



Darley Dale Town Council

Serving the people of Darley Dale

Minutes of the Meeting of Darley Dale Annual Town Council Held in the Gallery at the Whitworth Centre, Darley Dale on Thursday 21st June 2018

Present

Councillor Boardman in the Chair

Councillors , Faulkner, Hurford, Long, Mellor, Myers, Pasteur, Restrict and Ward .

3 members of the public and Town Clerk.

384/18 **Apologies of Absence**

No apologies received

385/18 **Variation of Order of Business**

Item 16 Public Toilets moved to after public participation and item 15 personnel moved to private session.

386/18 **To consider the exclusion of the Press and Public.**

No exclusions

387/18 **Declarations of Interest**

No Declarations.

388/18 **Public Participation**

Anna Gillings (Gillings Planning) and Max Paddick (Frontier Estates), gave an update regarding the proposed development on the former Servo site. An outline of the revised proposal was provided. The plan is for a 78 bed care home and conversion of Darley House to apartments with 3 new build town houses.

They have liaised with the District Council also and hope to submit the application soon.



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Members of the public commented:-

On the wording of the public toilets consultation article in Community Voice and concern that Council Tax would increase to support another building in Darley Dale

Whether there had been any consultation with the Co-op regarding the toilets as 6000 people a week use the store.

It was explained that the Coop had been approached during their construction stage and had declined an involvement or opportunity of sponsorship

The refurbished interior of the notice boards was complimented.

389/18 Report from Police and/or County/District Councillors

No reports

390/18 Public Toilets

The background history relating to the public toilets was summarised and key facts highlighted as below, a handout was provided detailing this for members of the public.

The Town Council was offered control of the toilets for the nominal sum of £1as part of a Community Asset Transfer arrangements. from the District Council.. However:-

- Repairs of nearly £20,000 would need to be carried out and paid for by the Town Council
- A one-off contribution of £2841 would be paid by the District
- The basic annual running cost is more than £10,000 and on generous usage figures works out at nearly £1.70 a flush.
- The people of Darley, despite significant investment in the toilets, would not own the asset - This would continue to be the District Council and they could remove it from us at any point.
- The Town Council does not have anywhere near that amount of money to fund the toilets or the administrative capacity to take ownership

All things considered, the Town Council, felt that this was a very poor deal for Darley Dale and its residents.

The Town Council has consulted with the appropriate people in the District Council and are willing to continue to negotiate to secure the reopening of the conveniences.



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In the meantime, the Town Council are promoting another consultation and would appreciate hearing more voices from the community. This will serve to support our discussions and reflect the feelings of many residents.

The running costs of £10,000 was questioned and it was explained this was based on information from the District Council and Councillor Atkin confirmed this. Business rates would still be payable, there would be no exemption as had previously been hoped for.

It was explained that the Town Council are continuing talking to the District regarding the toilets, the Council have agreed to negotiate with the District Council with the aim of keeping the public toilets open.

Councillor Salt (DDDC) stated this discussion was going on at Parish Councils across the Derbyshire Dales and he could only envisage a fresh thinking approach succeeding for a Community to take on the toilets.

391/18 **Planning**

Comments to be submitted to the District Council on the following applications.

Application	Address	Proposal	DDDC Planning Officer	Comments
18/00587/FUL	Front porch extension	16 Darley House Estate Hackney Derbyshire DE4 2QG	Andrew Ecclestone	No Objection
18/00543/FUL	Single storey rear extension, replace flat roof for hipped roof, erection of porch canopy to front and erection of detached garage	2 Park Avenue Darley Dale Derbyshire DE4 2FX	Andrew Ecclestone	No Objection
18/00526/FUL	Erection of two	Laburnum Cottage	Andrew Ecclestone	Objection on grounds of over



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	storey detached garage/games room	Wheatley Road Two Dales Derbyshire DE4 2FF		development, it is considered to be too large and tall a development for a small plot, there would not be an objection to a single storey building.
18/00479/OUT	Between Milner Off Road Racing Premises And Manderley Darley House Estate Hackney DE4 2QH	Erection of a dwelling (outline)	Gareth Griffiths	Objection, on grounds of over development and considered to be too small a plot for the proposed dwelling
18/00592/FUL	268 Bakewell Road Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3BN	Convert existing annexe roof into a roof terrace		No objection

The following applications have been determined by the District Council to date

Application	Address	Proposal	DDDC Planning Officer	Comments
18/00457/CLPUD	Certificate of Lawful Proposed Use - Erection of a domestic garage	St Elphins Cottage Blind Lane Hackney		Permitted
18/00423/FUL	Single storey side extension, loft conversion, rear domer and velux roof windows	Lyndon 78 Hackney Road Hackney Derbyshire DE4 2PX	Andrew Ecclestone	Permitted with conditions



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18/00421/FUL	Remove conservatory and erect single storey rear extension	3 John Turner Road Darley Dale Derbyshire DE4 2TR	Andrew Ecclestone	Permitted
18/00396/FUL	Single storey front extension and conversion of loft space over garage	Lamorna Farley Hill Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3LL	Andrew Ecclestone	Permitted
18/00339/FUL	Gregridge Orchard Road Hackney Derbyshire DE4 2QF	Two storey extension and removal of one existing chimney	Joseph Baldwin	Permitted with conditions
18/00244/OUT	Homecroft Old Hackney Lane Hackney Derbyshire DE4 2QJ	Erection of dwelling and associated access (outline)		Permitted with Conditions

Report from Planning Committee attended

The Chair attended the planning committee at District on 19/6/18. She spoke against the proposed development of 100 houses (Planning reference 17/01243/FUL) on the land behind the Co-op on behalf of the Town Council and in support of local residents.

Key points covered were :-

- A Contradiction of existing framework principles
- Environmental and safety concerns
- Highways Issues
- Intrusion into green space
- Need to Protect the landscape and character of the area
- There are legitimate concerns regarding Overdevelopment
- There is a lack of public consultation and engagement
- The reputation of the developer is in question
- The precedent set by the Old Road development
-

The Chair and local residents at the meeting were disappointed when the application was granted for the development to proceed.



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392/18 Minutes

RESOLVED that minute 365/18 be amended to state as below,

The Chair thanked the retiring Mayor, Councillor Mellor for her hard work over the past year. The retiring Mayor, Councillor Mellor extended thanks to First Taste for the invite to the celebrations at Meadow View where the intergenerational project was showcased. The feedback had been very positive and encouraging of the project.

And the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 17th May 2018 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

393/18 Finance

The Town Council considered the schedule of payments to be made.

RESOLVED –That the schedule of bill payments detailed below be approved and the reports noted.

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount	Transaction Detail
19 th June	Wish Cloud Ltd	3653	36	Livedrive annual back up
19 th June	J S Marriott and Co	3654	200	Internal Audit
19 th June	Gary Lowry Window Cleaning	3655	90	Cleaning bus shelters
19 th June	Whitworth Trading	567	2282.16	Office hire , verges etc
19 th June	SLCC	3658	185	Subscription-annual
19 th June	ALC	3659	30	Subscription-annual
19 th June	L M Creative	3570	1335	Community Voice
19 th June	Church Rd Allotment Association	3571	200	Contribution to Strimmer
19 th June	Employees	3650	1172.71	employees
19 th June	Derbyshire County Council	3651	323.36	pension



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19 th June	HMRC		248.81	Tax and NI
19 th June	DDiB		1200	Summer
		3575		Planting
19 th June	Came and Company	3576	2121.37	Annual Insurance
Total			9,424.41	

Finance : Update from Internal Auditors Visit

The Town Clerk explained that the Internal Auditor has recently undertaken a full day's visit to audit the financial records and systems.

He had questioned in details the large variance relating to the monies paid to the Whitworth Centre.

His report has now been received and 2 points have been raised.

- 1) Any Locum employed must be placed on the RTI system and not be paid via an invoice. This is a contravention of HMRC legislation and occurred with the second locum . This will be rectified in future
- 2) A recommendation that the funding of the Whitworth Centre be put on a better more transparent footing in respect of the demands on the Town Councils reserves with more accurate budgeting for this requirement, and the need of associated budget reports, when discussing the setting of future precepts as the additional funding needs of this year have had a significant effect on the reserves of the Town Council as at 31st March 2018

The Town clerk talked through the Accounting Statement 2017/18 and explained that it had been verified by the internal auditor.

394/18 Annual Return Statement of Accounts-Annual Governance Statement 2016/17

The Town Clerk read out the Annual Governance statement and it was **RESOLVED** that this should be signed as approved by the Council.



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395/18

Annual Return Statement of Accounts-Accounting Statement

The Town Clerk talked through the Accounting statement and it was **RESOLVED** that this should be signed as approved by the Council.

396/18

Town Mayor's/ Chairman's Announcements (if any)

The Chair recommended that all Town Councillors attend a planning meeting to see how the system works.

The Chair highlighted that there is a planning meeting on June 28th to discuss the Cawdor Quarry (Matlock Spa) scheme which includes 482 houses of which 32 are affordable and business space.

This application borders onto Darley Dale

The Chair explained that in response to a comment at the last meeting she had purchased and installed backing paper for the notice boards which give a much improved look.

It was recommended that all Councillors access the courses provided by DALC as part of their development as Councillors.

It was highlighted that there are 2 Councillor Vacancies currently.

The Twinning visit to Onzain occurred on June 15th -17th. The Chair had arranged for the Chairman of the Twinning group to present a wooden cheeseboard to the Mayor of Onzain on behalf of the Town Council. The wood and carving which included the words, " In Friendship" were kindly provided free of charge by local company Ashton and Colman.

The Public Engagement working party had their first meeting and there is to be an increased emphasis on the use of social media to promote items associated with the Town Council. Examples of local best practise are to be looked at to increase circulation of DDTC news and community issues

The Mayoral chains have been cleaned and a new insignia made. This is based on the tree of life symbol which represents bright futures and the point where people come together to discuss. It is on the Town Council logo but is to be used more prominently in the future as a stand alone tree which has clear links to the trees in the Whitworth Park.



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397/18 Update on the Whitworth Centre

Councillor Alan Long , Chair of the Whitworth Trust reported as follows :-

- that in future the 2 Whitworth agenda items are to be combined into one, thus including the finance part as part of the full Council meeting. This is in line with the Recommendations of the Internal Auditor and aids the transparency of the Town Council.
- The year end accounts for the Whitworth are currently being ratified. The loss for the year is envisaged to be £18,000, this is significantly less than in previous years.
- Trading figures so far this year are performing well
- Within the next 4 to 8 weeks a capital investment plan will be produced
- Results are awaited for a large lottery application
- On the 5th July a new Chief Executive/General Manager will start
- The AGM of the Whitworth Centre will be on 17th July, members of the public are welcome to attend
- The heritage of the Centre and Park is to be celebrated
- There has been a big push on Health and Safety to get on top of issues, a new Policy is being produced and staff training has commenced in key areas eg fire training

The Chair thanked Councillor Long for his works and leadership for the Whitworth Centre

398/18 Town Clerk's and Councillor's update of matters in hand

- Year end finance arrangements completed and Internal Audit successfully completed. Annual return work to be completed and submitted to the external auditor and arrangements made for the display of legal notices associated with the audit.
- All the allotment information has been transferred from the manual system onto a software package enabling a more professional and secure service to be provided. Allotment rent letters have been sent out accompanied by an allotment newsletter to inform allotment holders of issues and rules relating to their allotment sites. Rents are in the process of being paid.
- Community Voice preparation/submissions for Summer edition
- Ongoing research and work regarding closure of public toilets in Darley Dale
- Dealing with several issues regarding the allotments, site visit required



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Pending

- Flooding complaint at Church Road allotments.
- Letters to DDDC regarding dog fouling and Police re anti social behaviour , responses awaited
- Ongoing issues with pot holes on the A6 latest of concern being reported at the bottom of the Parkway. Emails from DCC this will be resurfaced May 2018 (Several Residents visited the Town Clerk regarding this) Now completed June 2018
- Complaint regarding broken ground/potholes on Columbell Way from a resident and concern raised as neighbour has limited mobility issues and she is apprehensive of falling. E mails sent to seek support. Visited on 18/4/18 and still not done. Residency notified Town Council again this week and Councillor Atkin chased. An offer of 1 metre square of tarmac has been offered by Serco to repair the hole, though the resident wanted a larger area repairing this appears to be the best option available. The resident has agreed to accept.
- There has been a request for an additional grit bin on the estate as the recent bad weather has highlighted concerns with the hill are of the Estate, Councillors to attend a site meeting. Date arranged for June 25th .
- Request for no entry sign on Oker avenue, emails sent, responses awaited
- The Town Clerk has attended a training session on General Data Protection Regulations which will have a significant impact on data protection issues relating to the Council. Work will be required in this area.
- Replacement items (mower and trailer) are required for Town Council grounds maintenance works, approx costs £2500. Working with Tony Umney on details. No previous expenditure in this area in 4 years other than repair costs which for the mower is now beyond economical repair.
- Complaints regarding excess dog fouling in Church Road area, on going liaison with DDDC streetscape team
- Highways issues currently being dealt with involve access A6 from Whitworth road and excess traffic congestion Station Road/A6
- Complaints from several local residents regarding ruined grass verges near the Coop, liaison with DCC and DDDC

399/18

Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies and Working Parties

Darley Dale in Bloom have undertaken summer planting programme and are working towards the “in Bloom” inspection planned for July 4th.



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A litter pick is proposed, this is to be supported by Councillors and complimentary beverages provided afterwards by the Whitworth Cafe to thank the volunteers.

Silent Soldier

The Mayor of Darley Dale, Councillor Boardman will be unveiling a 'Silent Soldier' for Darley Dale in Bloom on Thursday June 28th at 7 pm in the Whitworth Park. This is a small celebration for the end of World War 1. He will be near the entrance to the Park, below the canon. Everybody is invited to the short ceremony.

Fairtrade are to commence the renewal of their status

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council would solely use Fairtrade beverages at their Town Council meetings.

400/18 Councillor Training

Covered in minute 396/18

401/18 Twinning

The Twining AGM is to be on June 26th 2018 at Barringtons Hotel.

402/18 To consider the Annual Insurance Policy

The Town Council are in the 3rd year of a 3 year Insurance Arrangement. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed.

403/18 Neighbourhood Plan Update

Councillor Myers reported that the Steering Group are presently scrutinising the feedback from the consultation period. They are envisaging some changes to the plan but nothing major. They have a meeting planned for June 26th to discuss this further and will report back at the next Council meeting.

The approach of full dialogue with the Town Council by Anna Gillings and Frontier development was commented on as an example of best practice and is the model aimed for within the Neighbourhood Plan.

404/18 Update on Trading Matters at the Whitworth Centre

Covered in above minute, 397/18



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405/18 Correspondence/Information

Correspondence has been referred to during the meeting, no additional items to report

406/18 Public Participation

Concern was expressed at overhanging branches near the Parkway and BT site. The Town Clerk to write to the owners

Concern was expressed at the number of signs being erected near Monyeux Business Park which is affecting vision at the road junction. Councillor Atkin to take up with Highways at DCC.

The increased transparency as regards the Whitworth Centre was welcomed.

407/1 Date of Next Meeting

It was **Resolved** that the next meeting of the Council is to be held on Thursday 19th July 2018.

Confidential Information

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting

408/1 Personnel Matters

It was agreed that the national pay increase be approved for the Town Clerk

The Chair and Deputy will carry out the appraisal on a date to be confirmed

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The meeting closed at 9.00 pm