

## **Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 3 December 2019 in the Civic Chamber, Council Offices, Skelmanthorpe**

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

### **19/0131 Chairman's Opening Remarks**

Cllr Gott welcomed Councillors to the meeting and informed Councillors of the resignation of Ian Atkinson. The process of election had already begun and councillors would be formally updated at the January meeting.

### **19/0132 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests**

Cllr Blanshard declared an interest in the grant application from Denby Dale Bowling Club, as a trustee of the Cricket Club.

### **19/0133 Open Session**

A member of the public spoke regarding the blockage of footpath no 77 at High Flatts.

### **19/0134 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cook and Slater. Councillor Gemmell was absent.

**RESOLVED** that the reasons submitted be approved.

### **19/0135 Admission of the Public**

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

### **19/0136 Police Report**

PCSO Hurst gave a crime update from October to present which included:

- 11 burglaries, including shed break-ins, properties targeted during early evening i.e. during the school run/prior to returning from work. Mainly cash and jewellery was being taken.
- Car thefts including two Land Rovers (Upper Denby & Emley) and a quadbike (Clayton West)
- Vehicle damage, with some caught on CCTV. Thefts from vehicles had taken place in Shelley and enquiries were on-going.
- There had been reports of anti-social behaviour at Grove Fisheries, harassment issues by Shelley College students towards other school pupils which resulted in officers speaking to schools and the issue of anti-social behaviour letters.
- Thefts and damage had occurred at Saville Street mills, and there had been issues at the skate park in Skelmanthorpe, possibly drug-related. Travellers had been moved on from near the light railway.
- PCSO Hurst reminded councillors that vehicle registrations were important when reports were sent in, and any issues should be reported to Crimestoppers or the 101 number, not social media.
- A PCSO drop-in service was taking place at Skelmanthorpe library on Tuesday at 1.30. help could be given in setting up Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, and via the issue of Holiday cards to watch properties when residents were away. He stated the importance of locking vehicles and sheds, removing anything from vehicles, and the use of back garden lights as deterrents.
- Speed checks could also be requested, Birdsedge having recently been done. Councillors advised that the one at Clayton West was set at 40mph in a 30mph limit area.

### **19/0137 Minutes of the last meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the following minutes be approved:

Full Council – 5 November

Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting – 19 November

Plans Scrutiny Committee – 26 November

### **19/0138 Ward Councillor's Report**

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- The Cumberworth Road development application was likely to go to Strategic Planning on 19 December
- The budget process was continuing, despite the possibility of a change in chancellor.
- Byelections had been called due to two resignations.
- Cllr Turner & Simpson had been continuing to work on the wild flower schemes.
- Due to Purdah, the available update was limited.
- Although the headmasters old house at Denby Dale had been bought, it was not known when development would commence.
- There would be a PCSO drop in at Skelmanthorpe Council Building on Saturday 10-12.

**RESOLVED** that the reports be received

### **19/0139 Report from Dave Wilde, Countryside Officer**

The Countryside Officer tabled a report.

**RESOLVED** that the report be received

### **19/0140 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk tabled a report.

**RESOLVED** that the report be received

### **19/0141 Finance Matters**

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment no 748 be approved for payment, totalling £525.46
- To Authorise Payment of Salaries: **RESOLVED** that the payment of Clerk's and Countryside Officer's salaries, WYPF and HMRC be authorised for December 2019.
- Budget 2020-21: Cllr Brook spoke to the tabled draft budget prepared by the Finance & General Purposes Committee, stating that the budget had been drawn up item by item, and not be a blanket % increase as in previous years. He noted the new CAB budget item, and the increase in small grants to attempt to encourage increased take up. The Environment Trust Grant had been increased due to their increased activities. The revised budget was therefore set at **£206,410**. He noted that this could be amended in the future as necessary. **RESOLVED** that the budget for 2020-21 proposed by the Finance & General Purposes Committee be adopted, which could be amended at a later date.
- Reserves/Business Plan: Cllr Gott spoke to the revised reserves policy within the Business Plan, stating that in line with the auditor noting the need for more specific reserves, the revision quantified the level of reserves to be held by the council. In brief, revenue reserves would be held of £200k, with earmarked reserves for Election costs of £12k, unexpected building reserves of £40K, larger qualifying projects of £60k and earmarked approved projects, carried forward to the next period, such as the Emley Moor ARL grant of £30k. changes were also made to the Business Plan in line with changes to the Budget. **RESOLVED** that the revised Reserves Policy and Business Plan (with minor amendments) be adopted.
- Schools Grants: **RESOLVED** not to award a grant of £1000 to St Aidan's Academy towards a defibrillator until quotes had been received for the equipment and training, and the location of the defibrillator was requested, and whether it was accessible to the general public.  
**RESOLVED** to award a grant of £1000 to Cumberworth First School towards science and env. Art days, awarded using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011.
- Community Grant Applications:

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £800 be awarded to Denby Dale Bowling Club towards a flood risk assessment using the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011.

**19/0142 CAB Provision:** Cllr Gott stated that the service had full take up at each session. A quarterly report would be provided by the service, and he hoped that an estimate on recovery would be provided. He reminded councillors that subject to need and premises, this service could be rolled out in future in the ward.

**19/0143 Skelmanthorpe Council Building:** Further to the request by the Village Arts group it was **RESOLVED** that further exhibitions could be held, at the discretion of the Clerk, provided that prices were not put up, only artists' contact details. Council were also reminded that artwork was displayed without any liability to the Parish Council for loss or damage.

**19/0144 Matters Raised by Councillors**

- Clayton West Noticeboard – it was agreed that Cllr Hellewell and Cllr Turner liaise over a suitable replacement for the noticeboard.
- Relate Provision (*deferred until January meeting*)
- Footpath at Ponker Lane (*deferred until January meeting*)
- Footpath at Denby Dale no 77- it was agreed that the Clerk write to Kirklees Public Rights of Way regarding the blocking up of the footpath.
- Climate Emergency Working Group Establishment – following a wide ranging discussion on climate issues, it was **RESOLVED** that a working group be established of interested members which would report back to Full Council

**19/0145 Churchfields:** Cllr Naylor informed councillors that there would be Carols at Churchfields on Sunday at 11am. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda as a standing item.

**19/0146 Heritage Working Party**

Cllr Brook informed councillors that there had been minor additions to the archives website, with links to the local history group. The HWP had met to discuss at reprinting the local history books within their agreed budget. The Skelmanthorpe Heritage and Textile Centre would be open this Sunday and Saturday.

**19/0147 Working Party on Public Transport Report** – Cllr Turner requested an update on the Denby Dale car park at the viaduct. It was agreed that the Clerk ask Cllr Cook for any contact details at Naylors so that Cllr Turner could assist in following this up.

**19/0148 Denby Dale & Skelmanthorpe Libraries update:** - it was agreed that due to no further information on any future changes in the service where forthcoming, that this item be removed from the agenda as a standing item.

**19/0149 January Council Meeting Items:**

- Relate provision
- Footpath at Ponker Lane (*Cllr Cook*)

**19/0150 Dates of next meetings:**

- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 17 December
- Full Council – 7 January 2020
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 14 January

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN