



**ANNUAL REPORT
OF
DENBY DALE PARISH
COUNCIL**

2016 - 2017

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CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW



There have been a lot of things happening in the area over the last twelve months in the Denby Dale Parish, especially along the lines of volunteering. Cliffe Woods at Clayton West has been given a new lease of life with hedges cut back, land re-claimed, new footpaths, new seating etc... all being done by volunteers. At Churchfields in Denby Dale, the new allotments and open space have mostly been worked on by volunteers, supported by the parish council's Countryside Officer, Dave Wilde. The New Community Building in Denby Dale, where people can have a coffee or tea, read, surf the internet or shop once again volunteers have played a great part. The Millennium Green in Clayton West has been well organised with flowers and seating etc... and is ideal for picnics and nature walks.

Once again the work put into this project has been done by volunteers. I could go on about Emley Village Green, and Denby where volunteers have planted areas and tidied up and litter-picked to keep their communities looking attractive.

With all the cut backs we are having especially on infrastructure, we have not sat back and moaned too much about it. The people who live in the villages of Denby Dale parish have volunteered to form working parties to create these spaces so people can enjoy these outdoor amenities.

I have enjoyed my time as Chairman whilst these activities have gone on and have enjoyed getting my hands dirty and working with the people of the parish on some of these projects and would like to say a big thankyou to everyone involved, this includes our parish councillors who are volunteers too!

My concerns for the future is for the schools in our ward. We must look after our schools, we have a good education system in this area and I would like to think we could work together to keep up this high standard.

As well as supporting the young people involved in the parish, I would like to think we could help the old people of the parish as well, with support on different activities, we are currently supporting some of these through letting space at our community building.



Cllr Jewitt and Allison Jewitt at the opening of the Denby Dale Community Centre with the Mayor Cllr Jim Dodds and his wife.

Cllr B Jewitt
Chairman, Denby Dale Parish Council 2016 –2017

May 2017

Plans Scrutiny Committee

There has been a meeting every month and the Council discusses approximately fifteen applications at each meeting.

There have been many meetings attended by members of the public who have had the opportunity at the beginning of each meeting to give their views about the applications.

The Committee does its best to consider the views of the public when making decisions and input from local residents is very much appreciated.

All planning applications and decisions are available for the public to view on Kirklees Council's website.

Finance & General Purposes Committee

The F&G Committee met quarterly throughout the year to monitor expenditure against the Council budget.

The Committee is responsible for routine and administrative matters of the Parish Council, in particular setting and monitoring of the budget and expenditure.

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETINGS MAY 2016 TO APRIL 2017

MAY 2016

The Annual Council Meeting was held on 3 May 2016 and Cllr Billy Jewitt was elected as Chairman of the Council with Cllr Janet Depledge as Vice Chairman.



Out-going Chairman Cllr John Cook and new Chairman Cllr Billy Jewitt

Members were appointed to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the Plans Scrutiny Committee, the Staffing Committee, the Appeals Committee, the Working Party on Public Transport, the Business Plan Sub Group, and the Heritage Working Group and as representatives to a number of other outside organisations.

The Council awarded a grant of £840 to the Denby Dale Rotary Club towards the cost of a defibrillator at the Savoy Squash Club in Skelmanthorpe.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

JUNE 2016

The Council appointed Dave Wilde to the post of Countryside Officer for Denby Dale Parish Council. It was reported to Full Council that the Lease Agreement for Churchfields site had been signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman and witnessed by the Clerk.



Dave Wilde, Countryside Officer

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee awarded a grant of £500 to Scissett CE First School towards the cost of a musician/dance teacher.

JULY 2016

The Ward Councillor reported on the upcoming Museum Consultation. The Heritage Working Party reported that ownership of the Textile and Heritage Centre in Skelmanthorpe had now transferred to the Friends of the Textile and Heritage Centre. A grant of £500 was awarded to Kayes First and Nursery School towards the cost of playground markings.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

AUGUST 2016

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications. (No full council meetings are held in August)

SEPTEMBER 2016

The Ward Councillor reported the need for volunteers to work alongside staff to deliver the new library service. Cllr Mike Wood was co-opted on to the Council, with a further vacancy in the Denby Dale & Cumberworth Ward reported. An Open Day for the Council Building in Skelmanthorpe was announced.



The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

OCTOBER 2016

A presentation was received from Insp. Mark Trueman and PS Marsland on events being held and how to report crime.

Arrangements for the laying of wreaths on Remembrance Day were agreed. Grants were awarded to Scissett Middle School, Birdsedge First School and The Friends of Skelmanthorpe Textile Heritage Centre. A report was received from a councillor from the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary public meeting. Councillor Neil Gemmell was co-opted onto the Council.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

NOVEMBER 2016

A Ward Councillor report was received including decisions following the Museum Consultation. A grant was awarded to Denby Cricket Club towards renovations. The Local Plan was discussed. The Scissett Baths Ransom Strip was also discussed by councillors.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications and the Finance & General Purposes

Committee met to decide on the small grants allocation for the year totalling £2,501.82, which included grants to The Friends of Skelmanthorpe Library for arts and crafts materials, Emley Brass Band for concert music stands, and the Scissett Youth Amateur Swimming Club for volunteer uniforms. A draft budget was also presented and discussed for recommendation to the Full Council.

DECEMBER 2016

The Ward Councillor's report informed councilors about the OFSTED report on Children's Services at Kirklees.

The Local Plan was discussed. Councilors received a presentation from Andy Ryland of Rural Action Yorkshire on the Men's Sheds Initiative. The draft budget recommended by the Finance Committee was adopted.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

JANUARY 2017

The Ward Councillor reported on the Government Settlement, and the impact on Kirklees Council services. It was reported that the keys had been handed over now to the trustees of the Denby Dale Community Building and it was agreed that a paid member of staff would be assisted by volunteers in the library there.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee awarded a grant of £5,000 to The Denby Dale Centre towards the cost of a minibus and recommended to Full Council that the figure of £233,746 be raised via the precept.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

FEBRUARY 2017

The Chairman informed councilors of the sad passing of ex-Councillor Allan Hinde King. The Ward Councillor reported on further proposed cuts to the library service. St Aidan's First School was awarded £500 towards outdoor play equipment. Work was on-going to update the archives website with farming photographs by the Heritage Working Group. It was reported that the Denby Dale Community Project had held a very successful open day.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

MARCH 2017

Feedback was received from the Sovereign Liaison Committee. An update on the proposed work by Arqiva on the mast was received. A grant of £600 was awarded to the Clayton West Bowling Club.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee awarded grants to Cumberworth CE First school and The Friends of Churchfield Group. Council policies were reviewed and the budget was reviewed in light of increased costs with a recommended budget of £215,682 to be submitted to Full Council.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

APRIL 2017

The Woodland Charter Trust was discussed. Grants of £500 were awarded to both the Joseph Norton Academy and Kayes First and Nursery School. The budget for next financial year was revised to £215,682. A revision on banking arrangements were discussed.

The Plans Scrutiny Committee discussed planning applications.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 2016-2017

- The Parish Council precepted the sum of £219,359
- The Parish Council has now employed a full-time Countryside Officer.
- £3,000 was allocated to the Environment Trust for the environmental small grant scheme.
- The Parish Council has also supported, by grant aid, the Primary, Nursery, Special and Middle Schools within the Parish.
- A donation was also made to the Royal British Legion.

Unaudited Balance Sheet**BALANCE SHEET 2016/2017**

	£
Receipts	252,159.68
Payments	<u>163,020.56</u>
Opening Balance 1.4.16	<u>306,979.67</u>
Balance as at 31.3.17	<u>396,118.79</u>
Represented by	
Earmarked grants	8,450.09
Election Fund	5,000.00
General Reserves	20,000.00
Reserves for Future Projects	<u>362,668.70</u>
	<u>396,118.79</u>

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 2016/2017

DENBY DALE PARISH COUNCIL 2016-17

2015/2016	PAYMENTS	2016/2017
£		£
1,573.00	Subscriptions	1,606.00
493.40	Councillor Training	0.00
58.05	Councillor Travel	200.60
0.00	Clerk Training	76.60
0.00	Conference fees	239.80
1,780.00	Newsletter	2,286.00
727.50	Websites	1,182.50
5,491.42	School Project	3,345.00
3,763.68	Small Grants	2,970.97
25,000.00	Countryside Project	3,093.49
3,000.00	Environment Trust	3,000.00
10,240.62	Community Grants	5,118.91
22,000.00	Community Grant Aid	0.00
1,800.00	Christmas Trees	900.00
200.00	Wreaths	200.00
5,280.00	Floral Displays	5,280.00
1,962.30	Dog Bags/dispensers	2,607.50
842.42	Insurance	2,041.23
2,981.48	Administration Costs	6,095.63
21,711.30	Employment, Training and Associated Costs	40,610.41
930.00	Audit Fees	930.00
0.00	Heritage Working Party	1,375.00
70.00	Civic Do Payments	70.00
524.00	Litter Bins	1,420.00
3,019.89	VAT	14,390.33
0.00	Emley Show	200.00
550.00	Allotments	14,780.21
2,141.04	Election Expenses	0.00
950.00	Skelmanthorpe Library Building	48,563.71
0.00	Unpaid items	30.00
0.00	Noticeboards	406.67
117,090.10		163,020.56
	9,695.15 Current Account	19,473.37
	3,031.52 Deposit Account	3,033.42
	294,203.00 Kirklees Investment	373,562.00
	50.00 Petty Cash Float	50.00
306,979.67		396,118.79
424,069.77		559,139.35

2015/2016	RECEIPTS	2016/2017
171,560.00	Precept	201,749.00
17,610.00	Council Tax Reduction Grant	17,610.00
862.20	Bank Interest Received	816.56
134.00	Heritage Working Party Receipts	130.00
3,052.35	Repayment of VAT	9,640.87
0.00	Allotment Income	1,553.75
0.00	Building Income	859.50
0.00	New Homes Bonus Grant	19,800.00
<u>193,218.55</u>		<u>252,159.68</u>
17,738.61	Current Account	9,695.15
3,029.61	Deposit Account	3,031.52
210,033.00	Kirklees Investment	294,203.00
50.00	Petty Cash Balance	50.00
<u>230,851.22</u>		<u>306,979.67</u>
<u>424,069.77</u>		<u>559,139.35</u>