

# Denby Parish Community Action Group

The Combined Community Association of Denby, Birdsedge and High Flatts

## Minutes of the Steering Committee

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2009 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 Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2009 in Friends Meeting House High Flatts by the Chairman, David Cook.

### Present:

David Cook [Chair], John Cook, Sue Daws, David Smith.

#### A. Apologies

Paul Clarke, Andy Brown

#### B. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous steering committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009 were unanimously approved.

#### C. Matters Arising

##### 1. Awards For All

We are going to return the £10,000 to Awards For All, just awaiting Andy drawing up the cheque. There is also £3,564 to be returned to Rural Action Yorkshire. We have spent some of the award on renting meeting places (Upper Denby School for two public meetings, Birdsedge and Upper Denby for open days, as well as the steering group meetings in the Friends Meeting House. The money needs to be sent to York by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Amy Robinson is the contact at RAY.

**Action:** John Cook to arrange cheque; Sue Daws to email Sally Teasdale, as per action from last meeting.

##### 2. Area Committee

Congratulations to John Cook who is the new chair of the Area Committee.

**Action:** Sue Daws to email John Cook, copy Julie McDowell, to stress the importance of involving the community fully in its work; the meetings should be completely open to the public to ensure all matters of note are tabled on the agenda. As per action from last meeting.

##### 3. Telephone boxes

The Upper Denby box is of the old red enclosed box type, and so there is a movement to keep it, but the local authority has to adopt it and maintain it. As Upper Denby is partly in the Conservation Area this is appropriate.

**Action:** David Cook to contact BT to get them to leave the Upper Denby box in place.

##### 4. Denby Delf

Jim Dodds, John Cook, David Cook and Neil Windett met on 30<sup>th</sup> April at Denby Delf and inspected the site. Neil had, the previous week, sent a letter to the Treasury Solicitor. A local farmer had been using the Right of Way legitimately but a resident of Upper Denby had complained about the churning of part of the ground. Garganey Trust chained and padlocked the gate, but the farmer removed the chain by taking the top off the gate post. On Bank Holiday Monday (24<sup>th</sup> May), David Knight of the Garganey Trust came to talk to the farmer trying to get him to relinquish his ancient Right of Way and replace it with a new one with the Garganey Trust (which could

then be rescinded by GT as they chose). Garganey Trust people were also seen using the land for a picnic, with tables and deck chairs.

**5. Firth Lane Sign**

The consultation process is ongoing; however the letter sent by Kirklees Council to residents of Firth Lane was worded in such a way as to ensure that they opted to leave the name as Quaker Bottom, by telling them that they would have to contact everyone they knew, including banks and financial institutions, in order to change their address details.

**6. Public Rights of Way (PRoW)**

Richard Peace, a concerned citizen, has asked John Cook in his capacity as ward councillor to look into the blockage of a right of way at Denby Hall Farm.

**7. Planning**

In addition to the potential violations noted at the last meeting, there is also an “illegal farm” near Broomfield; it is believed the owner of the land with huts on skids, etc., lives near Inkerman. Also, the course of a wall was altered taking some of the bridleway that runs along it.

**8. Bank Lane**

Change of use has been applied for to change field to a garden at the end of the field (end of Greenfield Close). David Cook has contacted PRoW about this already, and is still investigating.

**9. Seat on Falledge Lane**

On Tuesday, John Cook received a complaint from a member of the public about the siting of the seat.

**10. Local Development Framework**

The Conservative Group is preparing their own option in response to the LDF. John Cook wants affordable housing and wants to have a questionnaire distributed in each village. The Conservative line is that they will not release *any* greenbelt land for development. Why not wait until 2020 to see if we need to take greenbelt before we zone it for housing, as zoning is difficult to undo.

**11. Pog Hall Farm**

The first planning application was refused on roof pitch grounds, so the new application changed this by **2degrees!**

**12. Walkers Are Welcome**

The six conditions required for Walkers are Welcome status could be met by us, with the exception of the public transport aspect which is very difficult for us to control on our own.

**E. Any Other Business**

None.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 21:00 by the Chairman. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at 19:30 in the Friends Meeting House High Flatts.

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