

Denby Parish Community Action Group

The Combined Community Association of Denby, Birdsedge and High Flatts

Minutes of the Steering Committee

Tuesday 24th June 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 24th June 2008 in Friends Meeting House High Flatts by the Chairman, David Cook.

Present:

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

A. Apologies

Hannah Hunt, Alan Fish, Jane Fish, , Andy Brown, Joe Price, John Perry.

B. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous steering committee meeting on 26th May 2008 were unanimously approved.

C. Matters Arising

1. Denby Delf

The Charities Commission website still states that Garganey Trust's area of operation is South Yorkshire; has a legal change to the status actually been made? The Ragwort is now flowering on the roadside and will be flowering on the Delf in a couple of weeks. Do we have the right to go onto the land and deal with the ragwort? What is the law regarding allowing Ragwort to grow on your land? How do we move things forward: keep reminding the Trust that they promised to involve local people?; encourage our local MP?; report them for the ragwort situation?; get a team together, plus local newspapers and photographers, and perform a mass trespass to pull the ragwort?; contact Charities Commission regarding Garganey Trust's legal status?

2. Area Committee

There is a vacancy among the co-opted membership of the committee. Should we propose a candidate?

3. Tree Preservation Orders

Peter Crosland rang the Woodland Management Officer at KMC but all calls went to voicemail and he received no returned call. The feeling of residents of Upper Denby is that, should the large sycamores be felled, it would destroy the village scene. The new rules (British Standard) regarding tree inspections may actually encourage people to fell trees ahead of the implementation of the rules to prevent having to pay for the inspections.

Action: Sue to write to Jim McDonald at the Planning Department KMC. Upper Denby requires a survey of trees and TPOs applied to those trees deemed to require them by the survey.

4. Sycamore at Quaker Bottom

One of the twin trunks of the tree overhanging the Friends Meeting House is rotten and dangerous but KMC will not allow it to be felled.

Action: John Cook to pursue with KMC.

5. Community Plan

Yorkshire Rural Community Council have some questionnaire software and are willing to do the work for us if we pay them. We can apply for more funding to cover

the cost. The money available is Lottery money and in order to apply we have to have a constitution, and the money has to be used within one month of receipt. We may need to consult solicitors to get a constitution sorted out.

Action: John Cook to give relevant application documentation to Andy Brown and research the appropriate format for the constitution with Tom O'Donovan (YRCC).

6. Jordan Bridge

A decision has now been made by KMC to build the Clapper Bridge. PROW have said they cannot do this so the work has reverted to Design and Construction. It was felt that the handrails proposed looked too modern and utilitarian and a 21st century design does not sit well; can we get the design of the handrails changed?

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 29th July 2008 at 19:30 in the Friends Meeting House High Flatts.

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