

**DARLEY DALE
TOWN COUNCIL**

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DARLEY DALE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE WHITWORTH
CENTRE 7.00PM ON THURSDAY 17th April 2014

PRESENT: - Councillors S Bettany, K Dyson, J Evans, E Faulkner, D Oakley,
I Pasteur and I Walker

Mrs C Lavell (Town Clerk)

Also present four members of the public

341/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr A Bullock , J Atkin (Work commitment) D
Cliff (family reasons) J Morrison (holiday)
Councillor Longdon (DCC)

342/14 VARIATION OF BUSINESS

Several agenda items to be discussed earlier on the agenda, Items 21,22,23,
and 15 to be moved to before planning to enable members of the public to
hear the discussion prior to their departure.

343/14 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declaration of interests

344/14 PUBLIC SPEAKING

Public Participation

Members from Church Road allotment association had expressed concern
regarding security at the site as highlighted by the police at a recent site visit.
In addition concern was expressed at the state of the land due to flooding and
the opinion was stated that plots at the bottom end of the site are unusable.

The issues raised were considered to be the concern of the Council rather than under the remit of the Association.

Councillor K Potter, Chair of Rowsley Parish Council spoke regarding commemoration events for World War 1 and the opportunity of working with Rowsley. The opportunity of joint working was welcomed by J Statham from Peak Rail.

Councillor Potter also expressed concern at the proposed cycle routes which will impact significantly on Rowsley and the shortcomings of the cycle strategy document which is currently out for consultation by the Peak District National Park Authority.

An Update on the Oker Avenue actions was requested. The Chair reported that several works were scheduled, including works on beds and a walkabout is planned. A residents committee is in the process of being set up. There was to be an open meeting on 8 April at the Whitworth Centre for all interested.

A query was raised as to planting arrangements for key areas in Darley Dale, such as along the A6. The Town Clerk was to write to Darley Dale in Bloom and ask for their plans regarding this and to enquire whether photos exist to highlight gaps for bulb planting. It was queried whether DDDC would provide a quote for planting in areas where it is considered not safe for members of DDiB.

Police, County and District Councillors

PCSO Granville Nixon was welcomed to the meeting.

He provided an update on a recent incident on Olympian Way and clarification regarding parking at a road junction which constitutes an offence only if an obstruction is caused. This should be reported immediately to the police on 101 as can only be dealt with if witnessed.

Furthermore parking on double yellow lines is no longer a police matter as now regulated by traffic enforcement

Councillor D Fearn would welcome a view of the Town Council on a controversial planning dispute at Ameycroft farm. The Town Clerk is to request an appointment for the Chair to meet J Bradbury of the planning department to discuss this.

The 6 year lease on the allotments is up for renewal, a letter and new contract has been received from DDDC (the landowner) allowing a continuation of the lease at a peppercorn rent.

There are concerns however about the condition of the allotments and excessive water/flooding issues.

It was **RESOLVED** the Clerk would write to DDDC expressing concern at the condition of the land as highlighted by the allotment association and Councillors on their site visit as a forerunner to signing a further lease.

It was further **RESOLVED** the Town Clerk would include with allotment rent letters a notice reminding allotment holders of their contract obligations and that misuse of an allotment can be a reason to determine a lease.

Councillors Pasteur and Dyson left the meeting at this point.

345/14 OKER AVENUE

An open meeting had been held for Oker Avenue residents in April which had been well attended, by residents, Dales Housing, DDDC, Town Councillors and Councillor Fearn and Longford.

A constituted group had been established from this meeting to take things forward.

An organised road sweep is also to occur and top surfacing and pot hole filling was planned.

346/14 DARLEY DALE IN BLOOM/ WW1 COMMEMORATIONS

It was reported that the proposed trench as part of the WW1 commemorations will no longer go ahead.

A work schedule to be produced for the cutting of grass verges as it was noted Whitworth Road has been neglected. It was **RESOLVED** the Town Clerk would arrange

Memory Lane are planning to host an event, Councillor Cliff has attended a funding meeting and a grant is available for smaller projects with a light touch application process for grants between £3 to 10 thousand.

Cllr Bullock had provided a report, regarding the proposed plaque for inclusion on the war memorial.

It is intended that the grant application reflects both above projects.

Linking to items from the public participation part of the meeting, it is apparent that there are several ideas and events planned, therefore it was **RESOLVED** to form a steering committee to coordinate events for Darley Dale and Rowsley, to consist of Councillors Oakley, Cliff, Atkin, Bullock and Pasteur from DDTTC, Councillor Parker from Rowsley PC, and Jackie Statham from Peak Rail. The first meeting to be held on 27 March 2014 (7pm) at the Whitworth Centre.

347/14 CONDUCT OF COUNCILLORS AND TRUSTEES

It was reiterated that Councillors are duty bound to behave appropriately as befits holding a public office and in line with the DDTC Code of Conduct which all Councillors have signed up to. This responsibility includes all manners of communications.

The Town Clerk has copies available for Councillors of the Good Councillor's Guide.

The issue prompting this item will be taken up as a private matter.

348/14 CYCLE STRATEGY

Of considerable concern was the proposed extension to the White Peak cycle route which will impact on many parts of Darley Dale and local businesses including Peak Rail and the Whitworth Park .

Considerable discussion occurred around the health and safety issues, poor experiences with safety on the Monsal trail, risk to young children and the less able on using the route or adjacent areas and general potential negative impact on local residents, houses etc

The PDNPA cycle strategy was discussed, (item had been circulated by email). The period of consultation was considered too short to allow active discussion at a Council meeting and appropriate follow up as the online documentation was particularly lengthy and in-depth and the closing date was the 21st March though it was concluded this was not of direct relevance as Darley Dale is not within the National Park.

Of greatest concern was the extension to the White Peak cycle route which is thought may impact on land belonging to the Whitworth Park, Peak Rail and adjacent landowners. It was **RESOLVED** the Town Clerk would write to DCC who are managing this scheme and associated engineering feasibility studies and works to secure further information and arrange a meeting to hear actual proposals.

349/14 PLANNING

The following applications considered by the District Council were noted

To note that the following applications have been granted by the District Council.

No	Application Number	Description and Details	Applicant	Comments
1	13/00910/FUL	Erection of single storey dwelling 20 Old Hackney Lane	Mr D Kirkland	Granted with Conditions

2	14/00144/PDE	Permitted development- Extensions 18 Columbello Way, Two dales		Prior approval not required as permitted development
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Comments to be submitted to the District Council on the following applications.

No	Application Number	Description and Details	Applicant	Comments
1	14/00157/FUL	Two storey extensions and alterations The Lant, Sydnop Hill, Two Dales	Mr Peter Appeleby	No Comment
2	14/00140\FUL	Replacement of garden room Sycamore Cottage, Bent Lane	Mr & Mrs Mellor	No Comment
3	13/00668/FUL	Erection of garage 37 Greenaway Lane, Hackney	Mr Darren Ford	No Comment
4	14/00215/FUL	Two storey extension & enlargement of parking area 9 Hackney Road	Mr Andy Whitaker	No Comment

Further information was received relating to 13/00768/VCOND Mr M Slack, Ameycroft Farm, Farley. Retention of development without compliance with condition 3 of planning permission (agricultural occupancy restriction)

Further information was also received relating to no action required for single storey extension and conversion of outbuilding to use for ancillary residential accommodation, Denacre House, Denacre Lane, Two Dales

350/14 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the last meeting be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman and the Minutes of the whitworth Centre Board meeting be noted.

351/14 TO DETERMINE IF ANY ITEMS ARE TO BE MOVED TO PART II CONFIDENTIAL

Two items were moved to Part II
Item 8 - personnel matter and an additional emergency item.

352/14 FINANCE

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the Accounts for payment for April 2014 as detailed in the paper circulated with the agenda be approved
- (2) That the Budget Monitoring sheet as circulated be noted and the Budget for 2014/15 be approved.

The Town clerk highlighted there is considerable work to be done to prepare for the internal audit (May), and completion of the Audit Commission external papers. This will therefore have to be a priority on the Clerks time until this process is complete as is a legal requirement.

A query was raised why on Council Tax bills does it appear there is an increase of 5%. Town Clerk was asked to write to DDDC for an explanation.

County and District Councillors

Councillor Fearn reported that a recent Peak District Business publication featured the Molyneux Business Park.

The Local Plan is being looked at by a consultant with reference to the number of available sites.

Councillor Longdon reported that, the adult care provision consultation is open for comments and the fire and rescue consultation closed recently.

353/14 TOWN MAYOR/CHAIRMANS ANNOUCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

The Chair is to attend a Civic Awards Reception at Matlock Town Council.

354/14 TOWN CLERKS REPORT/ACTION MONITORING SHEET

Community Voice

The first issues have been very well received by local residents. Distribution is continuing to cause some issues as not all areas are still been covered despite the increase in print run. Alternative suppliers are currently being looked into.

Sandy Path

DDDC have had a word with the landowner regarding the unacceptable condition of the path from the adjacent private land. He has verbally agreed DDTC can cut back the offending branches, It was noted however this land is up for sale. 1.4 acres for £20,000 by sealed bids via a local agent.

The benefits of the land being in public ownership were discussed and agreed with.

It was proposed the Town Council approach the landowner with a view to taking over the land.

Notice Boards

The refurbishment of the noticeboards is now complete. It was commented on by several Councillors how much better they look. The need to re-varnish every 2 years.

It was noted the Town Council name is not on the boards, this will be rectified.

Allotments

The Town Clerk has approached the Community pay back scheme for help in undertaking the works at Oddford Lane regarding the eroding stream bank.

School Travel Passes Wheatley Gardens

No response received to letter yet. The Town Clerk had written to Angela Goodall, DCC, requesting that a hazardous route investigation is undertaken and for a representative of the Town Council to be allowed to accompany this when it occurs.

Library Display Shelves

Sketches can now be undertaken prior to seeking prices for glass display doors.

20mph speed limit past Churchtown school

The Town clerk has written to Highways at DCC to request a 20mph speed limit and flashing warning lights.

No response yet received.

Timber Tubs on Terrace

There has been no response to the letter requesting permission to move the tubs. It was decided to go ahead with the plans as the move will enhance the Terrace area, as well as maintain the tubs in a public area which is less vulnerable to vandalism.

355/14 REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES

No reports were presented.

356/14 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

No reports were presented.

357/14 THE WHITWORTH CENTRE

It is intended to bring the accounting year of the Whitworth Centre in line with that of the Town Council, this will result in a short accounting year with the new year commencing on 1/4/14.

The Centre is becoming busier and the cafe takings are increasing though it is acknowledged more commercial rather than community bookings are required.

358/14 YOUTH CLUB

It was reported that the Youth Club is not working being located in the Lady Whitworth Room. Complaints are being expressed by other Centre users.

Discussions revolved around several options and it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council will write to the Chairman and the Business Manager of the Whitworth Trust to confirm the Town Council's concern over the unsuitability of the Lady Whitworth Room for the Youth Club, and its desire that a more suitable room be allocated. The Town Council suggests that either:-

1. the Play School be required to pack up its equipment on two nights a week to make space available for the Youth Club, or
2. the furniture in the Terrace Room Cafe be moved to one end of the room on two nights a week, and the free space made available to the Youth Club.

The Town Council requests that this matter be treated as a matter of urgency, and that a suitable venue is made available from 1 June 2014.

An update was provided on the situation with the Bowman Building. The approach to the Planning Director at DDDC to explore whether section 106 monies could be requested instead of providing play facilities, and be used towards the purchase/relocation of the Bowman building for the youth of the area. (Youth clubs, scouting and guiding movement etc has been rejected in a letter received by the Town Clerk).

It was felt that aspects of this letter are open to challenge therefore a response to the letter is to be prepared. Within the letter it was considered that the actual amount required for the project should be presented therefore a budget breakdown quantifying all envisaged costs is required.

It was **RESOLVED** the Bowmen committee would both talk to the Bowmen regarding their time scale and logistics and explore whether any local businesses could assist with transport of the actual building to the Whitworth Centre where it could be stored if necessary until planning permissions and funding is secured.

It was **RESOLVED** to add a line to the budget sheet for the Bowmen building for £2,000 to be taken from the contingency figure.

It was questioned whether the Bowman building could be relocated instead to the Tipping area as a potential opportunity for the multi use building. The Bowmen committee are to consider this option.

An extension of time was agreed to at 9.30pm.

359/14 COMMEMORATION OF THE 1914-1918 CONFLICT.

An initial meeting of the Council and Community steering group for this has now met to look at some initial ideas. A further meeting is to be arranged.

Views have been submitted on wording for the memorial plaque and this will be reported on at the next Council meeting.

360/14 WHITE PEAK CYCLE ROUTE

Item deferred.

361/14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Following the open public meeting the steering group has now met several times. Gerry Slavin has been appointed Chair of the Group. A representative from Chapel en le Frith is to talk to the group regarding their experiences of the process as they are an early adopter of the neighbourhood planning process.

362/14 TWINNING

Item deferred.

363/14 DARLEY DALE IN BLOOM

The issue of gateway approaches to Darley Dale was raised with reference to welcoming flower planting. Areas of gaps of spring planting are to be photographed to illustrate planting gaps to be remedied by the Autumn planting programme.

The Town Clerk to source quotes for this planting programme.

A request was made whether the flowerbeds at the bottom of Whitworth Road could be enlarged. This will be looked at.

364/14 CORRESPONDENCE

Items of Correspondence were noted.

- E mail from DCC Street Lighting regarding a proposal of turning lights off permanently on Church Road This was totally rejected by Councillors. The Town Clerk to respond to this.
- Letter received from DDDC Fair-trade steering group thanking DDTC for their support of the banana run

365/14 INFORMATION RECEIVED

No items for information.

366/14 PUBLIC SPEAKING

A suggestion of an oak tree as a twinning gift was made

367/14 DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

It was **NOTED** that the next **ordinary** meeting would be held on Thursday 19 June 2014 at The Whitworth Centre at 7.00pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

The Whitworth Centre, Station Road, Darley Dale, Matlock DE4 2EQ