

Minutes of the Meeting of Denby Dale Parish Council held on Tuesday 7 December 2021

Members Present: Cllrs: Stuart Merry, Mike Wood, Cynthia Naylor, Neil Denby, Eddie Shaw, Hannah McKerchar, Polly Flinders, Richard Brook, Graham Turner

21/079 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed the Council to the meeting.

21/080 Declarations of interest/disclosable pecuniary interests

No Declarations of Interest were received.

21/081 Open Session

No members of the public wished to speak.

21/082 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs: Hellewell, Blanshard, Patterson, Simpson, Cook, Baskeyfield, Slater, Waites, Carr and Gemmell

RESOLVED that the reasons submitted be approved.

21/083 Admission of the Public

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

21/084 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved:

- Full Council Minutes – 2 November
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 16 November
- Plans Scrutiny Committee – 30 November (*to be tabled*)

21/085 Ward Councillor's Report

Cllr Simpson was absent so no report was presented

21/086 Report from Dave Wilde, Countryside Officer

The Countryside Officer submitted a written report.

- He noted that Kirklees Council had agreed to the merging of allotment plots at Churchfields to extend the community plot, and that this didn't need any change to the lease agreement.
- Tree safety work had taken place on Churchfields, with no major works needed
- He hoped to receive his newt handling licence shortly
- All schools in the area were now registered for Eco-Schools, with 4 having taken up the parish councils fund for assistance.
- A meeting had been held with councillors from Kirkburton PC who were interested in a similar Countryside Project.
- **RESOLVED** to purchase electric bike from the Climate Emergency Fund, approx. cost £950

RESOLVED that the report be received.

21/087 Clerk's Report/Delegated Decisions

RESOLVED that Cllr Polly Flinders, with Cllr Hannah McKerchar, would provide fire alarm testing for the building once a month, for the newly installed Fire Alarm system which had been completed today. The Clerk also noted the works being undertaken on the door mechanism, and works to be done to the inner door and library door to lower the key mechanism which will comply with Kirklees health and safety regulations coming in and avoid future damage to the doors being improperly used.

21/088 Vacancy in the Emley Ward: RESOLVED that David Pearson be co-opted as a councillor in the Emley Ward, and would join the Plans Scrutiny Committee.

21/089 Finance Matters

- Orders for Payment: **RESOLVED** that the orders for payment no 796 be approved for payment, totalling £3280.88
- To Authorise Payment of Salaries: **RESOLVED** that the payment of Clerk's and Countryside Officer's salaries, WYPF and HMRC be authorised for December 2021.
- Budget 2022-23: Cllr Brook referred to the detailed discussions around the budget and individual budget headings with the aim to reduce the level of reserves, held by the Finance committee. **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the Budget for next Financial Year of **£204,600** as recommended by the Finance & General Purposes Committee
- Precept: it was noted that the Council Tax Base was usually received over the Christmas period and that the F&GP would then calculate options for the precept in January to be finalised at the February Full Council meeting.

21/090 Skelmanthorpe Building

- Flag Raising: **RESOLVED**. That the flag be raised by Cllr McKerchar on the following dates:

21 April (Birthday of HM the Queen)

23 April (St Georges Day)

2 June (Coronation – next year only)

12 June (HM official birthday)

11-14 November (Remembrance Day)

And in the event of the death of the Queen or Prince of Wales

Councillors thanked Cllr McKerchar for volunteering.

- Covid Risk Assessment for the Building – the Clerk stated that due to the current position, the risk assessment would remain on each agenda in order to respond to any changes in Government guidance or legislation.

RESOLVED that masks should now be worn by Councillors in meetings

RESOLVED that the Clerk order extra masks

RESOLVED that the risk assessment now include mask wearing for everyone in the building, with the exception of the Clerk and Countryside Officer whilst working in their offices.

21/091 Climate Emergency Working Group

Cllr Denby referred to the minutes of the working group and stated that they hoped to arrange a spring conference at the end of March. A newsletter would be provided to households, and a questionnaire for local businesses would be circulated. Cllr Brook reminded councillors that extra funding streams were to be sourced as agreed by the Countryside Officer for the group.

21/092 Matters Raised by Councillors

- **RESOLVED** that the clerk investigate placement of a bin at Carr Hill Road, Upper Cumberworth

21/093 Heritage Working Party

Cllr Brook stated that a new section on Naylor's Pipeworks had been added to the updated archive website. Heritage books removed from the libraries had also been replaced. After a difficult time, the Skelmanthorpe Textile Heritage Centre had a successful visit from 32 St Aidan's pupils.

21/094 Heritage and Tourism Report Development

Cllr Brook stated he had spoken to Cllr Simpson who had advised that the consultation was taking place in the new year, when the parish council could take part.

21/095 Working Party on Public Transport Report

Cllr Shaw stated that buses through Emley were now running back to normal after the works done.

21/096 December Council Meeting Items:

21/097 Dates of next meetings:

- Plans Scrutiny Committee Meeting – 21 December
- Full Council – 4 January
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 18 January

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN