

Minutes of the Meeting of Darley Dale Town Council held in the Gallery at The Whitworth on Wednesday 21st February 2024

In attendance were Town Cllrs Farmer, Curtis, Godber, Mellor, Halliwell, Walker and Wilson. Assistant Clerk Jason Hedley and CEO Sarah Rivett. District Cllrs Franks and County Cllr Hobson.

RESOLVED to accept the new agenda reflecting the changes to the order of business.

- FC0224/1** **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from Cllrs Bishop and Mordue, District Cllrs Burton and Shelley, PCSO Mattison and the Town Clerk Ian Adkin.
- FC0224/2** **To consider any variations to the order of business** – **RESOLVED** to move ‘closer working with Northwood and Tinkersley’ (point 13) to the confidential section of the meeting.
- FC0224/3** **Declaration of Members’ interests** – Cllr Mellor declared interest as a member of The Whitworth Trust.
- FC0224/4** **To consider exclusion of press and public for any part of the meeting** – None.
- FC0224/5** **Previous minutes** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Full Council Meeting held on 24th January 2024.
- FC0224/6** **Co-option of Councillors** – Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept Alan Atkin and Esther Walker onto Darley Dale Town Council.
- FC0224/7** **Update from District Councillors, County Councillor and Police** –

District Cllr Franks provided the following update:

- Attended a Platform Housing walkabout at Lime Grove on 12th February. Now that two particular properties on the estate have been boarded up the atmosphere around the estate seems more relaxed.
- The Youth Development Worker has now started at Derbyshire Dales CVS. Sarah Rivett to reach out to her.
- The planning application for Redhouse Stables had been granted by the District Planning Committee.

County Cllr Hobson provided the following update:

- The Boundary Review Consultation will close on 1st April.
- Further information regarding Halldale Quarry will be sent asap. If sharing any information regarding this Country Cllr Hobson can be accredited for this information.

- DCC are disposing of the land on the west side of Station Road near the cricket ground. She will forward details to the Clerks Office.
- The Flood Resilience Grant is now open.
- County Cllr Hobson has asked for further information regarding The Whitworth when it becomes publicly available.

PCSO Mattison provided an update which was sent in the supporting papers.

19:30 County Cllr Hobson and District Cllr Franks left the meeting.

FC0224/8 **Public participation** – None.

FC0224/9 **Finance** –

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the February bank reconciliation.

BANK RECONCILIATION	
Balance from 2021-22	220,178
Plus receipts	185,217
Less payments excl. VAT	182,477
Less VAT paid	6,385
Balance to date	216,533
Bank balances	
Current	22,880
Deposit	193,653
No 2 a/c	0
Total	216,533

- ii. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the payments made under delegated powers.

30/01/2024	Darley Dale Scout Group	S137 Grant	£990.00			App FC 17/01/2024
30/01/2024	Forest Nurseries	Plants/comp for Env event	£28.94	£24.12	£4.82	App by RFO
01/02/2024	Renewable First	Inv 104846 (50% payment)	£2,400.00	£2,000.00	£400.00	App FC 17/01/2024
02/02/2024	LM Creative	INV 10224DDTC (Env Event Banner)	£71.00			App by RFO
06/02/2024	SJR	INV 041 (Holt Rd Bench)	£300.00			App FC 18/10/2023
06/02/2024	SJR	INV 040 (Benches opp. Coop)	£250.00			App FC 20/12/2023

iii. It was **RESOLVED** to approve proposed payments for February.

21 February 2024	National World Publishing	Inv 813617 (Advertising Matlock Mercury)	-£268.13	-£223.44	-£44.69
21 February 2024	Whitworth Trading	SI 1086 (Room hire Env Event)	-£169.00	-£140.82	-£28.18
21 February 2024	Whitworth Trading	SI 1087 (Room hire Retrofit Event)	-£225.00	-£187.49	-£37.51
21 February 2024	SJR	Inv 050 (Refurb Whitworth Rd Bench)	-£325.00		
21 February 2024	Peak Advertiser	Inv 148162 (Env Event advertising)	-£252.00	-£210.00	-£42.00
21 February 2024	Shelter Maintenance	Inv 15402 (Jan Bus shelter cleaning/bins)	-£83.88	-£69.90	-£13.98
21 February 2024	DALC	SI 4080 (Annual subscription)	-£1,342.81		
21 February 2024	Opera	Inv 3369 (website)	-£120.00	-£100.00	-£20.00
21 February 2024	Whitworth Trading	SI 1063 (Feb office hire)	-£1,080.95	-£900.79	-£180.16
21 February 2024	Whitworth Trading	SI 1067 (Room hire Xtreme Wheels)	-£450.00	-£375.00	-£75.00
21 February 2024	Whitworth Trading	SI 1078 (Room hire - Council meeting)	-£87.48	-£72.90	-£14.58
21 February 2024	Clarity Copiers	Inv 248821 (Dec/Jan)	-£11.84	-£9.87	-£1.97
21 February 2024	S Rivett	Reimbursement (Pastries for DD Volunteers)	-£5.60		
21 February 2024	Staff wages	Combined	-£4,876.25		
21 February 2024	HMRC	PAYE	-£1,664.43		
21 February 2024	LGPS	Pension contributions	-£1,035.25		

iv. Proposed expenditure requiring approval –

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the installation of a planter on Station Road for £780 and the installation of a planter opposite the Arc for £825.

v. There were no grant applications to consider.

FC0224/10

Planning –

i. Cllr Farmer invited comments on the planning decisions in February that were distributed before the Council Meeting.

- **24/00053/OUT:** Mr & Mrs Powell
DEVELOPMENT: Outline planning application for the erection of up to 2no. single storey dwellinghouses with approval being sought for access (resubmission)
LOCATION: Land To The East Of Wheatley Road Two Dales Derbyshire

The committee **RESOLVED** to submit a recommendation of **OBJECTION** on the following grounds:

- The site is outside the settlement boundary.
- The site is within the curtilage of a listed building.
- The development is not in keeping with the surrounding area.
- This is an area of natural beauty which should not be destroyed by development.
- Impact on public health and safety of local residents as the public highway leading to the site is not suitable for further development.
- This is an area of historical interest and should be protected for future generations.
- Increase in surface runoff onto Wheatley Rd will exacerbate already hazardous driving conditions particularly in winter.
- Loss of trees involved in the development.
- Contrary to the Derbyshire Dales Adopted Local Plan (S4, HC1, PD5)

Concerns were also raised about the fact that the applicant listed their address on the application as being Wheatley Grange, Wheatley Rd which is factually incorrect. The actual owner/occupiers of Wheatley Grange were present at the planning meeting.

- **23/01275/FUL:** Stancliffe Homes Limited
DEVELOPMENT: Erection of 37no. residential dwellings (Resubmission)
LOCATION: Land To Rear Farm Cottage Old Hackney Lane Hackney Derbyshire

The committee **RESOLVED** to submit a recommendation of **OBJECTION** on the following grounds:

- i. The proposed development is outside the identified development zone.
- ii. The application site is substantially larger than the area of land allocated for housing and referred to as site HC2(i) in the Adopted Local Plan.
- iii. There is no communal recreation area/play area on the proposed development.
- iv. There is insufficient environmental impact mitigation.
- v. The proposed development does not comply with the Darley Dale Neighbourhood Plan NP7 b. which requires a layout that reflects the underlying topography by developing on the less visually sensitive areas keeping the steeper areas open and undeveloped. Also, NP7d. requiring looser plot configuration.
- vi. The development causes aesthetic harm to the area.
- vii. Cllrs do not agree with the traffic estimates and feel that the proposed development will lead to unmanageable increase of traffic on Old Hackney Lane.
- viii. Cllrs are concerned at the loss of productive agricultural land which is outside the permitted development zone.
- ix. Lack of adequate drainage and mitigation for excess surface runoff which will flow down Old Hackney Lane and impact the A6. Plans do not take sufficient account of ground and surface water.
- x. Councillors are not satisfied that the capacity of the existing public drainage system will be able to cope with the additional surface runoff – potentially leading to compromising normal operations of the Whitworth hospital located directly below the site.
- xi. There is a lack of visitor parking.
- xii. There is no pedestrian access on Old Hackney Lane.
- xiii. There is an excessive number of 4 bedroom dwellings.

- **24/00069/FUL:** Mrs Marylyn Harding
DEVELOPMENT: First floor rear extension above existing garage to form annexe accommodation for the guest house managers/ property owners (resubmission - window alterations)
LOCATION: Robertswood House Farley Hill Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3LL

Councillors are unable to comment on this application due to the lack of information supplied by the applicant.

- **24/00084/ADV:** Mr Simon Ingledew Care Concern Group
DEVELOPMENT: Erection of 2no. uplit stone plinths with internally lit signage boxes and various directional signage
LOCATION: Darcy House Care Home Bakewell Road Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3EF

The committee **RESOLVED** to submit the recommendation of **OBJECTION** on the following grounds:

- i. The sign is too large.
 - ii. The illumination is too high.
 - iii. The illuminated surface area is too large.
 - iv. The lack of shielding will cause light pollution to neighbouring properties and may cause a hazard to passing motorists on the A6.
- **T/24/00026/TPO:** Mrs Roberta Fisher
PROPOSAL: Sycamore Tree - Trim back branch to boundary fence
LOCATION: 1 Darley Lodge Drive Darley Dale Derbyshire

The Committee **RESOLVED** to defer to the decision of the District Tree Officer.

- **T/24/00030/TPO:** Mr Jack Worthy
PROPOSAL: Various works to multiple trees
LOCATION: The Lodge St Elphins Park Dale Road South

The committee **RESOLVED** to defer to the decision of the District Tree Officer.

- ii. Consultations requiring full council consideration – None.
- iii. Planning updates -
 - Cllr Farmer updated the room on Sarah Dines MP latest comments regarding DDDC failure to enforce planning enforcement orders. Cllr Farmer also noted DDTC's concerns regarding the same issue.
 - Cllr Farmer informed the room about a possible development of aprox. 75 log cabins, visitors centre, bicycle hire shop and associated buildings being proposed on Darley Moor above Farley. A consultation notice was sent to DDTC by DDDC in error alerting the planning committee to this proposal. No information is yet available on the DDDC planning portal and no other information is known yet.
 - Cllr Wilson expressed concern about a CCTV system that is installed opposite Greenaway Lane that clearly doesn't overlook the property it is based on, but looks out to the A6/Greenaway Lane. Cllr Farmer committed to speaking to the owners of the property regarding this.

- Cllr Mellor gave an update regarding Halldale Quarry.
 - i. Darley Dale Hillside Residents Association have now run out of money to fund the legal battle with the Forestry Commission. DCC have taken no responsibility of the TPOs however the group keep pushing for answers.
 - ii. The previous licence for quarrying cannot be passed onto the new owner who must reapply. Cllr Mellor has asked County Cllr Hobson if this goes to planning will there be a public consultation regarding this.
 - iii. Cllr Mellor is in the process of asking MP Sarah Dines to review how enforcement of environmental law is carried out.

FC0224/11 **Environment Working Group**

- i. Cllr Mordue provided an update which was sent in the supporting papers.
- ii. **RESOLVED** to defer the discussion regarding the future of the environmental working group to the March Town Council meeting.

FC0224/12 **Update from meeting with DDDC –**

Cllrs Farmer and Walker and the Assistant Town Clerk met with Ash Watts and Ros Hession of DDDC on 15th February.

Cllr Farmer provided an update:

- Tippin recreational field – it was agreed that a container can be placed in the woodland area of the Tippin. Still awaiting planning permission.
- The football pitch layout needs to be moved to avoid the ‘bogy’ area of the pitch.
- Originally maintenance costs of the Tippin were confirmed as being £68k per annum, when this was questioned the real cost was confirmed as £5.6k, excluding play equipment maintenance costs and tree maintenance costs. This will be brought back to Council for further discussion about taking ownership of the Tippin now that the true costs are known.
- A resident had emailed Cllr Farmer regarding additional parking at the Hooley Estate as many residents are parking along the verge on the A6. District Cllr Shelley has already done a great deal of work on this and is finding out who owns the land opposite the ARC Leisure Centre to determine if it would be possible to use this as additional parking. It was agreed that the Clerk’s Office will write to County Cllr Hobson to inform her that DCC do have authorisation to stipulate parking restrictions, ensure that Ash Watts, Roz Hession and District Cllr Shelley are cc’d into this email.

FC0224/14 **Community and events –**

- i. Cllr Wilson contacted Extreme Wheels to determine if the Thursday evenings at The Whitworth have been a success. A true reflection of the success wasn’t fully clear. The Police and Crime Commissioner who provided the Council with a grant to pay for this activity have asked for a report on the success of the event, therefore Cllr Wilson will go back to Extreme Wheels for further clarification.
- ii. Cllr Walker provided an update regarding DDiB.
 - He noted that the outstanding issues with The Whitworth had now been resolved.

- The group now have access to the tap on the bowling green to water their plants in the park.
- There are discussions being had regarding the fencing issue near Barringtons.
- DDiB will have a recruitment table at the next Growing Spaces event on 3rd March
- A fundraising bunny carriage ride event will take place in Whitworth Park on 23rd March from 11am to 1pm.

iii. Cllr Farmer indicated that if Darley Dale Twinning would be requesting a grant they would need to be present at the Council meeting to support the grant application with evidence from the last 5 years as to how the community at large have benefited from Twinning.

FC0224/15 **Fairtrade** – Cllrs **RESOLVED** to support the continued Fairtrade status of Darley Dale. Cllr Godber confirmed she is in the process of renewing the status of Fairtrade for Darley Dale. She gave a brief overview of how she intends to re-promote Fairtrade in the Town and confirmed she will commit to putting on a display/event for Fairtrade Fortnight from 9th-2nd September.

FC0224/16 **Councillor updates** – None.

FC0224/17 **Clerks' updates/correspondence received** – Cllr Wilson and CEO to discuss youth provision options for better activities during the Easter holidays. Also, further research is needed to be carried out for Summer holiday activities for the youth of Darley Dale.

20:53 it was **RESOLVED** to extend the meeting to 21:30.

FC0224/18 **Date of the next meeting** – Cllrs **RESOLVED** to hold the next Full Council meeting on Wednesday 20th March at 7pm.

21:30 it was **RESOLVED** to extend the meeting to 22:00.

CONFIDENTIAL

It was **RESOLVED** to reject the changes to Whitworth governance arrangements proposed by the Acting Head of the Trust - 7 for, 2 abstained and none against.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council will not agree any further grant or emergency payments to the Whitworth Trust at this time until the leadership can demonstrate that the Trust and Trading Company are on a secure financial footing – 8 for, 1 abstention and none against.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council has no confidence in the current Trust leadership's ability to successfully implement the Whitworth recovery plan agreed at the December Council meeting – 9 for and none against.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair and Vice-Chair formally write to the Acting Head of the Trust immediately to report the outcome of this meeting – 9 for and none against.

Cllr Halliwell resigned from the Town Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to defer agenda item 13 - Closer working with Northwood and Tinkersley as there wasn't time to discuss this. Cllr Mellor will circulate an update regarding this via email.

Meeting ended at 21:54.