

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



with General Power of Competence

Meeting of **Dunham & District Parish Council** held on the **14th Jan 2025** 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
John Ogle
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Chairman
Vice-Chair
Cllr Kathryn Watkinson
Cllr Rachel Bean
Cllr Rachel Sergison
Cllr Pam Hutley
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Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
District Cllr
County Cllr
Member of Public

Also, Present

➤ Public Forum
None.

01/25 To receive apologies for absence
None.

02/25 To receive declarations of interest
None.

03/25 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.

04/25 To Receive written application for the office of Parish councillor and to potentially Co-opt a candidate to fill an existing vacancy
After discussion, the chairman called for a vote, all in favour, **resolved** to co-opt Pam Hutley. The candidate signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms, and will complete the 'registration of interests' online form on Bassetlaw District Council's website. **Action**, the Clerk to inform Bassetlaw District Council.

05/25 To receive reports from County and District Councillors
Dist Cllr Griffin – Advised that Bassetlaw have appointed a part-time Flooding & Resilience Officer, Jayne Walters. The Clerk will email round her contact details.
Dist Cllr Stanniland – Did not attend.
County Cllr Ogle – Discussed various outstanding highways matters. Cllr Ogle recommended Paul Hilliar be contacted regards the site meeting at Coronation Terrace, and highlight the fact that a registered childminder lives at one of the properties, parents, children, elderly, mobility scooters all use the pavement where cars crash into the properties.

06/25 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	£46.35
RBLI Poppy Shop	Lamppost Poppies	£145
RBLI Trading Ltd	Poppy Wreath	£25
MeadowMakers	2024/25 Wildlife Project Area's maintenance	£1,500
Total Payments		£1,716.35

2. Receipts:

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
None		
Total Receipts		£0
Bank Balance		£33,643.81

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.

3. **To Approve 2025/26 Budget & Set a Precept:**

Prior to the meeting, the Clerk circulated the draft budget statement with potential precept requirements for the next financial year and the facts surrounding the precept to allow each member time to prepare for making a decision.

Bassetlaw District Council Concurrent Grant has reduced year on year to just £37, explaining the reduction of the Concurrent Grant, Bassetlaw District Council wrote to each Parish Council to state that: *“we continue to reduce the concurrent grant; therefore, you need to factor in these reductions, you will see that Harworth & Bircotes Parish Council decided some years ago to substantially increase their precept and invest in their infrastructure for their local people.”*

NALC (National Association of Local Councils) and the SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) advise that Parish Councils should not set any arbitrary, random figure for their precepts, the law requires parish councils to set a precept that is a ‘balancing figure’ known in legislation as the ‘council tax requirement’. The precept should be set to be the amount of money required to ‘balance’ the accounts **after deducting all ‘other expected regular annual income’** in our case this is all rental income from Parish Land and Property:

Rents & Other Income	Income Amount	Annual Precept Saving per home @ Band D	Precept Annual Saving per home @ Band A
Bassetlaw Concurrent Grant	£37	£0.16	£0.11
Bassetlaw Street Cleaning Grant	£555	£2.47	£1.64
Notts County Council Lengthsman Scheme Grant	£3,700	£16.44	£10.96
Land Rent	£413	£1.84	£1.22
Total	£4,705	£20.91	£13.93

Inflation CPI for the previous 12 months was approximately 3.5%. In addition to the usual running costs, after taking into consideration the self-generated income, a precept rise is required to cover the balance of regular recurring expenditure.

After discussion of the budget options, Cllr Barden called for a vote, all members in favour, **resolved** to 1) approve the budget, 2) to set a precept at of **£18,900** = to Band D at £83.60 per year (£6.97 per month).

Action, the RFO to submit the completed Precept paperwork to Bassetlaw District Council.

In 2024/25 the Band D amount was £77.58 per year (£6.46 per month).

In 2023/24 the Band D amount was £71.33 per year (£5.94 per month).

It is worth noting that this is only an increase this year at band D of **£6.97 a year (53p per month)**

The Dunham & District parishes have approximately 300 properties, 174 are in bands A to C, which will pay less than the Band D figure. Homes with only 1 adult occupant, are entitled to receive a further 25% reduction on the above figures, with additional reductions for residents in receipt of certain benefits. Details are found by contacting Bassetlaw Council regards Council Tax reduction.

In comparison with other parishes in Bassetlaw, this is still a modest precept, for example, at Band D, last year West Stockwith electorate 271, precept was £139.09 a year, Torworth electorate 201, was £167.44, Misterton which has an electorate of 1770 was £147.18.

07/25 **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:

- **24/01284/LBA & 24/01283/HSE - Repair and Restoration of Whimpton Barn New Alterations to the Ground Floor Barn At Whimpton House Darlton Road Ragnall** The Council responded that: *“it has no objections and supports the application.”*
- **24/01334/HSE Proposed Two Storey Rear Extension Chestnut Cottage Main Street Ragnall** - the Council responded that: *“it has no objections and supports the application.”*
- **24/01471/FUL Proposed Development of a Compensatory Flood Management Area Comprising the Excavation and Exportation of Soil, the Reprofilling of Land, a New Vehicular Access and Egress, the Reinstatement of Vegetation and Associated Works - Land Southwest of Church Laneham Chequers Lane Dunham On Trent** - The Council responded that: *“The parish council has nothing further to add beyond what was already stated in the previous SCR application.”*

08/25 **To Receive Councillor’s/Clerks’ Reports including Road Traffic Accidents & County Council Highways Matters:**

- **Noting of Accidents** – None.

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.	<p>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 5th Dec to 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. 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</p>

			<p><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>"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: paul.hillier@nottsc.gov.uk"</i></p> <p>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> <p>04.1.2025 – Chase sent to programme Assistant.</p> <p>07.01.2025 – Update from Senior Design Manager: <i>"a brief update on programmed ITM works in your area ahead of the HAG meeting programmed</i></p>
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			<p>for tomorrow (19th December). The project in your area is A57 Broad Gate, Darlton, for which I include a brief update below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials currently being procured for the works • Anticipating delivery in Q4 24/25.” <p>15.01.2025 - both options proposed by the NCC Assistant Project Engineer were discussed and “After a thorough discussion at the parish council meeting last night (and following consultation with the residents at Darlton who raised the initial request/issue) the Parish Council would like you to choose option B Because location A is very close to the bus stop and bend and you want the cars to have already slowed down by then. Location B is a straighter area and will really help with speed reduction and should have the biggest impact.”</p>
Dunham – Laneham Road	No Bus shelter	School Children (7 at present) have no shelter	<p>25/10/2023 - Transport Facilities Assistant advised ‘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.</p> <p>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 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</p>

			<p><i>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><i>' 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.</i></p> <p><i>21/11/2023 Cllr Watkinson emailed Cllr Ogle the required information with photos.</i></p> <p><i>5/12/2023 Cllr Watkinson emailed County Cllr Ogle the required information on 21st Nov.</i></p> <p><i>11/07/2024 - Clerk Chased Cllr Ogle for update. 05/11/24 Chased Highways Manager for an update.</i></p> <p><i>07.01.2025 Cllr Ogle update: "I had an online meeting recently discussing this with an investigating officer. Summary - A busy road, power station access, so safety is a feature here, which I hope has prioritised your request."</i></p> <p><i>15/01/2025 – Dist Cllr Griffin emailed County Cllr Ogle to request a projected timeline for the installation of the bus stop.</i></p>
Darlington – A57	White lines missing/faded on A57 from Darlington 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 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</p>

			<i>unpredictability mean we'd spend more in cancellation charges or second visits to rectify failed sites."</i>
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>"I have contacted Cllr Watkinson to arrange a site meeting over the next 2 weeks."</i> 15/01/2024 – Chased again.
Pavement Siding Up Request - Dunham 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** – discussed the dyke beside the A57 which isn't draining away and requires clearance, Cllr Lee agreed to contact the Drainage Board.
- **Cllr Barden** – Attended the EDF Meeting regards the future demolition works at Cottam and West Burton Power Stns.
- **Cllr Booth** – The Car on the pavement issue has been resolved. Request that the Lengthsman cuts back the overhanging vegetation at the unfinished property on the A57 next to the Ginnel.
- **Cllr Atkinson** – Discussed Potholes on Fledborough Lane
- **Cllr Bean** – The Design of the wildlife boards are complete and will be ready for S.Ashworth to install shortly. Cllr Atkinson agreed to WhatsApp the Lengthsman the locations of the existing wildlife wooden signs which need varnishing to prolong their lifespans.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 8:32pm.