

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 1 October 2019 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe

Members Present: Cllrs: Richard Brook, Ray Gott, Maggie Blanshard, Kelvyn Waites, Eddie Shaw, Stuart Merry, Polly Flinders, Will Simpson, Graham Turner, Alison Baskeyfield, Mike Wood, Neil Denby, Lin Newton, Neil Gemmell, John Cook, Cynthia Naylor, Steve Slater & Jeremy Patterson

19/091 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Gott welcomed Councillors to the meeting and noted that he had been thanked on behalf of the Council by a grant recipient whilst attending Penistone Show.

19/092 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

Declarations of interest were received from Cllrs Turner & Simpson due to their involvement with the Denby Dale Christmas Tree Lights grant application.

19/093 Open Session

Derek Liddell, Vice Chair of NALC, spoke to Council about Kirklees Local Democracy Week and encouraged their attendance to support parish councils, highlighting their benefits, at the meeting at St James Church, Rawthorpe on 15th October.

A member of the Denby Dale Christmas Tree Lights Fund attended and spoke in support of their application.

19/094 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Hellewell and Atkinson
RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

19/095 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED that there were no items to be taken in private.

19/096 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

Full Council – 3 September (*as amended*)
Plans Scrutiny Committee – 24 September

19/097 Ward Councillor's Report

Cllr Simpson gave a verbal report:

- Has met with Yorkshire Tiger and WYCA recently, and noted that performance is improving but the company which provide the new vehicles has gone out of business therefore only half the vehicles have been provided.
- Wildflowers project has been scaling up and a meeting has been held with Dave Wilde to discuss planting with volunteers. Kew Gardens are also now sending out seeds to residents who had applied for them.
- A new, cross-party mental health project had received £1million in funding to look at a new, less centralised approach within local communities at rural issues such as community transport, isolation of the elderly and school support.

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- The financial settlement from Government was received as expected and work was starting on the budget.
- The Council had been tasked with working on scenarios around Brexit, and were working to put protocols in place and were working with other councils. This included much high level involvement and liaison with and around; the NHS, care providers, food banks, fuel supplies, adult social care...
- The Play Strategy was now progressing to Cabinet
- Cllr Flinders requested that Cllr Watson be invited to submit a written report or to attend future meetings.

RESOLVED that the reports be received

19/098 Report from Dave Wilde, Countryside Officer

The Countryside Officer tabled a report.

RESOLVED that the report be received

19/099 Clerk's Report

The Clerk tabled a report.

RESOLVED that the report be received

19/0100 Finance Matters

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment no 743 be approved for payment, totalling £1214.83
- To Authorise Payment of Salaries: **RESOLVED** that the payment of Clerk's and Countryside Officer's salaries, WYPF and HMRC be authorised for October 2019.
- Community Grant Applications: St Augustines Church: **RESOLVED** that the application be refused in light of guidance received from NALC stating: *Local Government Act 1894 contains a prohibition that a local council must not execute any works or contribute towards the expense of any work where the property in question relates to affairs of the church or the property is held for an ecclesiastical charity. Turning to the matter of a grant towards a heating system, the prohibition of the 1894 Act applies without exemptions, because this is clearly church property and a local council cannot contribute for such purpose.*
Denby Dale Xmas lights fund: **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £1518 using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011.

19/0101 CAB Provision: Cllr Gott stated that following a meeting with the manager of Barnsley Citizen's Advice service and the resolution by the council to provide a service at the Skelmanthorpe building, it had been agreed that:

- The upstairs office next door to the Clerk's would be used on a fortnightly basis starting at the beginning of November.
- This would be a walk-in service initially, but would change to appointment if this didn't work.
- The same adviser would hopefully be kept each time for continuity.
- Files would be kept centrally (with permission) therefore users could attend at other offices.
- Publicity would be provided by Barnsley and would be advertised on facebook sites of Emley & Denby Dale, on the parish website/newsletter/noticeboards and the library social media. Signage for the building would also be installed.

Future provision at other sites could be provided at the same cost (£4770). Councillors were invited to make suggestions for offices which were private, had internet connection and were preferably in a public building

19/0102 Council Building – Cllr Gott updated councillors on a meeting held with a general electrical manager from Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing acting as a central primary contractor who had provided an extensive analysis of the buildings current lighting systems and the cost for a new lighting system of £24,017 + VAT (below the £25K where it becomes necessary to apply via the national tender website). Two further quotes would be provided hopefully by next week and Cllr Gott would report back at the November Full Council meeting where hopefully a decision could be made on an energy efficient lighting system. From the decision, there would be a two-week lead time until fitting would commence, with the probability of the library being closed for a week for public safety.

19/0103 Matters Raised by Councillors

- Shelley Footpath – Cllr Denby noted that the involvement of the parish council in successfully lobbying for a safer route for students had been included in the Autumn newsletter.

- Christmas Tree Festival – it was agreed that the parish council would again be represented at this event. Any photographs to be forwarded to Cllr Merry.
- Emley School Parking Issues – it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Wood attend this working party aimed at addressing parking issues around the school, and report back to the council.

19/0104 Churchfields: Cllr Naylor encouraged councillors to view the Friends of Churchfields website, and asked that a link be added to the newsletter. Discussion was held around acknowledgement of former councillor Billy Jewitt’s work at Churchfields, suggestions to come back to the next meeting.

19/0105 Notice of intention to apply to transfer maintenance responsibility of churchyard to Parish Council by St John’s, Denby

RESOLVED that the parish council pass responsibility over to Kirklees Council under section 215 of Local Government Act 1972 and that the Clerk write to Kirklees Council and St Nicholas Church to inform them of this within the allotted time period of 3 months.

19/0106 Heritage Working Party

Cllr Brook informed councillors that over 100 visitors had attended the Skelmanthorpe textile museum on the National Heritage Open Day events. They had also received a visit from an American family trying to trace ancestors who had lived in the area in the 1860’s. Cllr Brook would also be convening a meeting of the working party.

19/0107 Working Party on Public Transport Report – no update received.

19/0108 Denby Dale & Skelmanthorpe Libraries update:

Cllr Flinders reminded councillors of the invitation to attend the preview evening of the Village Art event in the Skelmanthorpe Building, which had secured patronage from Denby Dale actor, Paul Copley.

19/0109 November Council Meeting Items:

- Cllr Naylor membership of both committees

19/0110 Dates of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 29 October
- Full Council – 5 November
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 19 November

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN