

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 1 September 2020

Members Present: Cllrs: Carolyn Newton, Susan Hellewell, Maggie Blanshard, Richard Brook, Stuart Merry, Polly Flinders, Will Simpson, Graham Turner, Mike Wood, Neil Denby, Kelvyn Waites, Alison Baskeyfield & Jeremy Patterson

20/031 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Denby welcomed Councillors to the meeting and advised them that there shouldn't be any councillor excluded from remote meetings and that we should strive to make sure all were supported. Cllr Denby also explained the reasoning behind delaying decision on the Risk Assessment and opening of the Council Building in light of Government update timing.

20/032 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of interest.

20/033 Open Session

There were no members of the public present.

20/034 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Carr, Naylor and Cook. Cllrs Shaw, Gemmell and Slater were absent.

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

20/035 Admission of the Public

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

20/036 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

Full Council – 7 July

Plans Scrutiny Committee – 28 July

Plans Scrutiny Committee – 25 August

20/037 Council Building (brought forward)

RESOLVED that the Council Building be re-opened for a) use by Council Staff b) to support the re-opening for the library in its phased approach. It was **RESOLVED** that opening to user groups/the public be delayed and reviewed at each Full Council meeting.

RESOLVED that the Covid Risk Assessment be adopted and implemented as soon as possible for staff and library use. The Covid Risk Assessment would be reviewed at each Full Council meeting.

20/038 Ward Councillor's Report

Cllr Simpson gave a verbal report:

- Reminded Council that the ward would be out of local restrictions on Wednesday
- Work had been on-going with wildflower planting, with further work at the Clayton West site and Pictorial Meadows in Autumn. Over 70 other sites had been identified and he would be contacting everyone to advise if the site was possible.
- Schools starting back next week would mean doubling-up of some bus services to take account of restrictions. Non school buses would run with social distancing at ½ capacity, specific school buses would not. This would mean further services provided by 'Global' to cover the extra need. Traffic issues at Scissett Middle School would also be observed.
- Cllr Simpson requested that the Chair write out to Denby Dale Centre to acknowledge all the hard work they continued to do to support the community. This was agreed by all councillors.

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- There was a lot of work to do around the current financial situation, with the pandemic having a major impact on the budget, and a £7.7 million overspend predicted. Overall, the situation was fairly positive due to all the work done to manage expenditure and reserves

which had meant Kirklees were in a stronger position than many councils. There would be an impact on next year's budget which was currently being worked on. There had been grant assistance from the Government, with more promised at the end of the financial year. The Council had been able to offer tailored support to local businesses.

- The devolution debate continued with consultation out for debate with Government on Wednesday and over 4000 respondents taking part.
- Libraries re-opening with click and collect services and limited browsing being trialled at 6 libraries initially and then to be rolled out.

RESOLVED that the reports be received

20/039 Co-option in Emley Ward: RESOLVED that Hayley Pink be co-opted onto the Council on the Plans Scrutiny Committee. It was **RESOLVED** that the declarations of office and of interests be completed as soon as possible following the meeting.

20/040 Report from Dave Wilde, Countryside Officer

The Countryside Officer gave a verbal report. Cllr Waites wished to record residents' gratitude at the speedy response of the countryside officer in getting a dangerous tree reported.

RESOLVED that the report be received

20/041 Clerk's Report

No report was submitted

20/042 Finance Matters

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment no 764 be approved for payment, totalling £352.80
- Budget Outturn: **RESOLVED** to accept the outturn to date.
- Bank Mandate: **RESOLVED** that Cllr Denby be added to the list of authorised signatories.
- To Authorise Payment of Salaries: **RESOLVED** that the payment of Clerk's and Countryside Officer's salaries, WYPF and HMRC be authorised for September 2020.
- Audit: **RESOLVED** to formally accept the following report of the external auditor: On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. This is now published on the council's website in accordance with accounts and audit regulations
- Schools Grant Applications: (all awarded using Power of General Competence provided by Localism Act 2011)
 - **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £1000 towards iPads from Denby First School
 - **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £993.07 towards outdoor learning/family gardening project from St Aidan's First School
 - **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £1000 towards cooking materials from Kayes First School

20/043 Climate Emergency Working Group

Councillor Simpson advised that the group had been unable to meet however a large site had been identified to be worked on during the Autumn for tree planting and there had been much support from charities and volunteers.

20/044 Matters Raised by Councillors

- Item on transport raised by Cllr Carr deferred until October meeting

20/045 Heritage Working Party

Cllr Brook referred councillors to the paper he had submitted on the archives website and the open days which the textile museum would unfortunately not be able to take part in.

20/046 Working Party on Public Transport Report – no further update

20/047 October Council Meeting Items:

- Public Transport support (Cllr Carr)

20/048 Dates of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Committee meeting – 29 September
- Full Council – 6 October

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN