

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 **12th Nov 2024** at Dunham Village Hall, the meeting commenced at **6:30pm**.

Council Members & Officer Present

Cllr Madeline Barden
Cllr Vera Ballinger
Cllr Carole Booth
Cllr Ben Lee
Cllr Ian Oakden
Cllr Lucy Atkinson
Current Vacancies
Ed Knox
Emma Griffin
2

Chairman
Vice-Chair
Cllr Kathryn Watkinson
Cllr Rachel Bean
Cllr Rachel Sergison
1
Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
District Cllr
Member of Public

Also, Present

➤ Public Forum
None.

64/24 To receive apologies for absence
Cllr Thorpe did not attend.

65/24 To receive declarations of interest
None.

66/24 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.

67/24 To receive reports from County and District Councillors
Dist Cllr Griffin – Is standing at the next election to be the Conservative candidate for the Tuxford County Cllr seat. The Trentside Flood Committee have held their 2nd meeting and are hoping to get more volunteers trained as flood wardens. Dist Cllr Griffin is currently working on a motion at BDC regarding light pollution.
Dist Cllr Stanniland – Did not attend.
County Cllr Ogle – Did not attend.

68/24 Finance:

1. To Approve Payments:

The Council **approved** the following: -

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Holmes Groundcare	Dunham Play Area Grass Cutting	£278.10
Post Office Ltd	Playground Lease Postage	£8.95
Noticeboard Co Cumbria Ltd	Wildlife Noticeboards	£5,449.20
K.R Hewitt Ltd	Ragnall Church Hedge Cut	£72
G.G Strawson Ltd	Rent Darlton Playing Field 2024-2034	£10
DOT Village Hall	£50 Donation towards the Remembrance Event	£50
Total Payments		£5,868.25

2. Receipts:

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bassetlaw District Council	2 nd ½ Precept	£8,722.50
Bassetlaw District Council	2 nd ½ Concurrent Grant	£18
Bassetlaw District Council	2 nd ½ Street Cleaning Grant	£273
HMRC	VAT Refund	£1,061.07
Total Receipts		£10,024.57
Bank Balance		£37,880.85

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.

The Parish Council thanked the Village Hall committee for the successful event held in 2024 for remembrance. The PC will look to add £100 to the budget in 2025/26 to continue to support the village hall with this event.

The Clerk was asked to obtain a quote to clean, repaint the lettering (where necessary) on the Dunham war memorial and repaint the fencing, from Retford Memorials Ltd.

69/24 To Note in the Minutes the response to any planning applications via the scheme of delegation


The Council **noted** the following which have been responded to via the scheme of delegation:

- **24/01030/HSE Single Storey Rear Extension West Cottage Broad Gate Darlton** - The Council responded that: *"it has no objections and supports the application."*
- **24/01138/FUL Land East Of Crabtree Lane And North Of Polly Taylors Road Skegby** - The Council responded that: *"it has already said all it has to say on the matter in the SCR screening version of the application and has nothing further to add."*
- **24/01109/HSE Retrospective Application for a Front Boundary Wall and Proposed Edwardian Style Door Surround to Front Door** - The Council responded that: *"it has concerns as to how far the wall has been built into the path. If you look at the photos provided below, it's about a foot further out than both neighbours. This causes a potential visual hazard/obstruction to drivers at the nearby junction and reduces access for pedestrians, particularly any wheelchair users or pushchairs when large vehicles are parked next to the kerb. this property is in the vicinity of Home Farm, Trent Farm and Trent Farm Cottage which are Non-designated Heritage Assets and also in the same setting as Grade II Assets, the War Memorial and 2 and 3 Marples Cottage.*
In the original planning application 18/00072/FUL decision, conditions 6 and 10 state that there should be pedestrian visibility splays of 2 metres x 2 metres on each side of the vehicle access and these measurements are taken from and along the highway boundary. The areas of land forward of these splays shall be maintained free of all obstruction over 0.6 metres above the carriageway level at all times and also that within the site there shall be no structures or vegetation above 600mm in height within 2.4m of the adjacent carriageway edge.
Please ensure Bassetlaw fully consults with the Highways Dept at County Council on this matter and shares the photos with them for their views on the matter, before making a decision on the application."
- **24/01240/SCR Screening Request - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Land Southwest Of Church Laneham Chequers Lane** - The Council responded that: *"Dunham PC already responded under Planning Ref 24/00735/SCR and has nothing further to add, other than what was previously stated."*
- **One Earth Solar & National Grid NSIPS** – The Clerk will chase both up to ask what the timeline is for the next stages.

70/24 To Receive Councillor's/Clerks' Reports including Road Traffic Accidents & County Council Highways Matters:

- **Noting of Accidents** – A speeding near miss on the road to the children's home in Fledborough. The same driver keeps speeding along the lane.
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:

County Council Item	Issue/Detail	Potential Solution	Progress Made
Darlton – Highways Safety issues & speeding A57	A local resident of Darlton advised potential speeding issues on A57 in the village and poor signage.	Notts Police to come do speed checks and Notts County Council Highways Manager to look at what additional signage could be possible, particularly any which encourages drivers to slow down and make them aware of the playground and school children crossing.	16/11/2022 PC Glenn Turner advised that he would speed check again before Christmas and choose a spot to deploy the speed gun so that any vehicles we pull over are done safely and we have to risk assess each location to ensure we don't cause a collision. 13/01/2023 PC Mitchell advised the Speed Camera Team have assured me they will put Darlton on their list of places to conduct road safety campaigns in the future as a positive improvement for the village and also a visible and proactive deterrent to the motorists who speed through it. 28/11/2022 The Highways Manager agreed to visit W/C 5 th Dec to

		<p>ascertain what could be potentially done regards signage. 10/01/2022 The Clerk chased the Highways Manager for an update. 22/02/2023 Highways Manager update “The data is back following the site visit and I’ve had a discussion with the colleagues regarding the data from the traffic survey and it does meet criteria for an interactive sign so we will look at getting a sign put in place at this location. This is now with NCC Transport Planning to assess the locations, effectiveness etc. I will hopefully have more information in the coming weeks or perhaps months depending on their workload but it is on their radar now.</p>  <p>The signs are like the one above but can differ in design at times, but more often than not they look like the image.</p> <p>03/04/2023 reply from Highways Manager ‘I don’t have timescales at the moment unfortunately, this is with NCC at the moment to assess.’ 22/09/2023 – Highways Manager advised <i>‘Unfortunately this is now with NCC and we’ll only find out more once they’ve assessed. I’ll forward your email on in the hope to get some information.’</i></p> <p>18/10/2023 – Update from Highways Manager <i>“I have actually since emailed colleagues again to try and find out timescales, I’ll await their response and hopefully be able to provide some clarity. I have previously requested this information with no avail but hope to apply some pressure to get this planned in.”</i></p> <p>15/11/2023 Clerk chased Highways Manager for an update.</p> <p>22/11/2023 update from Highways Manager “I have spoken to LTP at NCC and this is on the list for inclusion in next year’s 2024/25 programme by way of LTP and Programme Development Team. If you require any further information, Paul Hillier has said he is happy to answer directly:</p>
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			<p>paul.hillier@nottsc.gov.uk” 25/03/24 update from Paul “<i>The proposal has been included in the proposed works programme for 24/25 but, as yet, this programme has not yet been formally approved. I don’t know when approval is scheduled but it shouldn’t be too long. As soon as it is, I will issue our design/construction company, Via EM, with an instruction to install it, at which point it will be for them to schedule it into their workload.</i>”</p> <p>09.05.24 Via Programme Assistant “<i>We received the task order for the installation of an interactive speed sign at the end of April, it has been passed through to our design team and usually takes a minimum of 6 months to fulfil. I have spoken with the project manager, and at the moment there isn’t an exact timeframe, but I have asked him to let me know when there is one. It will be installed before the end of March 2025, and when I have a more exact date/month, I will let you know.</i>”</p> <p>5.11.2024 chased Via Programme Assistant for an update. 07.11.2024 Highways Programme Team advised “<i>I have asked the project manager for an update for you, I will be in touch once I have an update</i>”</p>
Dunham – Laneham Road	No Bus shelter	School Children (7 at present) have no shelter	<p>25/10/2023 - Transport Facilities Assistant advised ‘<i>Thank you for your request for a bus shelter to be installed at BA0745 Cartwright Close on Laneham Road, Dunham on Trent. As you may be aware, Nottinghamshire County Council has an extremely limited capital budget for investment in bus stop infrastructure, and this means only a limited number of new bus shelters can be installed each year. As a result, we are required to ensure that the limited funds are utilised to benefit the maximum number of passengers and to focus on supporting access to local bus services (rather than bus services dedicated for school children). At this particular bus stop, whilst it is used by school buses once a day, it is not served by any local bus services. It is therefore with regret that I’m afraid the County Council would not be a position to invest in a bus shelter in this location.</i></p> <p><i>I note that you enquired about the costs involved in providing a bus shelter in this location to help decide if the Parish Council could bid for funding to fund part or all of the investment. I’ve</i></p>

			<p><i>reviewed the site and concluded that significant civils works would be required to provide adequate hardstanding on which to install a bus shelter. It is also possible that land will need to be acquired beyond the highway extent to ensure a sufficient width of hardstanding can be maintained. The bus shelter would cost approximately £3.5k but I would estimate civils works of at least £5k and possibly up to £20k if one was to provide an uncontrolled dropped crossing point on both sides of the road plus the necessary hardstanding. I am really sorry not to be providing a more positive response but hope the above explains our position and provides the information you were seeking.</i></p> <p>Cllr Watkinson to draft a response disputing the use of the bus stop, stating it is used by others, Clerk to then email this back to NCC and Cc in Cllr Ogle who will raise this bus shelter as a safety scheme issue.</p> <p>21/11/2023 Cllr Watkinson emailed Cllr Ogle the required information with photos.</p> <p>5/12/2023 Cllr Watkinson emailed County Cllr Ogle the required information on 21st Nov.</p> <p>11/07/2024 - Clerk Chased Cllr Ogle for update. 05/11/24 Chased Highways Manager for an update.</p>
Darlton – A57	missing/damaged chevron signs on these S bends between Darlton & Tuxford (just before gliding club heading towards Tuxford).	Cars keep ending up in farmers' fields as if they don't know the road and there are no signs, they are not aware of how tight the bends are especially at night.	<p>Reported on 21/01/2024 by Cllr Watkinson CSC578961577 – Needs sign replacing. 11/07/2024 - Clerk Chased Highways Manager for update. 05/11/24 Chased Highways Manager for an update. 06/11/2024 – Completed – Highways Manager advised “Both the 40 sign and the chevron have been fixed today.”</p>
Ragnall Main St	Wobbly loose 40mph sign	Sign dangerous, flaps about in the wind.	<p>Reported on 20/05/2024 by Cllr Bean CSC616035119 – Sign needs securing/repairing. 11/07/2024 - Clerk Chased Highways Manager for update. 05/11/24 Chased Highways Manager for an update. 06/11/2024 – Completed – Highways Manager advised “Both the 40 sign and the chevron have been fixed today.”</p>
Darlton – A57	White lines missing/faded on A57 from Darlton towards East Markham	Makes it dangerous driving at night. NCC need to repaint the white lines	<p>Reported on 20/05/2024 by Cllr Bean CSC616035119 – White lines need repainting. 11/07/2024 - Clerk Chased Highways Manager for update. 22/7/24 Highways Manager advised “white lining to be done overnight during 5 nights from 7th Oct 2024” 05/11/24 Chased Highways Manager for an</p>

			update. 06.11.2024 Highways Manager Advised “Unfortunately a bunch of lining works in October had to be cancelled due to the weather. These particular ones were part of the cancellations. In the interim we have put up some No Road Markings signs and scheduled the relining for April 2025. April is the next opportunity we can get. We don’t reline most roads from November to the end of March as road surface temperatures are usually too low and lead to material failures that our subcontractors won’t guarantee their works against. This, salt contamination and weather unpredictability mean we’d spend more in cancellation charges or second visits to rectify failed sites.”
Dunham – Coronation Terrace A57	Cars smashing into the houses on Coronation Terrace	Request for Bollards/Barriers to prevent the impact into the homes.	11/09/2024 – Request to Highways Manager to contact Cllr Watkinson and meet on site to discuss potential solutions. 05/11/24 Chased Highways Manager for an update. 06.11.2024 Assistant District Highways Manager advised “I have contacted Cllr Watkinson to arrange a site meeting over the next 2 weeks.”
A57 at the junction with Laneham Road to the junction with Upper Row	Pavement encroached with earth and grass, preventing safe access for pedestrians, particularly wheelchair users, pushchairs/prams and mobility scooters.	Request for a ‘siding up request’ to Notts CC team who cut away the earth from the pavement between what 3 words locations ‘armrest.vintages.crispy’ and ‘nuzzling.sailing.partners’	13/11/2024 – Request sent to Highways Manager.

New Items:

- **Cllr Ballinger** – Car parked again on the pavement all the time at Riversdale House, obstructs wheelchairs and prams, particularly bariatric chairs. The Clerk will report again to the Police to investigate.
- **Cllr Lee** – Has undertaken the weedkilling. The flood container now has the sandbags in it. Cllr Lee asked the Clerk to look into costs for replacing the internal board at the Fledborough noticeboard.
- **Cllr Barden** – Attended the Planning Inspectorate meeting at Retford in defence of the Rose Cottage decision. Cllr Barden is to work with Cllr Lee in approaching Planning Aid in regards to the NSIPS. Cllr Barden asked the Clerk to buy a couple more boxes of Lamppost Poppies.
- **Cllr Booth** – Need a Siding up Request to County Council as the pavement from the Dunham Crossroads on the A57 at the junction with Laneham Road to the junction with Upper Row has become unpassable for pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooters. It is used regularly by pedestrians from the village to the school. The pavement has become encroached along this stretch by grass and earth.
- **Cllr Atkinson** – Is investigating artists/prices for redecorating the outside of the shipping container in the Village Hall Carpark to make it more attractive. Cllr Atkinson is also contacting the head office of the children’s home with regards to the speeding staff member.
- **Cllr Bean** – Fledborough Churchyard has been cut. There are 30 drainage grips on the lane in Flednorough, the clerk was asked to include in the budget for 2025/26 24hrs extra pay to the Lengthsman’s contract to allow him time to trim these in the growing months and to approach Dick Hewitt for a cost to flail along these twice a year. Cllr Bean then discussed the designs for the wildlife project lecterns.

- **Cllr Watkinson** – Provided an update from the Fledglings group and has completed the NALC online abuse training.

71/24 To Adopt a Sexual and General Harassment Policy & Procedure

NALC have advised Councils, as employers have a new duty to prevent sexual harassment from October 2024 under S40a Equality Act 2010 Employers, to take proactive steps to prevent Sexual Harassment at work. NALC have advised the adoption of a Sexual and General Harassment Policy & Procedure: *“The policy should provide a range of options for reporting sexual harassment, depending on who the person who has been subject to harassment feels comfortable with.*

- *The policy should provide a range of informal options for dealing with sexual harassment.*
- *The policy should contain a formal complaints procedure for the Employee to use if they wish.*
- *The formal procedure should allow Union representation.*
- *The procedure should be clear about when disciplinary action might be needed.*
- *Only one investigation needs to be conducted into both the Employee’s complaint and any subsequent Disciplinary action.*
- *The policy should contain details of help and support available to the person who made the complaint.*
- *Someone who’s been sexually harassed will be given paid time off to get help with any resulting physical or mental health problems.”*

After discussion, Cllr Bean **Proposed**, Cllr Watkinson **Seconded** and the council resolved to adopt the policy with immediate effect.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 8:10pm.