

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 **15th Mar 2022** at Dunham Village Hall, the meeting commenced at **7:00pm**.

Council Members & Officer Present	Cllr Madeline Barden	Chairman
	Cllr Kathryn Watkinson	Vice-Chair
	Cllr Vera Ballinger	Cllr Emma Thorpe
	Cllr Carole Booth	Cllr Lucy Atkinson
	Cllr Rachel Bean	Cllr Ian Oldfield
	Current Vacancies	Darlton: 1
	Ed Knox	Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
Also, Present	0 Members of the Public	
	Dist Cllr Shirley Isard	
	County Cllr John Ogle	

➤ Public Forum
None.

11/22 To receive apologies for absence
The Council resolved to accept the apologies of Cllrs Lovett & Stapleton.

12/22 To receive declarations of interest
None.

13/22 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.

14/22 To receive reports from County and District Councillors
Dist Cllr Isard – Provided a brief report on the Selection Committee. Cllr Oldfield asked for assistance from Dist Cllr Isard at asking Bassetlaw Council to consider to upgrade the existing public waste bin at the Dunham A57 bus turning area near the bridge, to a larger capacity bin because it is frequently overflowing. Cllr Oldfield requested that Dist Cllr Isard requests as Dist Cllr Stanniland to come to the next meeting.
Dist Cllr Stanniland – Sent Apologies due to work commitments but advised the following report by email:

- “At the last full council meeting, it was agreed that council tax would increase. This is something me and Cllr. Isard did not vote in favour of. This is an increase of 2.73%.
- Our next surgery will be in Laneham Village Hall on the 10th April 2022 6-7pm.
- At the next full council, I will be putting forward a motion, supported by our group, that will propose to end the ‘flat bin lid policy’ that is currently being enforced by the District Council. Instead, proposing to replace it with a common-sense approach at the discretion of refuse collectors as was done previously.
- The next full council is the AGM, which is on Wednesday 18th May. The next full council where motions will be considered (including my proposals on bin lids) will be on Thursday June 23rd”

County Cllr Ogle – explained about pot hole patching and advised the councillors to take photos and report any new highways issues via the County Council Website or MyNotts App in the first instance. If the County Council do not action these requests Cllr Ogle can help escalate the matters.

15/22 Finance:

1. To Approve Payments:

The Council **approved** the following: -

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Dunham Village Hall	Hall Hire Jul 2021 – Jan 2022	£110.00
Clerk Expenses	Wilko Stationery & Postage	£2.58

Clerk Expenses	Ryman – Archive folders for Accounts	£5.40
Clerk Mileage	Jul 2021 to Mar 2022	£44.73
Clerk Cloud Storage	Oct 2021 to Mar 2022	£2.39
Cllr Thorpe Mileage	Jul 2021 to Mar 2022	£28.35
Cllr Thorpe	Vista Print Ltd – Leaflets	£25.10
Laneham Parish Council	Playground Inspector Services 2021/22	£686.84
S.Ashworth Diggers	Lengthsman Services – Pavement Clearance	£200.00
S.Ashworth Diggers	Lengthsman Services – Fledborough Bin Emptying	£20.00
NALC	Annual Membership Renewal	£139.10

Total Payments

£1,264.49

Receipts:

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Notts County Council	County Cllrs Grant – Wildlife Project	£300.00
Acer Landscapes Ltd	Donation - Wildlife Project	£100.00
Cllr Bean	Donation - Wildlife Project	£250.00
Dunham Bridge Co	Donation - Wildlife Project	£1000.00
Total Receipts		£1,650.00

Bank Balance

£26,997.52*

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, £2100 Grant Funds currently raised and Ring-Fenced for the project. The County Council Local Communities Fund Grant Application has been submitted.

2. Grass Cutting Contract Dunham Play Area:

Holmes Groundcare have offered a very economical deal of just 35p rise per cut, to £46.35 and to freeze this price on a 3-year deal. After discussion, the Council **Resolved** unanimously to accept the 3-year offer.

16/21 To Adopt the NALC & SLCC social media code

After discussion, the Council **resolved** to adopt and post the following onto the Council's Facebook page:

"Welcome to Dunham & District Parish Council page. If you wish to be a part of this online community, you must agree to abide by this code of digital engagement, which is designed to keep everyone safe:

- *Rule 1 – Debate and disagreement are welcome on this page, but only if expressed with courtesy, respect and politeness.*
- *Rule 2 – Posts should not contain abuse, harassment, intimidation, or threats of any form.*
- *Rule 3 – Posts should not contain any form of pornography or discrimination, including racism, sexism, ageism, ableism, disability, homophobia, transphobia, religious intolerance.*
- *Rule 4 – Posts should not contain false or unverified information.*
- *Rule 5 – Users should not post anonymously under fake profile names or aliases.*

If any of these rules are broken, page administrators have the right to delete posts and block users without question and if felt necessary, report them to Facebook and the Police. It may not always be possible to respond to all questions/queries on this page due to time constraints – please email these to the parish council email address."

17/21 To Progress the Jubilee Wildlife & Environmental Project

Cllr Barden advised that the Council awaits the outcome of the Notts County Council grant funding. Cllr Atkinson has had 5 children come forward for the tree planting list and continues to raise awareness. Cllr Thorpe is putting A4 posters in the noticeboards and Cllrs trying to find more local children to take part. A further 'reminder' flyer to be sent out in the Summer to advertise the tree planting again.

18/22 To Receive an update on Fledborough Broadband

The following questions have been answered by the Notts County Council Broadband Engagement Officer:

- Please can you arrange for Openreach to provide the full detail/breakdown of the final costing report so that the PC can fully see the detail of why the final cost was so high?

As covered in our phone call, Openreach aren't going to provide intricate details of the work required to connect the properties, beyond what they've already revealed which is that significant civil engineering work is required to reach the properties. The work required includes making good the ducting infrastructure to provide fibre to the area which is unsuitable for delivery. Ducting that cannot be cleared by professional means requires new ducting lay, again a significant cost.

- After reading the extracts above, it implies that Notts CC did a similar costing exercise in 2016/17 that found that for the County Council to deliver broadband was too expensive, perhaps this was a similar finding to the recent open reach findings, is there a way to ask for a copy of this report from 2017 to see if the detail of the costing is similar to that of Openreach?

As previously outlined by the BBfN programme, being eligible for delivery is not a guarantee that services will be provided, a solution was modelled as per the request of the programme, but the cost has been far beyond the cost-cap that we have available per premises. Implementing high cost services has a significant impact on other areas of delivery. When the guiding principal of the contract is value for money we have to make difficult decisions which ensure that we reach as many properties as possible within the budget envelope available.

- Is there any way to challenge the original decision where Notts CC said that funding wasn't viable in 2016/17 so that Notts CC would pay for it?

This wouldn't have the desired effect that the council is looking to produce as the funding within the previous contract has already been spent. The latest contract is drawing to a close (the formal contract closure process) and there is no further funding left to draw down to deliver.

- If Openreach are the only provider of the network and if their actual cost of the project must be £431,287, of which £60k would be central govt and Notts CC top up funded, leaving a funding gap of £371,287, is there anywhere else the PC could get funding to cover this?

Unfortunately there is no additional funding streams available.

- If no progress can be made with regards to all the above points, what else can be done regards assurances over Project Gigabit (mentioned in the December emails below) which suggest that the whole of Nottinghamshire, and therefore Fledborough included is expected to be fully upgraded to full direct fibre to every home, with installations starting in Oct 2023, is this scheme on target and is there a way to find out when Fledborough is likely to be upgraded as part of this scheme.

As mentioned in our telephone call; the Fledborough premises will certainly be eligible for inclusion within Project Gigabit rollout, but the crucial question that you want answering "are we in?" I am unable to do so because I don't yet know. As soon as the authority receives further information on which premises are eligible, which are included, any further developments regarding the timeline I shall keep you in touch.

- Please can you find out from Community Engagement Officer/Openreach if the Children's home has full direct fibre to the property?

Can you please get me the first line of the address and postcode and I'll chase this up? It appears no-one knows where the home is.

- Cllr Atkinson has spoken with Caldicott Children's Home and they have what is known as a dedicated lease-line to the property. NG220UU and it is called the Old Vicarage. The old Rectory/Rectory cottage is a separate property but also owned and used as part of the children's home but I expect they won't be using a phone/internet line in there just into the main house.

- The Community Engagement Officer advised regards the Children's Home that:

A dedicated leased line is a stand alone service – therefore there isn't any subsidy available to support delivery. It's typically reserved for businesses, especially those ones that require specialist connectivity requirements, or in this instance, cannot receive services from the network. It provides a guarantee of service with bandwidth, download speeds, upload speeds etc. You'd approach an ISP for service and then they would provide you with a cost for connection – Openreach likely the network that they connect to. Unlike the typical network this line is just for the end-user, meaning it's uncontended, and the speeds are usually symmetrical. You can get full fibre connections which is of course the fastest and most expensive. There's also ethernet solutions (operates similar to how fibre to the cabinet works but in this instance there's no cabinet) or ethernet over FTTC which involves building from the fibre cabinet.

Cllr Atkinson reported that at the recommendation of Notts County Council, Evolve Ltd an alternative to Openreach has approached Cllr Atkinson, they are going to undertake surveys and costing of potential provision of the broadband infrastructure via their company. They will report back to Cllr Atkinson in due course with their findings.

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@nottsccl.gov.uk or by phoning 0115 977 2532.

19/22 To Discuss the Parish Council's Village Hall Representative

Cllr Thorpe advised she needed to resign as the Parish Council's nominated person to the Village Hall Committee due to personal reasons, therefore Cllr Atkinson advised she was willing to continue instead. The Council asked that the Clerk informs the Village Hall committee and requests that Lucy Atkinson is listed as a committee/trustee member on the village hall website and charity commission page. The Clerk is also to request that they inform Cllr Atkinson of the next 12 months meeting dates and send her the agenda/minutes with plenty of notice.

20/22 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 2021) Highways Manager Response in italics:

- **Whitelines 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 white the road markings and write a double dotted line on the road. *23.12.2021 - The renewing of the white lining on the carriageway at the junction of Horne Lane/The Green has been ordered. This type of work is due to commence in the Spring of 2022.*
- **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. *23.12.2021 – The potholes on The Green discussed at the site meeting have been recorded and will be inspected in due course. Item Closed.*
- **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, request that Highways Manager provides a copy of the report. *23.12.2021 – The flooding issues at 4 Long Row Cottages are currently being investigated and if I receive any further updates, they will be forwarded to the Parish Council.*
- **Boggy Bottom Flooding at Fledborough** – Cllr Atkinson advised that the residents of Boggy Bottom will be emailing County Cllr Ogle regards their flooding issues.
- **Children Playing/Playground Signage REF HAMS 4302792** - 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 Ruth 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. *07.12.21 HLC confirmed this is submitted on the Highways Programme for 2022/23.*

- **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. *23.12.2021 – the works have been issued for the leaning sign and will be carried out in due course.*
- **Low Street Street Light No5 - Ref CSC392736342** – Reported to Notts County Council that street light no 5 is flashing.
- **The footpath in Dunham to St Oswalds Park, ref CSC371013990** has lots of brambles left all over the floor by the County Council Contractors meaning dog walkers cannot go through, the clerk agreed to chase the Rights of Way Officer at County Council to have the contractors return to remove the debris.
- **Fledborough Leaky Noticeboard** – S.Ashworth Diggers Ltd quote of £40 has been accepted and they will be undertaking the repairs shortly.

New Items:

- **Cllr Bean** – Requested S.Ashworth Diggers Ltd attends Fledborough to reinstate the Parish Council village sign which is leaning.
- **Cllr Watkinson** – The Local MP came to Dunham School recently. Cllr Watkinson invited Cllr Ogle to come to the school regards speeding issues at the school and will arrange for a petition from the school to be presented regards speed reduction measures, which may include rumble strips.
- **Cllr Ballinger** – Requested that the Council considers ordering lamppost poppies whenever they are available to buy from the Royal British Legion. The Clerk advised that he has been regularly enquiring to the RBL from several parishes, but at present the RBL point of contact does not know, if or when, they will be back in stock.
Cllr Ballinger will take a photo of the large pothole on Cocketts Hill and report to Notts County Council via the online tool/my notts app. If the County Council fail to action this it will be passed to County Cllr Ogle for escalation.
- **Cllr Oldfield** – Expressed concern and dissatisfaction to County Cllr Ogle over the matter of the widening of the access to the White Swann caravan park, meaning the pavement will be approximately 3 times wider. Cllr Oldfield will take photos and report the broken and missing roadside reflectors to Notts County Council via the online tool and then forward the reference number to Cllr Ogle for escalation at the County Council, because the parish council have been previously advised by the Highways Manager at a site meeting, that the County Council no longer bother replacing these.
- **Cllr Thorpe** – Asked Cllr Ogle for advice regards farmers crop spraying at the rear of homes on Horne Lane.

21/22 Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 9:20pm.