



**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 01 April 2019 in the Memorial Hall, Dent**

**Present: Councillors Graham Dalton, Chris Evans, Ian Mitchell, Juliet Hoggar, Andy Cowton, Emma Richardson**

**District Councillors Kevin Lancaster, Sheila Capstick**

*To be presented for acceptance at the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 06 April 2020*

	There were 4 members of the public present.	
	Councillor Dalton welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that the meeting would hear from Carl Lis, Chair of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, followed by Paul Johnson, developer of the Dentdale Companion Smartphone App. before moving on to the formal business.	
<b>1</b>	<b>Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 09 April 2018:</b> The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 09 April 2018 were presented and agreed as a correct record. A copy was duly signed by the chair.	
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Yorkshire Dales National Park Association:</b> The meeting received a presentation from Carl Lis, Chair of YDNPA. Carl started by advising that Brexit would have an effect on farming and that a reduction in farming would change the National Park. New funding initiatives devised by YDNPA had been welcomed by DEFRA and were being used as models for upland farming around the UK.</p> <p>Carl noted that there was a large imbalance in the population demographic, with only 25% under 25 years of age. The park want to attract more 18-44 year olds and has a strategy to work more closely with district councils to provide 400 new dwellings and increase jobs. At least one development project needs to be undertaken in each of the areas covered by the national park. Larger towns need to be connected to a FTTP network providing high speed internet and schools and GP surgeries need to be retained. The YDNPA currently has a 5 year programme to promote working in the national park.</p> <p>91.5% of the 647 planning applications received in the last year were approved, with the figure increasing to 93% for agricultural buildings. However, there are 400 approvals where work has not started with 100 roadside barns having been approved but work has only started on 8.</p> <p>It has been agreed to restart the Parish Forums this year after suspending them last year due to lack of interest.</p> <p>Finally, Carl pointed out that funding was still available through the Sustainable Development Fund.</p> <p><u>Q &amp; A</u></p> <p>A member of the public asked whether funding was available to repair the many drystone walls which lie in disrepair around the dales? <i>The Millenium Trust may well be able to provide grants towards these costs, however no money has been made available from central government.</i></p> <p>The Chair asked about continuity of settlements in the YDNPA area. He cited the example that just 20 years ago Dentdale had 750 residents and that this number was now down to 550. The number of second homes makes it seem like there are more people. The school is now down to 27 pupils on the roll. The National Park Authority seems to look after visitors very well and are there any plans to put social and economic development first?</p>	

Chairman:.....

Date:.....



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	<p><i>The national park has two statutory purposes, i) to conserve and enhance natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage; and ii) to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public. The authority is currently in talks with the government for a third purpose (currently afforded to authorities in Scotland).</i></p> <p><i>It is essential that the authority works together with local authorities who have the power to build new homes and developments. Employment opportunities are also required to attract younger families and working people. The Vice Chair of the National Park, Jocelyn Manners-Armstrong added that this is a national problem and not one that is confined to the Yorkshire Dales. Employment opportunities are key and one of the problems is that it is easier for developers to build in more populous towns in the dales.</i></p> <p><i>A member of the council asked why the S.106 planning condition carried a holiday let clause and was this not a conflict of statements. He cited the new early morning trains and the completion of the B4RN network as reasons why people might want to move to Dentdale.</i></p> <p><i>This issue has been raised and it may need to change. The authority is currently working on a Local Plan and this issue is to be considered.</i></p> <p><i>A member of the parish council asked if there was anything that could be done by the authority regarding provision of employment.</i></p> <p><i>The authority is doing very well with a number of apprenticeships. The Millenium Trust is also doing well with employment of local people.</i></p> <p><i>Carl and Jocelyn were thanked for their attendance.</i></p>	
<p align="center"><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Dentdale Companion Smartphone App:</b> Local resident Paul Johnson introduced himself and gave a presentation on the smartphone app he has been developing.</p> <p>The app is mainly targeted at visitors to the dale and will give them lots of information in the palm of their hand. This information will include maps, walks, information on local businesses, where to eat and stay as well as some local history. Paul can produce this app at a fraction of the cost of having it developed commercially and has a keen interest in doing it as a member of the community.</p> <p>The app is designed to be free to the end user and as such bears some cost implication and Paul will provide the council with a definitive quotation if the council decides to go ahead in principle.</p> <p>At the moment the app will only work on Apple iOS devices but further development would see it working on Android devices also.</p> <p>Paul was thanked for his attendance and presentation.</p>	
<p align="center"><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Annual Report 2019:</b> The annual report for 2018/19 was presented and accepted. The report contained submissions from the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair's Report</li> <li>Planning Group</li> <li>Playing Field Committee</li> <li>Dent Library Link</li> <li>Dent Grammar School Educational Foundation</li> <li>Dent Primary School</li> <li>Dent Memorial Hall</li> <li>Dent Combined Charities</li> <li>Sedbergh Health Centre Patients Forum</li> </ul>	

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	<p>Upper Dales Health Watch</p> <p>The chair advised that the Grammar School Educational Foundation had been required to spend a lot of money on maintenance of its properties in the last 18 months. As a result no grants had been available for disbursement this year.</p>	
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p>The meeting closed at 8.32pm</p>	

Chairman:.....

Date:.....