

## Denby Village Conservation Group

### Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2017 at 11 am in the George Inn

#### In Attendance

Ken Bellamy (Chair), Dean Wyatt, Christine Figg, Jane Raistrick, David Raistrick, Martin Watts, Lynn Watts, Vera Bell, Brian Inman, June Cook, Paul Clarke, David Cook, Dave Wilde, Stephanie Hunter, Anne Middleton, Paul Jaworski, John Cook, Neil Howard, George Parsisson, Chris Ruddleskin, John Wiltshire, Jeff Lunn and Diane Brown (Secretary.)

#### Agenda

##### **65.17 Apologies**

Were received from Shelagh Uden, Joan Inman, Joyce Jones and Jan Howard.

##### **66.17 Minutes from the last Meeting and Matters Arising.**

It was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July were an accurate record of the matters discussed.

##### **67.17 Denby Delf**

Jeff Lunn Chairman of the Garganey Trust was welcomed to the meeting by the Chair. Jeff outlined the history of the trust; it was set up in 1999 to protect sites in the area which are of environmental value. Denby Delf is a real gem as it has rare species of plants, butterflies and birds. Currently there are kestrels nesting and there were owls which were thought to have been disturbed as the nest was abandoned. It is felt that people are not aware of the importance of the site and need educating. This could take the shape of notice boards to inform people of what is currently happening on the site so that they can take the necessary care. One of the current problems is the use of the Delf by commercial dog walkers. They are off lead and scare the birds, in the nesting season all dogs should be on a lead. Jeff said that the trust would be pleased to work in partnership with our group. This was received positively and it was agreed that there should be a sub group set up to work with the trust. This group would include Ken, Martin, Lynn and John C.

It was also agreed that there should be another guided tour hopefully in September. Ken will liaise with members for a meeting of the Denby Delf sub group.

Dave Wilde added that the school had recently been awarded the Bronze Eco Award and part of their success was due to the children being able to use Denby Delf as an educational resource. Thanks to Dave too for bringing some bedding plants for our communal planters.

##### **68.17 Denby Dash**

We are now weeks away from the Denby Dash. Anne updated the meeting and we currently have 43 on line entries which is more than last year. The event has been promoted to 15 local clubs and is now a championship race. The event has been widely publicised on Facebook, Twitter and the Huddersfield Examiner stated recently that it was a must do race of Yorkshire! It will be in the August edition of the parish magazine and all school children got a flyer in their bag before the summer term broke up. Registration will start at 9.30 in the George; refreshments will be available from this time. Dean has booked a band to play and there will be traditional games which have been organised by Vera and Dean.

We need cool boxes and ice packs to store ice-cream which has been donated by Yummy Yorkshire. Those who volunteered their cool boxes and ice packs please bring to them to the George a week before the event and put name stickers on so that can be returned to you.

We need more volunteers we are still short of Marshalls so if you could all press gang neighbours, relatives and friends and let Anne know their details. We will need flapjack baking and cakes too for the cake stall.

### **69.17 Denby Village History Board**

David updated the meeting we now have an improved conservation area boundary map, it is sharper and clearer now thanks to Helen for that. James Hodgson the local landscaper contractor gave David the names of two suppliers who he thought would assist us with the paving and a bench for the Green. They have not replied and we will have to wait till James returns from holiday to pursue. If we do get sponsorship then we will need to acknowledge their contribution so this will hold up the printing of the boards. David passed round a revised plan of how the Village Green will look once the History Board, paving and new bench are sited which was agreed.

Under AOB David said that we would need a revised quote from James to reflect the changes in the plan.

### **70.17 Planning Applications**

David updated the meeting, the ménage on Bank Lane has not yet been approved, and the planning applications on Greenfield Close and South Croft have been approved. There is no decision as yet on the extensions to 7 Gunthwaite Lane, the Parish Council has objected to this development due to its overbearing nature, the loss of privacy and adverse effect on the amenity enjoyed by neighbouring properties, together with concerns over the inappropriate selection of external materials. It is understood that there have been a number of similar objections submitted by local residents.

David has asked for more information regarding the approval of the South Croft application and there is a general concern that there is too much development being allowed in the village which adversely affects neighbouring properties.

### **71.17 Finance Issues**

Dean updated the meeting we have £2,517.47 in the bank. We have paid the annual donation to the Heart Beat Trust, Ken said he had contacted the trust to organise a refresher course for the use of the defibrillator, hopefully we will not be in a position to use it but we must be prepared for the eventuality. The judging for the photo competition has taken place and the winning photos were on display at the Bar. Congratulations to all those photos were chosen. There have been some issues with deciding how to get the calendars printed. We need them to be of a good size in order to display the photos.

It was voted on that we should have calendar entries in a line format rather than squares. As we are running out of time it was agreed that Dean should use his initiative and go ahead with ordering the calendars. John C said he also knew someone who produced calendars and would pass the details to Dean.

### **72.17 Work Plan**

Ken went through the work plan the phone box is a bit cobwebby and needs a clean. We were not sure whose turn it was but David volunteered he and Jane to complete the next clean.

Grass cutting of the Greens is being completed weekly by Ken and George.

The council has cleared some footpaths the path by the railway has been cleared and the path opposite the Church to the Barnsley Boundary. We need at some point to contact the Friends of Church Field to begin our joint footpath project now that work to the railway bridge has been completed. Ken will organise the clearing of the footpaths for the Denby Dash. John C said that had been problems with Bank Lane before the cobbles where trees and hedging had been cut and left. Ken said he would investigate.

The work on the village benches is progressing as far as the weather allows us. Thanks to Chris for sanding the benches and thanks to Christine for starting the staining process. June and Christine are to stain the benches weather permitting and Chris said he would help with this too.

The remaining litter bin can now be refurbished as it was in the smoking shelter where the swallows were nesting.

The Council have sprayed the weeds on the pavements but now need grubbing. Vera said that we ought to have an organised grubbing session as we have done before and it should be done before the Dash. It was agreed that we should set a date for this so please keep an eye for an email on this topic.

There has been no progress on the speeding traffic issue both Chris and Vera reported near misses in the village and this continues to be a problem.

**73.17 Any Other Business**

Items discussed included

- Supply of Broadband we now have a new box in the village and so increased capacity is available. There has been little information given out about this and lots of conflicting advice given.
- David C gave out some interesting information regarding bats and hedgehogs which was distributed to members. Diane will scan and send out.
- Chris asked if there had been an increase in fly tipping since Kirklees Council had stopped soil and rubble being taken to the tip. At the moment we have not noticed an increase in Denby but we will monitor this and report back any problems.
- Our next litter pick is the 13<sup>th</sup> of August.

**74.17 Date of the Next Meeting**

Our next meeting will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September at 11 am in the George Inn.

The meeting closed at 12.05 pm.

Signed by the Chair..... Date .....