**TIDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

**AND**

**YOU**



**An introduction to Tideswell Parish Council**

**TIDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL AND YOU**

**1. Who are we?**

**1.1 Parish Councilors -:**

A group of people resident in and around Tideswell who volunteer their time to collectively act on behalf of the Tideswell Community.

We have a wide variety of backgrounds and experience.

**Russell Andrew**- Local Business Owner

**John Chapman**- Retired Teacher

**Alison Daniels** – Local Resident

**David Gibson** – Local Business Owner

**David Horne**- Retired Director Health Care Diagnostics

**Jane Meredith** – Local Resident

**Ruth Moore** – Head of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

**Josie Kilner** – Local Resident

**Dorothy Whitehouse**-Local Resident

Russel Andrew, as Chair leads the Council meetings and Dorothy Whitehouse is Vice-Chair.

**1.2** **Council Employees:-**

These are Hannah Owen, clerk and Adam Serper, village caretaker. In addition, a variety of contractors are engaged mainly to help keep Tideswell safe, clean and tidy.

**2. What do we do?**

We are, as part of local government empowered to raise money through taxation via the precept (Tideswell's share of the council tax) and have a wide range of powers. We also have a range of duties. These include:

* Burial Grounds/Cemeteries.
* Bus Shelters.
* Community Centre’s, Conference Centre’s, Halls and Public Buildings.
* Footpaths
* General Spending: The Parish Council can spend a limited amount of money on anything they deem of benefit to the community that is not covered by the other specific responsibilities on this list.
* Gifts-The Parish Council may accept gifts.
* Highways: Lighting, parking places, right to enter into discussions about new roads and road widening, consent of parish council required for diversion or discontinuation of highway, traffic signs and other notices, tree planting and verge maintenance.
* Land-acquisition and sale of.
* Legal Proceedings: Power to prosecute and defend any legal proceedings in the interests of the community, power to take part in any public enquiry.
* Litter: Provision of litterbins and support for any anti-litter campaigns.
* Planning: Parish Councils must be notified of, and display for residents, any planning applications for the area. Any comments submitted to the planning authority by the Parish Council must be taken into account.
* Public Conveniences: Provision and maintenance of public toilets
* Recreation: Provision of recreation grounds, public walkways, open spaces, village greens, playing fields,
* Rights of Way: Footpath and bridleway maintenance
* Seats (public)
* Signs: Danger signs, place names and bus stops signs.
* Tourism: Financial contribution to any local tourist organisations allowed.
* Traffic Calming

**Please note the following:**

Derbyshire County Council deal with Potholes, damage to roads and footpaths, blocked drains, street lighting.

Derbyshire Dales District Council deal with Refuse and Waste, Elections, Licensing, Street care and cleaning.

Peak Park deal with Planning Applications, Enforcements and Tree Issues.

All Councilors are legally obliged to disclose any interest in matters under discussion and are not normally allowed to play any part in such discussions or decisions.
As well as the regular monthly Council meetings, we are also required to hold both an annual Parish meeting and an annual Council meeting. The annual Parish meeting is an opportunity for the Community to input to the Council on its past performance and to influence the future direction.

The Parish Council also plays an important role in planning by inputting into local authority decisions re broader community plans and into specific planning applications. We are not the final decision makers but we can have an influence on such decisions.

**3. Communication**

We are here to represent the interests of the Tideswell community but can only do this well if we have active two-way communication between the Community and the Council.

Communication can take place by many means including (but not limited to):-
- face to face with individual councilors

* attending Council meetings these are public events
* Visiting the Clerk at her office. The Clerk will hold an open surgery every Tuesday. Office hours in the week may vary but arrangements can be made to meet with the Clerk on different days by email or telephone.
* e-mail the council on clerk@tideswellparishcouncil.co.uk
* telephone the Clerk on 07738076902
* responding to surveys and questionnaires from the Council
* attending workshops organised by the Council
* setting up Community interest groups to provide input to the Council on specific issues

**4. Our Culture**

We will always try to act along best practice lines so that we are seen individually and collectively to be:-

* selfless
* displaying high integrity
* acting objectively
* accountable to the Community
* open
* honest
* taking the lead

**5. Tideswell The Future**

**5.1 Quality Council**

We intend to apply for Quality Council Status which means that we will have to:-

* Have a clear strategic plan for Tideswell.
* Demonstrate effective and transparent governance.
* Show good communication with the Tideswell Community.
* Be guided in our priorities by the Community.

**5.2 A Plan For Tideswell**

We wish to develop this by listening to your views and by adopting a clear and objective consultation process.

Primarily this will be with you the Tideswell Community but also we will need to take in to account the views of:-

* Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC)
* Peak Park Planning Authority
* Adjoining Parish Councils
* Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC)
* And others

**5.3 Councils Current View**

We have discussed what we feel are the key issues facing Tideswell in the next few years, which we have set out below and want YOUR feedback to help us set the priorities for our Village.-

* Housing (Affordability & balancing residential & touristic tourism needs)
* Transport (Parking and public transport availability)
* Social (To provide suitable Village amenities to sustain a vibrant Community)
* Environment (Maintain the balance between development and the natural beauty, which surrounds us, and keep Tideswell safe, clean and tidy.
* Sustainable Local Economy (Encourage businesses and thereby local employment).

Have we got it right? Let us know!

**6. Next Steps.**

We intend initially, to organize an Open Morning when you can meet the Council, express your views on Tideswell’s future and learn more about developing “Plan for Tideswell”.

This is only the first part of the consultation process; there will be many further opportunities to express your views.

We look forward to working with you to help maintain Tideswell as a great place to live, work and visit.

Tideswell Parish Council want to hear from you, please contact the clerk via email clerk@tideswellparishcouncil.co.uk or by calling 07738076902.

The Parish Council plans to host open days throughout the year. Information on these events will be advertised around the Village, on our website and in the Village Voice.