

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 Jul 2024** at Dunham Village Hall, the meeting commenced at **7:00pm**.

Council Members & Officer Present	Cllr Madeline Barden	Chairman
	Cllr Vera Ballinger	Vice-Chair
	Cllr Emma Thorpe	Cllr Lucy Atkinson
	Cllr Ben Lee	Cllr Rachel Bean
	Cllr Ian Oakden	Cllr Kathryn Watkinson
	Current Vacancies	1
	Ed Knox	Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
Also, Present	John Ogle	County Cllr
	Lewis Stanniland	District Cllr

➤ Public Forum

None.

44/24 To receive apologies for absence

After discussion, the council **resolved** to accept the apologies of Cllrs Sergison & Booth.

45/24 To receive declarations of interest

None.

46/24 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.

47/24 To receive reports from County and District Councillors

Dist Cllr Griffin – Did not attend.

Dist Cllr Stanniland – Did not attend.

County Cllr Ogle – Provided an update to the Council on County matters and discussed a County Cllrs discretionary grant to the Village Hall towards the foundation stone for the flood resilience container, Cllr Lee to arrange application form with Cllr Ogle.

48/24 Finance:

1. To Approve Payments:

The Council **approved** the following: -

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ROSPA Playsafety Ltd	Annual Inspections of Play Areas	£211.20
Holmes Groundcare	Dunham Play Area Grass Cutting	£232.30
Gallagher Insurance	Insurance Renewal	£1,193.04
S.Ashworth Diggers Ltd	Fledborough Drain/Dyke Maintenance	£160
S.Ashworth Diggers Ltd	Play Park Repairs	£290
Total Payments		£2,086.90

Receipts:

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
None		
Total Receipts		£0
Bank Balance		£38,988.22

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. * £379.25 Wildlife & Environmental Project Budget, Grant Funds currently raised and Ring-Fenced for the finalisation and ongoing maintenance of the project.

49/24 To Receive an update on Fledborough Broadband

Cllr Atkinson advised the following from the Notts County Council Broadband Engagement Officer at Notts County Council: Technical surveys have been undertaken by Openreach. Item to come off the agenda and will be mentioned under Cllr Reports in future.

50/24 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:

- **24/00735/SCR - Proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and Associated Plant and Equipment (in Rampton Parish on Torksey Ferry Road) and flood risk zone in Laneham Parish and in the north of Dunham parish north of Cockett's Hill** - The Council **resolved** to comment as follows Dunham and District Parish Council have the following concerns:

- *"Risk of fire at the proposed BESS*
- *Risk of soil damage on the compensatory flood mitigation land*
- *Risk of damage to buried heritage identified on the Nottinghamshire HER on the compensatory flood mitigation land*
- *Cumulative fire risk of proposed BESS facilities, and the effects they would have on Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue*

The Parish Council also have the following comments:

- *There are many proposed BESS facilities planned in the wider area, many attached to NSIP's. Should a fire break out at one facility, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue would be under strain if another fire developed.*
- *Other proposed BESS facilities are planned to avoid being sited in areas at risk of flooding.*
- *Siting a BESS facility on land at risk of flooding may reduce emergency access should there be a fire.*
- *The proposed compensatory flood mitigation land does not share drainage to the Trent with the proposed BESS site.*
- *The proposed compensatory flood mitigation land drains to the Trent via a pumping station between Dunham on Trent and Church Laneham, flooding of the surrounding land occurs from pluvial flooding, or alluvial flooding of Laneham Beck, not from the site of the proposed BESS.*
- *Compensatory flood mitigation land would best be provided in the same catchment as the site.*
- *Flood modelling needs to be done to check that the proposed compensatory flood mitigation land is suitable.*
- *The proposed compensatory flood mitigation land is close to the Trent Valley Way footpath and several pylons that would be affected by the mitigation works.*
- *The proposed compensatory flood mitigation land includes several entries on the Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record that could be at risk of damage.*
- *There is a high risk of damage to the soil at the proposed compensatory flood mitigation land, a soil management plan needs to be in place.*
- *The biodiversity net gain calculations should take into consideration the loss of biodiversity caused by the proposed flood mitigation works."*
- **23/01423/PREAPP - Proposed National Strategic Infrastructure Project Consultation from The Planning Inspectorate on Behalf of the Secretary of State for a Scoping Opinion - One Earth Solar Scoping Hollowgate Lane High Marnham** - The Council **resolved** to comment as follows: *"The Council has already sent off its view to the consultation, the One Earth Solar consultation is going ahead as detailed in the documents written by One Earth and they are also pro-actively contacting residents to meet face-to-face to discuss the plans further."*
- **24/00699/VOC Vary Conditions 2 and 10 of P.A. 21/01735/COU to Amend Approved Plans to Enable a Different Access to the Site and Landscaping Field House Farm and Land Darlton Road Ragnall** - The Council **resolved** to comment as follows: *"The Council has safety concerns for additional driveways adding onto the busy A57 road. However, the Parish Council wishes Notts County Council Highways Dept to be the consultees to respond on this aspect of the planning application, as they are the experts on this matter."*
- **24/00717/SCR Land East of Crabtree Lane and North of Polly Taylors Road Skegby (Normanton-On-Trent Parish Council area)** - The Council **resolved** to comment as follows: *Dunham and District Parish Council have the following concerns:*
 - *Risk of fire at the proposed BESS.*
 - *Cumulative fire risk of proposed BESS facilities, and the effects they would have on Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue.*
 - *The proximity of the proposed development to the potential site of the One Earth NSIP BESS and substation.*

The Parish Council also have the following comments:

- The roads next to the site are part of the National Cycle Route 647 - The effect on cyclists must be considered, including noise and visual appearance.
- The effect on tourism provided by the cycle route should factor into the design, especially landscape and visual design choices, and noise sensitive receptors.
- There are many proposed BESS facilities planned in the wider area, many attached to NSIP's. Should a fire break out at one facility, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue would be under strain if another fire developed.
- The site slopes upward away from the roads, landscaping and earthworks should take this into consideration.
- A soil management plan should be in place for the cabling works to the substation.
- National Grid pylons and transmission wires cross the proposed site - the cumulative visual impact of a BESS and pylons needs to be considered.
- The exact location of the BESS needs to allow National Grid access to maintain the infrastructure, and emergency access.
- There are many developments that have been approved, or are being planned, that will put strain on the local road network.
- Where possible, the construction traffic should be routed by rail on the nearby High Marnham test track.
- Screening and other mitigations should take into account the wider landscape characteristics, avoiding making the area seem "closed in."
- As the proposed sit is close to the deserted village of Woodcotes, and the shrunken village of Skegby (Nottinghamshire HER), geophysical surveys of the site and cable routing should be undertaken.
- The lack of existing mature hedgerows, or other screening, has not been accounted for in the absorption capacity of the natural environment in the EIA assessment.
- The risk to human health due to the risk of fire should have been included in the EIA assessment.
- There is no mention of the nearby Local Wildlife site (Skegby Road Triangle - Sited : 2/444) in the documentation provided. The applicant needs to assess how the development may affect the LWS.
- As parts of the site are within a flood risk zone, a detailed flood risk assessment needs to be done.
- We strongly advise that the developers should host a consultation event in the local area before submitting their planning application. This would be in line with the applications from JG Pears, and National Grid for their applications in the area.

Dunham and District Parish Council have been asked to provide feedback on this application. However, the local parish council is Normanton with Marnham Parish Council. We hope that they have been consulted & replied also."

- **National Grid Electricity Transmission – North Humber to High Marnham – Localised Non-Statutory Consultation:** The Council discussed the recent changes to the proposed pylon route, which raised several concerns. The Council **resolved** to contact National Grid and request an in-person information session with the Parish Councillors on 13th Aug at 7pm, following which a response can be potentially sent in to National Grid.

50/24 To Discuss the current situation with the churchyards and to resolve to pass the maintenance responsibility of any churchyard within the parish council's area, under the Local Govt Act 1972 to Bassetlaw District Council, should the parochial church council wish to officially close any of these churchyards. Note in the Minutes the response to any planning applications via the scheme of delegation

After discussion, the Council agreed that it would pass any responsibility to Bassetlaw Council, if and when the Parochial Church Council should decide to officially close any churchyards, at a future date. If this ever happens the parish council at the time will debate and make the appropriate resolution. After further discussion, Cllr Bean **Proposed**, Cllr Barden **Seconded** and the Council **Resolved** for Cllr Barden to contact the PCC with an officer from MeadowMakers Ltd who are willing to properly re-wild areas of Dunham and Fledborough Churchyards and manage these at no additional costs. This will include mowing access paths within the areas. Also to apply for permission for a 'blue plaque' to be erected within the grounds of the church, wall or church itself detailing the historic references to Rev Sweetapple. Cllr Barden to obtain an email of consent from the PCC if they are in agreement with this idea.

52/24 To Receive Councillor's/Clerks' Reports including Road Traffic Accidents & County Council Highways Matters:

- **Noting of Accidents** – No new accidents on the A57

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
Darlington – Highways Safety issues & speeding A57	A local resident of Darlington 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 Darlington 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 –</p>

			<p>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>"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>
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</i></p>

			<p>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 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.' 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. 21/11/2023 Cllr Watkinson emailed Cllr Ogle the required information with photos. 5/12/2023 Cllr Watkinson emailed County Cllr Ogle the required information on 21st Nov.</p>
Fledborough Bend	Lack of sufficient warning of the bend to drivers	NCC to advise what improvements could be made	<p>14/11/2023 - 3 cars came off the road in 31 days and residents have asked the PC to explore what can be altered by Notts County Council. Highways Manager to asked to what safety measures could be implemented by the County Council now that the old reflector posts are gone and the chevron is very small. Cllr Atkinson to provide map/what3words location to send on with description of issue.</p>

Fledborough	Drainage Board Pump Capacity & Dyke Maintenance	Clarification wanted from Drainage board on pump capacity and maintenance of dykes etc	09/01/2024 – Cllr Atkinson to draft an FOI request for the Clerk to send to the drainage board (who have ignored several email requests so far).
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.	Reported on 21/01/2024 by Cllr Watkinson CSC578961577 – Needs sign replacing.
Ragnall Main St	Wobbly loose 40mph sign	Sign dangerous, flaps about in the wind.	Reported on 20/05/2024 by Cllr Bean CSC616035119 – Sign needs securing/repairing.
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	Reported on 20/05/2024 by Cllr Bean CSC616035119 – White lines need repainting.

New Items:

- **Cllr Bean** – £4,000 grant has arrived for the purchase of the Wildlife Project display boards and their installation by S.Ashworth Diggers Ltd. Cllr Bean to forward the Clerk the quote info so that the order can be placed, for delivery to Mr Ashworth.
- **Cllr Lee** – Is applying for the Fledborough Viaduct to become a listed building.
- **Cllr Barden** – Gave an update to clarify the proposed changes of the Bassetlaw District Council ward area changes.
- **Cllr Atkinson** – Gave a report on the upcoming events and activities of the village hall. Clerk requested to put a note on FB/Website to advise local people that the PC are consulting and raising concerns around the National Grid Pylons, One Earth Solar, Solar Batteries and other NSIPS in the Trent Valley area, and should they wish to know more, to speak with a local parish Cllr.

53/24 Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 8:50pm.