



# DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL Newsletter



Issue No. 62 Summer 2022

[www.denbydale.com](http://www.denbydale.com)

## CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION



I was honoured to be elected Chair of Denby Dale Parish Council in May. We think of ourselves as a good community-based council doing a huge variety of things to support our villages and communities.

The Skelmanthorpe council building is the central hub for the Council. It is not just where we meet and the base for our two vital members of staff, Carole Wadsworth our Clerk and Dave Wilde our Countryside Officer, it also hosts Skelmanthorpe Library, our local history archives and meeting rooms for community groups.

The real work of Council is in the community. We want to boost local tourism by promoting local attractions, business, and the many mapped walks we have around the area. We also give feedback to local public transport providers to encourage better services.

We work with every school in the Parish offering grants and support for extra-curricular and environmental activities and equipment. Our Countryside Officer promotes Eco-schools and Green Flag projects. Our

Countryside Project supports wildlife and bio-diversity work in places such as Churchfield in Denby Dale.

We have always offered grant support for local sports clubs, most recently assisting Emley Football Club in upgrading its disabled access facilities. We also fund hugely important community places like Denby Dale Pie Hall. We are also focused on the future. Our active Climate Emergency Working Group works to raise awareness about critically important environmental issues and steps that individuals can take to help.

I went to school in this area, as did my children. I feel very fortunate to live here. This is an area to be proud of and I look forward to my year as Chair doing all I can to support our villages and communities. - *Cllr Kevin Carr*



The Citizens Advice Service is back! From July, Citizens Advice Service Office will be open again on a fortnightly basis on Friday mornings in the Skelmanthorpe Council Building. Check

Parish Council noticeboards and our website: [www.denbydale.com](http://www.denbydale.com) for further details.

## Denby Dale & District Men's Shed

Now that things have become a bit more like life pre-pandemic Denby Dale District's very own men's shed is back fully operating and is looking for new members, and also session leaders with craft, creative or facilitation talents.

For those not familiar with the concept of a men's shed, it's a space where men go to make and mend things and learn the required skills in the uncompetitive and inclusive company of other men. The members are also involved in helping and making items for local community groups and charities, as well as making items for sale at local craft fairs etc. Group tasks are designed wherever possible to include all levels of skill (or lack of it!) so that all can participate.

The shed is a registered charity with a small group of trustees and a management group who deal with day to day running. The shed is situated in Scissett and is USUALLY open 4 days a week between 10am and 4pm.

There is a variety of equipment in the shed, allowing many and varied projects to be carried out, from woodworking to hot metal work which accommodates practical and creative crafts.

If you think this might be for you then please pop in and have a look round and a brew, you will be made very welcome.



## DDPC Accounts Summary 2021-22

(Full unaudited accounts available via website or Clerk.)

Operating Income	£
Administration	151,296
Heritage	113
Allotments	594
Council Building	983
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>152,986</b>
Running Costs	
Administration	83,048
Civic	100
Grants	69,542
Events	6,380
Heritage	352
Allotments	275
Council Building	31,084
Countryside Project	13,991
Churchfield OS	1,440
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>206,211</b>
General Fund Analysis	
Opening Balance	347,608
Plus Income for year	152,986
	<b>500,594</b>
Less Exp for year	206,211
	<b>294,383</b>
+/- from Reserves	20,398
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>273,985</b>

## PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS

The Council has two main grants available: Small Grants and Community Grants. Both grant types can be applied for at any time of the year.

**The Small Grants scheme** is for amounts up to £1,000 and is open to community groups. Last year the Council awarded grants to organisations such as:

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Upper Dearne Valley Navigators for 'Youth Video' equipment
- The Fourth Pennine East Emley Brownies for an adventure trip away
- Denby Dale & District Men's Shed Association for equipment for metalwork and woodwork.

**Community Grants** are awarded for larger projects and expenditure, often for capital works which benefit the wider community. For example, recent awards have been made to:

- The Denby Dale Pie Hall & Community Centre, towards improvements at a total of £10,000
- Bromley Park Residents Association towards a new lawnmower for £2,000.

Please contact the Clerk on [clerk@denbydale.com](mailto:clerk@denbydale.com) or on mobile: 07947 355930 for more details or check the website: <https://denbydale.com/grant-schemes/> for application forms and guidance for completion.

**School Grants** run throughout the year too, and local schools have applied for funds for varied projects, including recent Jubilee events for their students



## Summer Reading Challenge launched 9<sup>th</sup> July 2022!

*Get ready for Gadgeteers, arriving online and in your local library this summer.*

What do you love doing? Are you a brilliant baker? Or a mega music fan? Are you the tech wizard amongst your friends? Join the Gadgeteers for the Summer Reading Challenge to discover the amazing science and innovation behind the world around you, including some of your favourite things! Gadgeteers will feature amazing books, awesome rewards, and plenty of ideas for cool experiments and activities to discover the science all around you.



### Access the Challenge at your library

To take part just drop in to your local library and let us know that you would like to join the Summer Reading Challenge. We will get you signed up for Gadgeteers, and you will receive a Gadgeteers collector poster and stickers. We will help you find books to borrow and provide you with fun reading activities to get you started! Join in the fun online at <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

Are you excited to join the #Gadgeteers this summer? The Challenge will be brought to life by top children's writer and illustrator Julian Beresford.

**Keep in touch** - [www.kirkleeslibraries.co.uk](http://www.kirkleeslibraries.co.uk) Tel: 01484 414868 or you can stay up to date using our social media channels: [Facebook@kirkleeslibraries](https://www.facebook.com/kirkleeslibraries) [Twitter@KirkleesLibrary](https://twitter.com/KirkleesLibrary) [Instagram/kirkleeslibraries](https://www.instagram.com/kirkleeslibraries)

## Countryside News, June 2022

A Friends of Wither Wood group has formed to support the Woodland Trust in managing the wood, as do groups at East Hill and Cliffe Woods, in support of Kirklees. For example, Cliffe Woods Conservation Group and East Hill have installed additional picnic benches and a bat box with the help of Duke of Edinburgh students. The Upper Dearne Woods group also hosted Cumberworth First School for their geography trip.

All schools benefit from the Parish's Eco-Schools support programme and many attended a recent 'Aspiring Eco-Schools' event, kindly hosted by St Aidan's CoFE Academy and linked to the Kirklees Climate Commission Youth Panel. School support is a major element of the parish's Climate Emergency Working Group, who seek to engage businesses (e.g. through Plastic Free July) and hope to run a community conference to coincide with COP 27.

Churchfield community allotment is continuing to thrive and is indeed expanding, to hopefully accommodate more volunteers. The project has helped those involved through difficult recent times, as has growing on individual's plots and the wider work/events that have been undertaken by the Friends of Churchfield, e.g. installation of a new bench and a bat walk. Tree dressing in December also brightened up the winter months and on September the 4<sup>th</sup> it is hoped to run a community picnic with music and an opportunity to view the community allotment.

Denby Dale Parish Environment Trust are welcoming grant applications: <http://ddpet.co.uk/projects/grants/> and Clayton West Millennium Green would welcome new volunteers/trustees, so if interested, contact Vicki on 01484 864293. Also around Clayton West, the 'Rewilding the Dearne' project continues apace in partnership with Friends of the Dearne, the River Stewardship Company, Don Catchment Rivers Trust and Yorkshire Water. Elsewhere the 10 Villages Conservation Group have helped maintain Skelmanthorpe Orchard, Rec, Park Gate and newt ponds.

The Countryside Project has also resumed work with the Scissett Litter Pickers and made presentations to Kirkburton Probus, Denby Dale Rotary Club and planted a jubilee tree with their Inner Wheel. It also continues to the link into the wider Dearne Valley Green Heart Nature Improvement Area via the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.

David Wilde, Countryside Officer

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