

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 6 October 2020

Members Present: Cllrs: Carolyn Newton, Maggie Blanshard, Richard Brook, Stuart Merry, Polly Flinders, Will Simpson, Graham Turner, Mike Wood, Neil Denby, Kelvyn Waites, Alison Baskeyfield, Kevin Carr, Cynthia Naylor, Eddie Shaw, Neil Gemmell, Hayley Pink & Jeremy Patterson

20/049 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Denby welcomed Councillors to the meeting. He informed councillors that the Skelmanthorpe library was open now for a 'click and collect' service only, and that the Denby Dale library would, from October 5th, be open for 'safe borrowing' on Tuesdays and Fridays. He reminded councillors that articles for the next newsletter should be sent to the Clerk by a week on Friday. He also stated that as there was uncertainty around Remembrance Sunday arrangements, these would be made by email as things became clearer.

20/050 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

Cllrs Denby and Simpson declared interests in the Denby Dale First School grant application.

20/051 Open Session

A member of the public attended to speak on the Government white paper on planning.

Brought Forward item: 13.1 The White Paper on Planning

Ward Councillors Simpson and Turner briefed councillors on some of the main points of the Government's White Paper on Planning, including the removal of S106 payments, the lower number of affordable housing, 'permission in principle', abolition of Environmental Impact Assessments. Fewer applications to be put through to consultation and stricter timetables, review of local plans and the impact these would have in the parish and in general.

RESOLVED that Cllr Simpson would draft a response, to be approved by email, and sent on behalf of the parish council.

20/052 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Hellewell. Cllrs Cook and Slater were absent.

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

20/053 Admission of the Public

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

20/054 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

Full Council – 1 September

Plans Scrutiny Committee – 29 September

20/055 Ward Councillor's Report

Cllr Simpson gave a verbal report:

- Wildflower planting in Clayton West was complete, and work had now begun at Park Road
- The Denby Dale Centre had launched a Coronavirus Communications Group due to concern around the message getting out in the area, and to reinforce a consistent message.
- Denby Dale Christmas lights would be going ahead this year but without a launch event
- Due to anti-social behaviour at Cliffe Woods, a broken bollard would be repaired and replaced and keys kept by Kirklees, Cliffe Woods and Dave Wilde.

Cllr Turner gave a verbal report:

- Work was on-going with next year's budget, with a draft strategy being signed off. This had to be based on a lot of assumptions due to the lack of a national budget, however with good financial management over the years there was a high level of confidence on the council's finances. The impact would be likely felt more in the year after.
- The Corporate Plan had been refreshed, due to issues highlighted by Covid.

- The draft Economic Recovery Plan was in progress with the Council's role in re-building the local economy.
- Many small businesses (8,591) had been assisted by the Council through funding.
- A scheme had begun today to support those self-isolating which Cllr Turner would circulate details of.
- On the 21st September a Covid intervention week was set up to remind people of the rules and responsibilities.

RESOLVED that the reports be received

20/056 Report from Dave Wilde, Countryside Officer

The Countryside Officer gave a verbal report. The clerk would seek further guidance on working with volunteers under current restrictions.

RESOLVED that the report be received

20/057 Clerk's Report

No report was submitted

20/058 Finance Matters

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment no 766 be approved for payment, totalling £6420.24
- Budget Outturn: **RESOLVED** to accept the outturn to date.
- To Authorise Payment of Salaries: **RESOLVED** that the payment of Clerk's and Countryside Officer's salaries, WYPF and HMRC be authorised for October 2020.
- Small Grants extension: **RESOLVED** that applications would be accepted at any time over the financial year.
- Schools Grant Applications: (all awarded using Power of General Competence provided by Localism Act 2011)
 - **RESOLVED** to award Emley First School a grant of £1000 towards 'Imagination Station'.
 - **RESOLVED** to award Denby Dale First School a grant of £1000 towards IT equipment.

20/059 Skelmanthorpe Council Building

RESOLVED that no changes were necessary at this point to the Covid Risk Assessment and no access was needed by user groups.

20/060 Climate Emergency Working Group

Cllr Simpson spoke to the council around the groups Interim Report and requested agreement in principle on the proposal on Eco Schools.

RESOLVED that the council agreed in principle to the Climate Emergency Working Groups proposal to set up an Eco-Schools Grant Fund

20/061 Matters Raised by Councillors

- Pavement from the Sovereign – Cllr Naylor requested that this pavement be improved. Cllr Simpson agreed to report it to Kirklees officers, but stated that this may take time due to officers being re-assigned due to the pandemic.
- Litter bin at Skelmanthorpe Rec – **RESOLVED** that Cllr Simpson request that a trial move be made of an existing bin initially, subject to this the Clerk would then order a further bin.
- Replacement bins on Ponker lane – Cllr Simpson stated that unfortunately the response had not been positive and bins could not be provided at these locations.

20/062 Heritage Working Party

No update

20/063 Working Party on Public Transport Report – no further update

20/064 November Council Meeting Items: Christmas trees and Christmas lights

20/065 Dates of next meetings:

Plans Scrutiny Committee meeting – 27 October

Full Council meeting – 3 November

Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting – 17 November

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN