for £300 to be spent on the Archives website be approved.

16/845 Working Party on Public Transport Report

No update.

16/846 Skelmanthorpe Council Building Update

RESOLVED that the report of the Building Working Group be approved

16/847 Denby Dale & Skelmanthorpe Libraries update:

Cllr Depledge stated that a meeting with both library groups had been held and that additional money had been set aside in the Kirklees budget for library provision, details of which hopefully would be clearer after a meeting with the Chief Librarian and both library groups.

16/848 March Council Meeting Items: none presented

16/849 Dates of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 26 February
- Full Council – 5 March
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 12 March

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN