

Denby Parish Community Action Group

The Combined Community Association of Denby, Birdsedge and High Flatts

Minutes of the Steering Committee

Tuesday 29th July 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 29th July 2008 in Friends Meeting House High Flatts by the Chairman, David Cook.

Present:

David Cook [Chair], Sue Daws, John Cook, John & Julia Beaumont, Andy Brown, Walter Crossley, Hannah Hunt, David Smith, Paul Clarke, Alison Tribe.

A. Apologies

Alan Fish, Jane Fish.

B. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous steering committee meeting on 24th June 2008 were unanimously approved.

C. Matters Arising

1. Denby Delf

The ragwort is now flowering and needs removing within the next 10 days; it also requires disposing of as hazardous waste. Paul Clarke contacted the Charities Commission regarding Garganey Trust's status in West Yorkshire and received a reply which still does not make their legal status clear.

Action: Paul Clarke to phone the Charities Commission to get a more definitive answer. John Cook to co-ordinate the ragwort pulling.

2. Area Committee

Still needs a co-optee.

3. Tree Preservation Orders

Jim MacDonald has agreed to conduct a tree survey "when next in the area".

Action: John Cook to follow this up with KMC.

4. Sycamore at Quaker Bottom

Jim MacDonald has now agreed that the dangerous sycamore can be felled despite the Tree Preservation Order. The house in whose garden the sycamore is growing is now up for sale so there may be a delay in getting the work done.

5. Jordan Bridge

Work started on 21st July, and the stones (one of which was kindly donated by Marshalls) are now in place. The handrail design by KMC was too utilitarian and modern, so Tim Pearson of High Flatts has designed a more appropriate wrought iron handrail and the finance for the handrails will come out of the Ward Councillors discretionary budget; temporary handrails will be put in place until the wrought iron ones are ready. The weir is now being built.

6. Community Plan

In order to apply for additional funding, it is clear that we need a constitution. The Charity Commission proforma may be appropriate.

E. Any Other Business

1. Parish Council Review

John Cook reported that the review is finally underway. Under the Local Government and Health Act, Kirklees will now perform a review of all five town and parish councils. A project team has been set up to drive it forward, looking at how to implement the review and this team will, by 29th August, deliver recommendations of how to proceed. The next stage will be a consultation with the public through local groups, followed by the review proper. The review needs to be completed and recommendations made to cabinet before a final decision can be made by the end of April 2009. The initial project team will include members from the parish and town councils as well as people from KMC governance, and will only report on *how* the review will be conducted. Alison Tribe reassured the group that Denby Dale Parish Council has no opinion one way or another on the outcome of the review and in fact welcomes it.

2. Area Committee Volunteer Day

Members of the group were awarded certificates of appreciation in recognition of their voluntary activity within the local community.

3. Planning Matters

John Cook briefly listed local planning applications. G. Fisher of Dale View Farm has applied for planning permission for the erection of a stable block and tack room. Consultation closes on 18th August.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 20:50 by the Chairman. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th August 2008 at 19:30 in the Friends Meeting House High Flatts.

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