

**DENBURY & TORBRYAN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING - HELD AT DENBURY VILLAGE HALL**

**ON MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 @ 7.30pm**

**Present** – Cllr T Brownhill, Cllr Mrs E Heaver, Cllr R White, Cllr Mrs P Griffin, Cllr Mrs H Wills, Cllr G Brendon, D Cllr D Smith, Cllr C Stacey, D Cllr J Nutley.

**In Attendance** – Iso Barnden, 2 members of the Public, Bruce Tucker

**Apologies for Absence** – D Cllr Mrs M Colclough, C Cllr A Dewhirst.

Bruce Tucker – First Aid Trainer – first aid response for ambulance to Denbury is 8 minutes by having a defibrillator in the village cuts this time down, they are designed to be used by people with no experience and if opened it will tell you what to do. CPR is also useful to know and its helpful to know who in the village is trained, if CPR and the Defib are used on the patient within 3 minutes the chances of saving their life is 75%. Bruce then went through the sequence of events for using the Defib in the event of an emergency.

**1) Report of District Cllr M Colclough & Cllr D Smith -**

- a) Cllr Mrs M Colclough - The structure of the Council has been changed over the last year. Due to the sad and unexpected deaths of three servicing Conservative Councillors these have been replaced by three lib dems. So the make up of the council is now 27 conservatives, 14 lib dems & 5 independents. Nicola Bulbeck remains as chief executive and the Chairman has been Conservative Councillor Graham Price. Jeremy Christophers continues as leader. Again there has been a rise in council tax agreed at the February budget meeting. The Teignbridge band D council tax for 2017/2018 is increased by 3.22% or £5 to £160.17 per annum. The revenue budget is £16.3 million and includes a statutory increase in the national living wage for 2017/2018 and 1% nationally agreed increase for all other staff from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. There will be an increased parking income of £100,000. Rural Aid is continuing at £40,000 plus the ongoing £25,000 Dartmoor grant fund for Teignbridge villages in the National Park. The capital programme again includes increasing jobs and homes through continuing support for community led planning and infrastructure delivery plan investment contributing to improving education, transport links, sports and open spaces. TDC is allocated just 9% of the council tax with DCC getting 72%, police 10%, Fire 5% and the parish average being 4%. Planning is led by the local plan and every help and encouragement is given to Parish Councils to develop and submit neighbourhood plans. Provision of new homes is well on target with work on major developments underway and even completed. Two large developments have been agreed affecting newton abbot. Firstly Houghton Barton, north of newton abbot an area of approximately 160 hectares with delivery of at least 1800 homes with a target of 20% affordable. A new vehicular route is needed connecting the A382 with the A383. There will be the provision of a childrens centre, local shops, community facilities and a 420 place primary school. The draft development framework plan is undergoing public consultation. The other large development is south of newton abbot and concerns the wolborough area where 120 hectares of land should deliver at least 1500 homes a 20% target for affordable.

There will be a further employment development and again a new vehicular route connecting the A380 South Devon link road with the A381. TDC vision making Teignbridge a healthy and desirable place where people want to live, work and visit in the publication of a 10 year strategy 2016-2025. Ten super projects will be 1) to provide more and better affordable homes. 2) to keep the district clean. 3) to invest in town centres. 4) great places to live and work. 5) to improve health and well being. 6) to create jobs & wealth. 7) to improve travel options. 8) to provide opportunities for healthy active lifestyles. 9) to liaise with, help and support our communities. 10) to reduce waste and carbon emissions. I like to think that I am a member of a council who is making every effort to carry this out. Finally I will mention the results of the new electoral arrangements for the District of Teignbridge as provided by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, which will commence at the next election in May 2019. The aim is to create electoral equality for councilors and each having the same number of voters. Teignbridge should be represented by 47 councillors, one more than at present. There should be 24 wards, one fewer than there is now. The boundaries of most of the wards should change, five still staying the same. Ambrook ward has a 7% deviation caused by removing Woodland. I continue to be proud to be a member of TDC and as always will work to ensure that the Council provides the residents with the best possible services at the best value for money.

- b) D Cllr D Smith - During the past year, your district council has worked up its 10-year strategy to include but not limit itself to: -

Supporting businesses, encouraging entrepreneurs and providing skills training and opportunities for local people to find the best jobs. Continuing to help local employers grow their businesses and aiming to be the first district council to achieve 100% super-fast broadband. Our region remains a popular destination for retirement and we want to preserve the balance by ensuring that there are affordable homes and employment opportunities for our young people to build a secure future here too.

Your District Council has and will continue to ensure that future development is high quality, blends well within our precious landscape yet provides much needed homes for local people. The Council is delivering well on affordable houses and currently 90% of homes have been sold to local people. Quality design and green spaces have been and will be paramount and we are in the vanguard for imaginative self-build projects.

We will continue to promote active, healthy lifestyles by enhancing and increasing public open space to improve health and wellbeing - for local people and visitors alike. We believe in the importance of work/life balance and will ensure that recreational space and facilities are enhanced and preserved for current and future generations.

With your help we are well on the way to becoming the best District Council in Devon for recycling. We have an excellent reputation for recycling and since the new system was implemented households are thinking more about what they throw away and wasting less. It is our aspiration to maintain this teamwork and continue to improve.

- 2) **Report of C Cllr A Dewhirst** - nothing further to report from last meeting, Elections now coming up in May.

### **3) Chairmans Report - Cllr R White.**

We have had a busy year within the Parish. The allotments have been sited on the playing fields and the troughs have been re-carved and sited back in place. We are slowly moving forward with the new playing field pavilion. We have a new contractor cutting the green who currently tends to the playing field. The phone boxes in Torbryan and Denbury are now also in our ownership. Cllr Emma Heaver is moving forward with the neighbourhood plan and sorting out a new website for the Parish. The new housing development for affordable housing, planning has now been applied for by the housing association.

### **4) Report Denbury Primary School Head Teacher - Mr Jamie Stone.**

I would like to start by offering my apologies for not being in attendance to read this report in person.

At the time of writing the current pupil numbers for the school are 118. We remain a popular choice for local parents but families are finding it increasingly difficult to find the time to travel into the village each day to attend school and therefore choose schools in or on the edge of town. This has resulted in a slight drop in numbers.

We were saddened to hear that the Denbury Pre-School is to close later this year and the governing board of the school have discussed at length the possibility of having a nursery within the school to maintain this vital option for the village. We have looked at all the options and discussed them with the local authority, however, with school budgets being stretched to breaking point it was decided that in the interests of the children who already attend the school it would be a huge financial risk to take this on. It was agreed this would be reviewed again in 12 months when we see the impact the closure has on the school.

The defibrillator has been successfully installed and after the initial interest it sparked with the children it has soon become 'the norm' and no longer seems to attract their attention. I spoke with the pupils about its use and explained that they were not to touch it as it is for emergency use only. I have had no reports of the children failing to do this but I would be grateful if the council could pass on any information if this is not the case.

We continually promote the use of the car park to parents and the vast majority do use it on a regular basis, it is full at the beginning and end of the day, although we do have some issues with people still parking at the front of the school. I have been notified that the council have been active in trying to improve the surfacing situation and we would like to pass on our thanks to you for your work in this area. We have been filling the holes with old road scalping's on a regular basis but this is very much a temporary measure and the problems soon return.

We continue to look for ways to work with the local community including our traditional involvement with the May Fair. We will also be involved with the church birthday celebrations that are taking place later this year.

I would like to finish by reiterating that the staff and children always welcome any opportunity to become involved with the local community. The children are always enthusiastic about any opportunities they are given that involve the village and surrounding areas.

#### **5)Denbury Village Hall Management Committee - Clare Head.**

We are getting quotes into blocking up a window to the left of the stage no- one new existed and have had the hall floor sanded and re-polished. We are having ongoing problems with the stage curtains, as the runners seemed to be worn out and finding replacement parts difficult.

Villages in Action have become more expensive due to funding cuts. However it was agreed as long as we cover costs we would continue the shows for the village to enjoy. We have had two events a folk band Ninebarrow in November and Rabbit Theatre performing The Odyssey in March both were a great success, however we have recently heard that due to reduced funding Villages in action is folding, so it is unlikely we shall be able to have such acts in the future.

It has been a major blow that the pre-school is closing in August, we will have to delay any improvements on the hall and just carryout essential maintenance until we see what the financial impact will be on us.

At our last meeting March 14<sup>th</sup> two of our committee members submitted there resignation, Judy Foster-Turner pre-School representative and Tony Brownhill representing Parish Council, we are very much hoping that there may be a replacement from the parish council and will put and ad in the Denbury diary to see if anyone from the village would like to join us.

The committee and I would like to give our thanks to Judy and Tony for their hard work over the years.

Thank you to the Parish Council for providing assistance with the insurance premium

#### **6)Denbury Playing Field Report -**

Having now the allotment association on the playing field a subcommittee has been set up including myself and Jim Peck and Andy Lock from the football club. We as a Parish have now taken over full control of the playing fields and we meet as a subcommittee every few months to discuss any problems or possible events. With the funding we currently have moving forward with the foundations this year for the new pavilion is one of our targets, and looking at other possible funding and fund raising a possible summer fare has been mentioned on the playing field for 2018.

#### **9) Invited Speakers from Village Organisations.**

**Mr Jim Peck - Denbury Neighbourhood Watch** - no report given.

**Mr Jim Peck - Denbury Allotments** - On behalf of Denbury & Torbryan Allotment Association, I signed on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb acceptance of the Parish Councils Licence for use of the Playing Field Jan 2017 to Jan 2018. This was for the construction of 20, 10 x 10m allotment plots for the purpose of growing crops along with a number of other stipulations. We held our opening day on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March which was a great success. Every member is delighted with the overall site and look forward to harvesting their first years crop. We currently have 15 plots occupied. They all join me in thanking the Parish Council for all their efforts in securing such a wonderful project for the village and would welcome your visits to the allotments.

**Chairman of the May Fayre Committee - Emma Nice** - It is in incredible what a little effort from so few people can achieve. Imagine what we could do if we all came together to take part? Here in Denbury and it's surrounding community we have something unique. We have a community who will come together when needed, to create wonderful events that directly benefit others. The May Fayre is just one of those events. Every single person who helps in anyway, however big or small, is directly helping others by giving their time and ensuring our village continues to be the incredible community it is. Over the years the money raised at the fayre has paid for the flower baskets on the cistern, Denbury School PTA has been able to purchase things for the school, the Church has benefitted and so many more groups and organisations. With just a little more effort from every single resident of this community, we could raise so much more money and ensure the longevity of everything that makes this such a wonderful place to live. We have a lot of new families in the village now who may not know the history of the event or know the people who have tirelessly worked on it for years. It is vital that everyone who has chosen to live here makes it their business to find out all about the May Fayre and why it takes place and how they can help, as it will ultimately mean our vibrant community survives. We must all support the May Fayre and offer whatever time we can afford to give towards ensuring it's success and longevity. We would welcome anyone to get in touch to see how they can help and we appreciate and welcome the support and help of the Parish Council. From a personal point of view as Chair of the May Fayre over the last few years, I continue to be overwhelmed by the people that work with me tirelessly to create this wonderful community event. We all have such busy lives and yet people put their own lives aside to help with this event and therefore raise funds for our village. From the people who arrive on the green to set up the marquee and stalls, bang in posts, gather tables and chairs. The people who offer up raffle prizes, sell raffle tickets, run stalls on the day. The people who count the monies, write the bids letters, the people who give up their time to entertain at the event. The people who come and enjoy the event and support the traders, the people who tell their friends to come...every single person is helping. Long may it continue. In the words of Margaret Mead, Anthropologist "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has"

**Mrs Jean Duggan - Denbury Archive Group** -

Here is short report from the Archive Group. We have had a quiet year, consolidating our archive information into our individual storage boxes and now have a complete list of who holds what. We had a full colour copy made of Alan Wood's presentation on his final day at the Post office. It was interesting to name nearly all the people who were there: the quality of the picture was that good. A record was made. We have booked a trip to visit the Devon Rural Archive at Modbury. Abi Grey ( the Resident Archaeologist) was very interested to receive the list of our holdings and is willing to scan some items or provide future storage in their own archive.

**Mrs M Griffin - Denbury Gardening Club** - no report given.

**Mr Paul Austin - Trustees** - no report given.

**Dr Sally Roberts - Ladies Netball Team -**

The Devils continue in the Teignbridge Netball league and had a successful season. Training continues on the Denbury multicourt on Tuesday evenings. The training sessions are mainly used by the juniors as turnout by senior players was patchy.

Sadly, very few members actually live in the village and as with many clubs, new would be very welcome. I have now retired from playing so this will be my last report as the representative of the netballers.

**Nick Roberts - Chairman Multicourt Committee & New Parish Hall Site**

The multicourt continues to see regular usage in 16-17.

The School and Netball team have blocked sessions for activities.

We have seen a good amount of tennis coaching for adults and juniors by "madfortennis" in the week and at weekends.

The Multicourt committee are temporarily taking on responsibility for the New Village Hall site while that committee is currently short on membership. The School have been helpful to fill in pot holes in the car park, but a more permanent solution to the car park surface will be required at some stage if funding can be found.

The Multicourt committee runs on the enthusiasm and commitment of a small number of people and I would urge anyone who is willing to support the ongoing use of the site to get in touch with myself or secretary Sarah Poat.

**Chairman Flower & Produce Show** - no report given.

**Rodney Cleave - Parish Snow Warden** - Nothing to report, a very mild year with no snow.

11) **Annual Report to all Parishioners** - This to now go out again this year in May 2017 in the form of the Annual Parish Minutes in the Denbury Diary.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.32pm