



Update from the Trustees of Denby Dale Community Library

September 2024

In our last update in June we explained that trustees and volunteers had met with Kirklees Library Service as part of their feasibility study, to consider moving 8 Kirklees libraries to a 'community managed' model. The 8 selected included Denby Dale, Skelmanthorpe and Shepley.

In short, this 'community managed' model would have meant losing our Kirklees Council staff member. We expressed the strong view that it would not be feasible.

Kirklees Library Services has now made revised proposals and, on 10 September, Kirklees Council's Cabinet agreed to proceed with them.

The good news is that Kirklees has listened and now proposes to keep all the Kirklees Libraries within the statutory network and to reduce the hours worked rather than remove Kirklees Council staff.

To do this will require a review of staffed hours across all Kirklees library locations to meet the savings target. This will be done through an 8 week public consultation, due to be completed by end December.

We understand the consultation process will seek to gather views on 'preferred times, dates and locations' of library services and that it will take the form of on-line and paper surveys and focus groups.

Rest assured, DDCL trustees and volunteers will make our case as strongly as possible to retain as many of the current 15 hours per week of our paid staff member!

If you would like to find out more about our library, its future and how you might help, please drop by and ask to speak to one of the trustees, or email us on chair@ddcp.org

Janet Johnson

Chair of Trustees