

# Denby Parish Community Action Group

The Combined Community Association of Denby, Birdsedge and High Flatts

## Minutes of the Steering Committee

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at 19:30

At The Friends Meeting House High Flatts

### Opening:

The meeting of the Denby Parish Community Action Group was called to order at 19:30 on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2008 in Friends Meeting House High Flatts by the Chairman, David Cook.

### Present:

David Cook [Chair], Sue Daws, David Smith, Peter Crosland.

#### A. Apologies

Alan Fish, Jane Fish, John Cook, Andy Brown, Joe Price.

#### B. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous steering committee meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2008 were unanimously approved.

#### C. Matters Arising

##### 1. Denby Delf

Still no activity on the Delf by Garganey Trust. It was pointed out that local volunteers had removed all ragwort from the fields last year (it is an offence to grow ragwort) but it could regrow this year. We need to wait another month to see if the ragwort does regrow and then contact the Treasury Solicitor again. We need to involve a lot of people, and be tenacious. Has Garganey Trust applied for any money? Probably will not do any work until they get funding; meanwhile the Delf suffers more neglect.

##### 2. Area Committee

It was pointed out that, before each public meeting, the Area Committee holds a planning meeting which is not open to the public, does not involve all members of the committee. The purpose of the planning meeting is to agree the agenda for the public meeting and ensure it contains mostly non-controversial items.

##### 3. Tree Preservation Orders

Peter Crosland pointed out that there are no TPOs at all in Upper Denby, but there should be as there are a number of very old mature trees. Three major ash trees, in excess of 200 years old, have been felled in the last 20 years to the detriment of the village. Can we apply for some orders in respect of trees in the area? All the trees in Quaker Bottom, High Flatts, have TPOs regardless of age.

**Action:** Sue to write to Jim McDonald at the Planning Department KMC explaining that at present we have a "conservation area" in name only, and in order to preserve the unique character of the village we would like to apply for orders on some trees, e.g. the sycamore in Bank Lane. Peter agreed to be the contact on this matter.

##### 4. Community Plan

The next draft is being produced. At a planning meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May between Sue Daws, Hannah Hunt and Keith Melbourne, Keith reported that KMC may be able to produce the questionnaire and analysis for us.

##### 5. Local Apathy

How can we generate more local support? The Local Government Act says local involvement is to be encouraged. Perhaps we can contact the prospective candidate for

the next election in Dewsbury (we shall suffer a boundary change at the next election and will move from Wakefield to Dewsbury) to see if he is sympathetic to our cause.

**E. Any Other Business**

None.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 21:30 by the Chairman. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at 19:30 in the Friends Meeting House High Flatts.

Minutes submitted by: Sue Daws [Secretary]  
Approved by: David Cook [Chairman]