

Minutes of Dunham-on-Trent, with Ragnall, Darlton and Fledborough Parish Council (Dunham & District Parish Council)



Meeting of **Dunham & District Parish Council** held on the **9th Nov 2021** at Dunham Village Hall, the meeting commenced at **7:00pm**.

Council Members & Officer Present

Cllr Madeline Barden
Cllr Kathryn Watkinson
Cllr Vera Ballinger
Cllr Carole Booth
Cllr Adrian Stapleton
Current Vacancies
Ed Knox

Chairman
Vice-Chair
Cllr Ian Oldfield
Cllr Lucy Atkinson

Darlton: 2
Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

Also, Present

1 Member of the Public

➤ Public Forum

None.

69/21 To receive apologies for absence

The Council **resolved** to accept the apologies of Cllr Thorpe due to Illness. The Council noted the absence of Cllr Bean. Cllr Barden reminded all Cllrs that apologies must be emailed to the Clerk and not via the What's App Group.

70/21 To receive declarations of interest

None.

71/21 To Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting

After discussion, the council **resolved** to accept the minutes. The chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true and accurate record.

72/21 To receive reports from County and District Councillors

Dist Cllr Isard – Did not attend.

Dist Cllr Stanniland – Did not attend due to Covid Self-Isolation. Cllr Barden read a report from Cllr Stanniland:

- **Grant** - I will be giving the Parish Council £250 from the councillor's community grant for the bird boxes. I hope this is good for conservation in the area, I have money left and I am currently looking for organisations that could benefit from it. If you know of anything then please do give me an email or ring.
- **Litter Fines** - I have requested that District Enforcement (private company contracted by Bassetlaw to hand out fines) are patrolling our rural areas more - specifically on the A57 between Darlton and Dunham, through Ragnall and on Skegby Road. This is to pick up on anyone who throws rubbish or is attempting to fly-tip. In the year since this company has been contracted, only 0.7% of their time has been spent in the entirety of Tuxford, Dunham, Normanton, East Drayton, Darlton, Laneham, Ragnall and Fledborough. Please let me know if there are any frequent areas of littering that can be passed on for them to patrol.
- **Local Plan** - The Bassetlaw Local Plan's final consultation has ended. The next stage of this process is for the plan to go to the planning inspectorate.
- **White Swan, Dunham** - I have called this application into planning committee, which is why it is still outstanding a decision. However, I understand that there is a backlog right now which is causing delay. As soon as I know anything about the progression on this, I will let the clerk know.

County Cllr Ogle – Did not attend.

73/21 Finance:

1. To Approve Payments:

The Council **approved** the following: -

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Holmes Ground Care	Dunham Play Area Grass Cutting Aug	£135.00
Clerk (Soft Talk Ltd)	Memory Stick Repair & Replacement	£13.44
Total Payments		<u>£148.44</u>

Receipts:

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BT Openreach	2021 Wayleave Payment	£21.00
Bassetlaw District Council	Dist Cllr Isard Grant	£200.00
Total Receipts		<u>£221.00</u>

Bank Balance **£21,203.28***

Bank Reconciliation for the year to date to be approved. Council **Resolved** unanimously that figures were correct. Reconciliation to be signed by when practical. Direct Debits and Standing Orders for staff salaries including PAYE and Pension, all **approved** unanimously. * £5,000 Wildlife & Environmental Project Budget, £200 Grant Ring Fenced.

74/21 To Receive an update from the Village Hall Committee regards Environmental Wildlife Projects & the Queens Platinum Jubilee

Jubilee: Cllr Barden welcomed a member of the Village Hall Committee to speak on the subjects. After discussing the jubilee weekend, the PC & V Hall committee agreed to help each other at the weekend which will involve a summer fayre and street party style celebration in the carpark (in the hall if bad weather). The V Hall Committee member agreed to approach the rest of the committee to see what funding may be required and the committee may then submit a funding request of the PC. The committee are actively seeking volunteers to help with preparations at the Jubilee weekend.

Environmental Wildlife: The member of the public advised that the field to the north of the playpark is to have the first section left as it is for the touring caravans. The rest of the field is to have a variety of plants and trees planted; some planting has already taken place but sadly was soon destroyed by local wildlife. The plans are that there will be strategic planting of trees, including Fruit Trees, and plants, together with the introduction of designated footpaths for the public to walk around the area.

On the Paddock at Reptile Gardens the member of the public would like to install a pond to encourage amphibians plus a fruit tree orchard. The Clerk clarified that the lease holder would need to request permission from the Parish Council before any additions/alterations to the Parish Council owned land could take place.

Cllr Barden thanked the member of the public for their contribution and advised the Parish Council's ideas, then gave an overview of a potential plan, costings and timescales put together with the help of another member of the public.

After discussion, the Council **resolved 1)** that children of the parishes would be welcome to plant trees in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee and asked the member of the public to approach the V Hall committee for permission to plant some of these trees on the land to the north of the playpark. **2)** The Council will distribute a leaflet to all homes of the parish to ascertain how many under 18yr old's there are who would be willing to take place. Additionally, the leaflet would advise in general what wildlife/environmental projects the PC and V Hall committee are undertaking. The suitable wording to be drafted by Cllrs Barden and Atkinson, and sent to the member of public for their input from the V Hall Committee. Then the draft to be sent to Cllr Thorpe to re-design the leaflet for printing via Vistaprint.

3) Cllr Barden to email Ed map/photo locations of the various sections of appropriate highways verges where potentially the parish council could plant suitable plants and flowers (subject to licence approval from County Council).

4) Subject to V Hall Committee & Strawson's approval, increase the thickness of the existing hedges at the playgrounds in Dunham and Darlton, and to plant additional Hawthorn whips beside the fencing at Dunham Play area.

5) Agree a budget of up to £5,000 for the project which the Chairman and Clerk can spend (call off against) as necessary for the Environmental and Wildlife items.

6) Seek funding where possible from local businesses, charitable organisations, and if possible, obtain grants.

75/21 To Discuss Village Gateways for Ragnall

Cllr Barden advised that following the decision from Notts County Council that there is no possibility of the reduction of the speed limit in Ragnall from 40mph to 30mph, the village gateways might be a help to potentially slow down traffic as it gives the impression of driving into a village through ornamental gates on the verges. After discussion of the idea and potential options on styles seen on the Glasdon website, the Council **resolved** that permission be sought from Notts County Council for a licence to install gateways and an application the Notts County Council Communities Fund be submitted towards the cost of the supply and installation.

76/21 To Receive an update about the Lengthsman Vacancy

The Clerk advised that there had been no enquiries into the vacancy. The Clerk had approached the person as promised, however, they advised that £13ph and 4hrs a week on a self-employed basis isn't enough money to warrant their application, the costs of the equipment, insurance, PPE, fuel etc outweigh the payment, they politely suggested that the Council either increases the hourly rate/no hours or look at the role on an employed basis. After discussion, the council **resolved** that until a new self-employed Lengthsman is found, Contractors will continue to undertake ad-hoc works within the remit of the Lengthsman Scheme across the parishes.

77/21 To Receive Update on a community partnership bid for financial help with improving Broadband

Approximately 20 properties in Fledborough Parish are those that are currently receiving speeds of 0 to 30mbs. Openreach applied for an adjusted Final Offer which has qualified for demand led function, meaning the Parish Council won't have to sign any contracts. All that is needed is to ensure that voucher pledges the Notts County Council Broadband Engagement Officer is going to help promote awareness of the scheme for sign up once the pledging portal is live. The addresses who can potentially be upgraded to direct superfast broadband are:

- 1, LONG ROW, FLEDBOROUGH, NEWARK ,NG22 0UX
- 2, LONG ROW, FLEDBOROUGH, NEWARK ,NG22 0UX
- 4 ,LONG ROW ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UX
- 3 ,LONG ROW ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UX
- TOP FARM ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UT
- NORTH FARM ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UT
- THE GABLES BUNGALOW ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UU
- THE GABLES ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UU
- CARAVAN ADJACENT TO THE GABLES ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UU
- THE MANOR ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UU
- THE POTTERY ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UU
- MANOR COTTAGE ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UU
- RECTORY COTTAGE ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UU
- THE OLD VICARAGE ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UU
- FLEDBOROUGH HOUSE FARM ,RAGNALL ROAD ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UY
- FLEDBOROUGH HOUSE ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UY
- HOUSE FARM ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UY
- STATION HOUSE ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UZ
- 2, STATION COTTAGE ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UZ
- 1, STATION COTTAGE ,FLEDBOROUGH ,NEWARK ,NG22 0UZ

The cost is:

Initial Estimate – £16,325

Cost Per Premise – £816.25 (funded directly to Openreach by Central Govt Vouchers claimed by Openreach once each property owner gives consent on the on-line portal). The Clerk has chased the **manager at Openreach who has advised the final offer is taking longer than expected. It has gone to a planner for a full solution design which they expect to take another few weeks. This is because they've decided that they need to look at this scheme in more detail and ensure we are proceeding with costings that take into account a full picture of what infrastructure we have in the ground. The Openreach manager said that they be back in touch as soon as they have the final costings to share with you. The Clerk will continue to chase the Openreach Manager on a monthly basis.**

If any residents have further questions, they can also contact the Notts County Council Broadband Engagement Officer and his Better Broadband for team using enquiries.broadband@nottsgov.uk or by phoning 0115 977 2532.

78/22 To Receive Councillor's/Clerks' Reports including Road Traffic Accidents:

- **Noting of Accidents – None**

New Highways issues, cllrs report via the online tool (ideally with photos) in first instance whenever possible and let the Clerk know the reference number, then at each meeting any unactioned reported items the Clerk will escalate to the County Cllr/District Cllr, Highways Manager/Waste Managers.

The following items have been raised with the Highways Authority Manager so that these matters can be investigated and finally resolved. Each month the Clerk chases the Highways Manager and the Parish Council adds to this list while awaiting a reply:

Outstanding Items (chased monthly with the Highways Manager and being discussed with the new area manager at the site meeting with Cllrs Barden & Ballinger on 15th Nov):

- **Car Accidents at Coronation Terrace** – Cllr Barden gave a copy of Cllr Booth's email detail the safety of this area to the Highways Manager at the site visit. Highways Manager advised a barrier could cause entrapment issues; however, slimmer bollards or raised curbs could potentially be installed, the Highways Manager will report back as to whether these slimmer bollards could be installed.
- **Signage on The Green** – The Highways Manager looked at the blind corner of The Green/Horne Lane and the cars parking near the junction increase the safety problem. The Highways Manager will arrange to repaint the road markings and write a double dotted line on the road.
- **Dunham The Green, Potholes** – When Cllr Barden met the Highways Manager looked at the Potholes, took note of these to be repaired. It was clear to see that the east side of the carriageway running north/south of The Green was badly in need of repair. This side was particularly bad because traffic heading both north and south was forced to travel on the east side because of parked cars. Unfortunately, the problem of vehicles going onto the verge of the road on the south side of the Green couldn't be resolved. We know that it happens because residents park their cars outside their homes leaving insufficient room for other vehicles to pass, but putting dropped kerbs either end would mean that the verge would be regarded as road worthy and this would not be the case.
- **Dunham A57 Dropped curb Elderly Persons Crossing Signage:** At the July 2021 meeting Cllr Barden Proposed, Cllr Watkinson Seconded that because all the existing road signage is essential, it is imperative that the Highways Manager visits Dunham and considers the most appropriate placement for an Elderly Persons Crossing sign, within the vicinity of the dropped curbing at the crossing point which the County Council installed in 2011, at that time it was recorded in the Parish Council minutes that they promised the Parish Council that signage would be installed but it never appeared. Clerk to Chase Highways/County Cllr for a response.
- **4 Long Row Cottages Flooding** - The Drainage Manger and Principal Flood Risk Manager are working together to find a resolution to this issue. The resident has been contacted by a member of the Flood Risk team at NCC. The Council would like to be copied in on the final resolution for information purposes.
- **Yellow Salt Grit Bins in all 4 Parishes** – Reported to Highways Liaison Officer & Manager 19.04.21 – Parish Lengthsman advises all salt bins need topping up. Highways Manager raised this with Ruth Eyre bring this to the attention of the Winter Maintenance team. Grit bins to be filled later this month and should be completed towards the end of November
- **Children Playing/Playground Signage** - the Parish Lengthsman advises that on Low Street near the Village Hall, there is no Children Playing/Playground Signage. Reported to Highways Manager 19.04.21. Highways Manager agreed no signage was there so this would be looked into for potential signage installation. The Highways Manager asked R Eyre Highways Liaison Coordinator (HLC) to provide the PC with an update. 01.10.2021 HLC asked for a google earth map of the location of the play area, map emailed to HLC.
- **Cocketts Hill** – Was discussed with the Highways Manager, Cocketts Hill is a narrow road leading into Low Street which links the Laneham Road to the A57 at the White Swan. For a number of years, we have been trying to a) make this stretch of road accessible to pedestrians and so far, failed, mainly due to cost and b) stopping cars travelling west 'queueing' at a blind bend on the A57 to turn right onto Low Street, using this as a short cut to the Laneham Road. We believe our proposal negates the need for excessive

cost and resolves our two long term problems. If Cocketts Hill is made One Way (vehicles able to travel southerly, down Cocketts Hill) then there would be sufficient space for a pedestrian walkway to be 'lined' on the road. It would require a No Entry sign at the bottom of Cocketts Hill, immediately after the crossroads of Upper Row and Chequers Lane.

The PC have informally approached those houses affected by the change and they are in agreement.

The Highways Manager agreed to look into this proposal and report back to the Parish Council.

- **Damage to Railings at side of Low St Junction with A57 Reported to Notts CC – Ref CSC363223434** – Where a low loader carrying a Fairyland/Mushroom Lodge meant for Sundown Adventureland's new overnight accommodation, reversed into it on 3rd Sept when it went the wrong turn looking for Treswell/Rampton and smashed the railings.
- **Overgrown Pavement, Laneham Road between Gauntley's to the junction with Dunham Road, Laneham Ref CSC361621705** – The pavement is overgrown with vegetation like a lawn in places. Photos and description of the problem has been sent to Notts County Council.
- **Damaged County Council Road signs in Fledborough, Ref CSC353240786** are still outstanding, reference number says that the job is closed as complete but no work has been undertaken, to be escalated to the newly appointed Highways Manager.
- **Overgrown footpath between A57 and St Oswalds Park, Ref CSC371013990** - adjacent the unfinished long term empty property on the A57, overgrown vegetation and brambles. To be reported to Highways to investigate to arrange cut back.

New Items:

- **Bank Mandate** – The clerk has submitted all documents to the bank, the bank asked for further ID from Cllr Bean which has been provided and the updates are currently being processed.
- **Fledborough Speed Limit** – A member of the public approached Cllr Atkinson raising concern that the roads in the parish are national speed limit roads, and asked if the County Council could look to reduce them. Cllr Barden agreed to add this to the list to look at with the County Council Highways Managers at next week's site visit.
- **Cllr Atkinson** – Village Hall Committee other updates - Christmas Fayre will be 19 November. New village hall website is being built and should be live soon. New heating system for hall being addressed and quotes looked at. Now the weather is colder the committee will have table top sales 11-2 rather than car boot sales. Dates for these will be: 16/10, 6/11, 22/1, 19/2, 19/3.

79/21 Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 9:10pm.