

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 Jan 2024 at Dunham Village Hall, the meeting commenced at 6:30pm.

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Council Members & Officer Present | Cllr Madeline Barden | Chairman |
| | Cllr Kathryn Watkinson | Cllr Lucy Atkinson |
| | Cllr Emma Thorpe | Cllr Vera Ballinger |
| | Cllr Ben Lee | |
| | Current Vacancies | 2 |
| Also, Present | Ed Knox | Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer |
| | 4 Members of the Public | |
| | Emma Griffin | District Cllr |

➤ Public Forum

Members of the public came to discuss the access around the paths and grounds maintenance at Dunham Church, after a lengthy discussion, of the history and actions the PC have taken, working with the County Council, the public were given the contact details for the Parochial Church Council.

The public believed that the gate on the archway on the A57 side has been locked for months, and were going to check and if a lock is present send a photo to the parish council to pass onto Notts County Council.

Another member of the public requested that the Drainage Board visit the access road in Fledborough to investigate the recent causes of the flooding on the road. This will be picked up later in the meeting. A further discussion was had about the poor response to local flooding with regards to NCC not notifying vulnerable residents or advising how the 30 sandbags they dropped off at the village hall should be distributed. The Council discussed this then at length with those present and the District Cllr, it was agreed to add Flood Management/Wardens to the next meeting agenda.

01/24 To receive apologies for absence

After discussion, the council **resolved** to accept the apologies of Cllr Booth. Cllrs Bean and Sergison did not attend.

02/24 To receive declarations of interest

None.

03/24 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.

04/23 To receive reports from County and District Councillors

Dist Cllr Stanniland – Did not attend.

Dist Cllr Griffin – discussed with the Council the recent floods and the plan for a coordinated effort going forward between Bassetlaw DC and Notts CC.

County Cllr Ogle – Did not attend.

05/24 Finance:

1. To Approve Payments:

The Council **approved** the following: -

| <u>Payee</u> | <u>Ref</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------------|------------|---|----------------|
| RBLI | 27 | S137 Poppy Wreath | £20.00 |
| Dunham V Hall | 28 | Hall Hires 2023/24 | £308.00 |
| Member of Public | 29 | Amazon Eu Sarl – Cable Ties for Poppies | £19.58 |
| Clerk | 30 | RBLI – 25 x Tommy Lamppost Poppies | £115.98 |
| Total Payments | | | £463.56 |

Receipts:

| <u>From</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|
| BT Openreach | Annual Wayleave – Telegraph poles Reptile Gardens | £21 |
| Total Receipts | | £21 |

Bank Balance

£30,345.47

Prior to the meeting, the Clerk had circulated the draft budget statement with potential precept requirements 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.**

2. To Approve 2024/25 Budget & Set a Precept:

Prior to the meeting, the Clerk had circulated the draft budget statement with potential precept requirements for 2024/25 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 £34, 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 | £34 | £0.15 | £0.10 |
| Bassetlaw Street Cleaning Grant | £512 | £2.28 | £1.52 |
| Notts County Council Lengthsman Scheme Grant | £3,700 | £16.44 | £10.96 |
| Land Rent | £362 | £1.64 | £1.10 |
| Total | £4,608 | £20.51 | £13.68 |

Inflation CPI for the previous 12 months was approximately 6%. 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 **£17,445** = to Band D at £77.58 per year (£6.46 per month).

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

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

In 2022/23 the Band D amount was £65.75 per year (£5.48 per month).

It is worth noting that this is only an increase this year at band D of **£6.25 (52p per month)**

The 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 265, precept was £139.09 a year, Torworth electorate 208, was £167.44, Misterton which has an electorate of 1770 was £147.18.

06/24 To Receive an update on Fledborough Broadband

Cllr Atkinson advised 60+ properties have signed up meaning less than 20 more are needed across the phone exchange area covering Laneham, Newton-On-Trent, Dunham, Darlton, Ragnall and Fledborough. After discussion, the Council **resolved** that Cllr Thorpe will produce a VistaPrint leaflet and the Council will distribute to all homes, including Laneham and Newton to try to attempt to get enough properties signed up. If successful the whole area network will be upgraded to full fibre.

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.

07/24 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:

- **23/01440/FUL Cobs Retrospective Application for Cafe Space Including Outdoor Seating Area to the Rear of the Existing Retail Space-** The Council responded as follows: *"The Parish Council had no objections and supports the application."*
- **Planning Inspectorate Ref EN010159 - One Earth Solar Farm - EIA Scoping Notification and Consultation -** The Council responded as follows:

"Introduction

The Parish Council of Dunham with Ragnall, Fledborough and Darlton are not in support of the applicant's proposals; as outlined in their Scoping Report, submitted on the 13th of November 2023.

The Parish Council has outlined information that should be included in the Environmental Statement. Due to the short time limit imposed, this list is not exhaustive, and we may have future information that we feel will be important in affecting the Environmental Statement.

Additional considerations

Many of the decisions the applicant has made in their Scoping Report are based on an indefinite operational phase. We strongly insist that the operational phase is time-limited, in line with the other solar NSIP's in the area. With the applicant's current proposal, any references to the project being temporary should be removed, and their effects assessed as permanent.

The development of the STEP project at West Burton, a nuclear fusion power station located on the former coal-fired power station has wide reaching effects across the Trent Valley area and is of national importance. The effects of the proposed development must be scoped into the assessment as a separate section, rather than being included under the socio-economic section.

The Council insists that a moratorium on all Trent Valley energy projects until a masterplan has been written, incorporating impact on STEP programme.

There are several solar projects of a similar scale planned in the wider area. Although these developments are at some distance away, due to their scale and identity, the applicant must assess the cumulative effect of these projects against their own proposed solar development. Due to the number of these projects at a later stage in the national infrastructure project process, their effects must be considered under a separate section of the environmental assessment.

National Grid have already completed the first stage of consultations for the North Humber to High Marnham national infrastructure project. Their proposed development includes areas in, and nearby, the applicant's proposed development area. The cumulative effects of the two projects requires detailed consideration, as detailed in Paragraph 4.2.5 of NPS En-1.

The applicant must complete a cumulative effects assessment, following the advice published by the planning inspectorate.

The applicant must consider in their environmental assessment the effects of the scale of the development.

The areas outlined in their map includes vast blocks of solar panels. The sheer scale of the proposed development should be taken into account in all the areas of their assessment.

No details of alternative sites have been identified in the scoping report submitted by the applicant. Section 4.4.2 of NPS En-1 details what is required. The applicant must detail in their assessment why land outside of the outline area was not considered for their proposals in their assessment.

The area already has pylons and transmission wires, as well as being located near a large substation. The area already hosts energy infrastructure associated with national infrastructure. Large areas of the outline area to the west of the river Trent are prone to surface water flooding and no consideration to alternative land has been given.

Other solar NSIP's to the north of the site have panels some distance from their associated substation, the applicant has not given any justification for their close proximity to the High Marnham substation and the cumulative effects on visual appearance this would bring.

The applicant must include in their assessment how their proposed development will affect the weak mobile phone signal in the area, and how they would mitigate any effects.

Included in the applicant's assessment should be details of any plans to re-panel the site in the future, and what effects it would have on wildlife, soils and the community.

Biodiversity

An Environmental Impact Assessment from Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust must be included in the assessment.

The applicant should aim for a much higher biodiversity net gain rather than the minimum of 10%, especially considering the scale and duration of the proposed development. As outlined in the applicant's map, the majority of the mitigation and enhancement is located to the east, and near, the river Trent. The mitigation and enhancement must be laid out in a way that improves biodiversity over the wider area.

The baseline surveys have not been completed to a sufficient level of detail or duration for a development of this scale and proposed duration. Those conducted did not fully follow the guidance given in several of the survey methodologies, and are limited in the number of locations surveyed. Given the scale of the proposed development this cannot form a reliable baseline.

Fledborough to Harby Dismantled Railway LWS, designated for botanical interest, has not been identified as an important wildlife habitat. It forms an important wildlife corridor across the area, and also across the Trent. The sidings and site of the former High Marnham power station has also been omitted. These sites must be added as wildlife habitats and the areas sufficiently surveyed.

Full, year-long surveys of species identified in the applicant's scoping report should be conducted across the whole site to form a more representative baseline and to aid in mitigation and enhancement.

No detailed wildlife surveys on land at or near residents in the proposed development area have been conducted. Survey licences, similar to those being pursued by National Grid in their NSIP must be sought to establish baseline data near sensitive receptors and to guide mitigation and enhancement.

Protection and enhancement of local wildlife sites must be included in the applicant's assessment.

The effect of the proposed development on raptors must be included in the assessment. The loss of their hunting grounds puts them at risk. Not only are these species an important part of the food chain, but they also have considerable visual appeal.

The construction plan must include plans to mitigate harm to nesting bird species found in hedgerow habitats. No details have been given by the applicant on how they plan to mitigate areas that would be lost to transitory and roaming animals, such as badgers and deer.

The applicant must include in their assessment how their plans will affect the ongoing rewilding efforts being made by the parish council.

The effects of the scale of the development should be included in the biodiversity section.

The applicant has not detailed how the biodiversity net gain will be measured during any phase of the project. This needs to be scoped into the assessment.

The applicant should also seek to acquire independent reports on baseline biodiversity from independent organisations, such as the RSPB etc.

The effect of the proposed project on creating a microclimate that would adversely effect wildlife must be included in their assessment.

Hydrology and Hydrogeology

The applicant's statement in their scoping report that the risk of surface water flooding is low is false, the low-lying farmland west of the river Trent floods almost annually.

The surface water flooding risk of the low-lying areas to the west of the river Trent requires further investigation by the applicant and Environment Agency. The historical flooding in this area does not match up with the Environment Agency Flood Risk from Surface Water map.

The surface water flooding risk in this area does not take into consideration the pumping station for Fledborough Beck, and the flooding risk associated with its potential failure.

The applicant has not identified the risk of damage to subsurface field drains that are present across agricultural land. These field drains require mapping to inform panel mounting placement does not damage or affect the ability of the land to drain. Damage to field drains has the potential to degrade soil structure and future agricultural use of the land.

The applicant has not considered septic drainage fields in areas, such as Fledborough, without mains sewers. These areas must be identified as areas where panels must not be placed, damage to these areas would present a health risk.

Additional or alterations to watercourse crossing points must be fully assessed. Any new crossings must include details of maintenance to prevent any flooding risk.

The effects of surface water run-off from solar panels must be fully assessed to prevent channelling and soil erosion. Run-off from panels must be managed in a way that minimises any reduction in water quality or increase in surface water flooding.

Offsets from watercourses should be made wider than recommendations provide, to account for climate change requiring channels to be widened.

Consideration must be made for the effects of climate change on surface water flooding, and an increased risk of flooding from the river Trent.

The responsibility of the maintenance of ditches and dykes across the proposed site need to be established. If the land is to be used for solar panels there is little incentive for land owners to maintain them, if these watercourses are not maintained it risks worsening the effects of flooding in the local area.

Land and Soils

The potential loss of BMV land must be scoped into the assessment; no BMV land should be included in the development.

Physical damage to the soil during the operational phase needs to be scoped back in to assess the potential damage from panel run-off.

The applicant must assess the impact on soils that would result from being shaded by solar panels for the duration of the operational stage.

The Soil resource management plan needs to include soil sampling periodically, adjusting the plan if needed to prevent the loss of BMV land.

Land and groundwater contamination should be scoped back in due to the risks associated with any discharge or fire from the battery energy storage system.

The soil management plan must include the effects of climate change on the area included in the proposed development.

There needs to be consultation with local communities on the details of the soil management plan.

Buried Heritage

Ground-penetrating radar should be used across the site rather than relying only on LIDAR data.

The applicant has only listed designated monuments individually as buried heritage assets, rather than listing those known across the site.

The proposed development is within the vicinity of the deserted village of Woodcotes. (Nottinghamshire HER monument record M4652) The applicant has not identified this site as buried heritage. The applicant must scope this into their assessment, along with mitigations.

The proposed development includes the potential Roman settlement at Ragnall (Nottinghamshire HER monument record M478) and includes this site as a potential area for solar and associated infrastructure in Appendix A of their Scoping Report. This area requires surveying, excluding from the development area, and must be scoped into their assessment.

The sunken village of Ragnall (Nottinghamshire HER monument record M6210) and Grounds at Ragnall Hall (Nottinghamshire HER monument record MNT26615) are in close proximity to the development area, and must be scoped into the assessment.

Cultural Heritage

The applicant has only assessed the built cultural heritage in their report. No details of social heritage have been included, such as Fledborough once being the 'Gretna Green of England.' Many buildings in the area have links to larger estates or specific landowners, as well as other aspects of heritage. The applicant should include the effects on these aspects in their assessment as a separate section.

Customs/traditions of farming communities should be included in a social heritage section.

Rural lifestyles and local values should be included in a social heritage section.

The effects of the proposed development on social heritage and communities should also be included in mental health and socio-economic sections of the assessment.

The applicant must consult owners of heritage assets in addition to consulting conservation officers to undertake a detailed assessment, and establish what design and mitigation measures need to be put in place.

The applicant states that non-designated heritage assets in the area are of lower significance. This has not been justified, and many of them have characteristics that would merit listed status. There are many reasons why the respective owners have not sought listed status.

There must be detailed consideration in the assessment on how it would impact Fledborough Viaduct. This prominent feature of the landscape would be at particular risk with the outlined plans.

Consideration of cultural heritage in the assessment must consult the local community, and not just the district planning office.

The applicant notes that the landscape is already fairly industrial/power-focussed when scoping in the effects to historic landscape character where it contributes to the setting of heritage assets. The parish council does not agree with this assessment.

The landscape has changed in the 20 years since the power station closed, with a focus on wildlife regeneration and tourism.

The applicant has only considered listed buildings and non-designated heritage assets when the National Policy Statement EN-1 has a wider scope.

Other heritage assets from the Historic Environment Record need to be included in the assessment of cultural heritage. These include the collection of heritage assets at the former Fledborough railway station, and the buildings listed in the HER in Ragnall.

The proposed development area is largely agricultural in nature and is a huge part of our cultural heritage. This must be included in the assessment.

No consideration has been given by the applicant towards buildings that could be given non designated heritage asset status. Given the scale of the proposed development, it is likely that some buildings will be added, or apply for listed status.

Landscape and Visual

No visual receptors have been chosen for users of the river Trent. These must be chosen and the Canal and River Trust must be a statutory consultee. No consideration has been given to anglers on the river Trent, the effects of the development on anglers should be included in the environmental assessment.

The applicant's assessment of the landscape context in their scoping report does not include the prominent feature of the former railway line and associated embankments and cuttings. This must be scoped in.

The Fledborough Viaduct is not included within the Land Use, Infrastructure and Settlement section of their scoping report and must be included.

The cables for power transmission must be buried to reduce visual impact, directional drilling must be used across the Trent to eliminate any visual impact on the views and to avoid alterations to Fledborough Viaduct. The views from the viaduct and western embankment give open views to the north. The assessment that these views are truncated by vegetation can be disproved by site visits, especially in winter.

The applicant's choice of planting must assess the relevance of the landscape character, which is predominantly Trent Washlands to the west of the river Trent.

The applicant must assess the visual impact from roads. The roads to the west of the Trent are usually higher than the surrounding open and flat farmland where solar panels are proposed.

The applicant must consult directly with properties that have been selected as important visual receptors, in conjunction with approaching local authorities.

The use of CCTV cameras in rural environments, particularly near roads and properties should be assessed individually. These cameras would have a large impact on visual appearance and mental wellbeing of residents in areas devoid of such infrastructure.

The effects of the scale of the development should be included in the landscape and visual section.

The effect of large blocks of solar panels must be assessed by the applicant. These would have a much greater impact than several smaller blocks containing the same number of solar panels.

The character of public rights of way must be maintained. Many of the rights of way enjoy an open view of countryside, mitigation and screening that limits these views would be detrimental to the visual appearance of the area.

Any temporary closures of rights of way must be planned in advance with consultation from County, District and Parish councils.

The location of visual receptors must include consultation from Parish Councils as well as local planning authorities.

The effects of climate change on the visual appearance of the landscape should be scoped into the assessment. There is likely to be an increase in flooding in the winter and droughts in the summer. The appearance of the development through these conditions should be considered.

Transport and Access

The applicant's proposals to provide permissive routes would likely result in an increase of traffic using narrow roads servicing local residents. The effects of the development on and increase in traffic, and proposed mitigations such as passing places should be included in the assessment.

Air Quality

The choice of materials for access roads and permissive routes proposed across the site must be assessed on their impact to reduce air quality through dust emissions.

Carbon and Climate Change

The embedded Carbon emissions of the infrastructure, such as mounting and electrical equipment, and the solar panels, should be included in the assessment due to the colossal scale of the proposal.

The use of recycled steel must be considered, along with the reduction of concrete and use of recycled aggregate for foundation material where needed.

The effects of climate change must be considered in all other sections of the assessment.

Noise and Vibration

Solar panels are 'hard' surfaces that have a limited ability to absorb noise. The applicant must assess, and model, if possible, the effect of panels on exacerbating current noise from road traffic and other noise sources. The impact of noise from inverters and substations should be scoped into the assessment. As inverters would be located across the site, the accumulation of small amounts of noise would have a much larger impact. Passive cooling must be chosen where possible to avoid the use of fans and eliminate noise. When details of the locations of such infrastructure is known, noise modelling should be carried out.

Permanent noise monitoring stations should be included within the design, with data made available to local authorities to ensure the applicant is following details of their construction plan. During the operational phase, monitoring would ensure noise is kept to a minimum.

The applicant must include details of the potential noise pollution arising from the battery storage. The batteries must not be located near households.

The effects of climate change on the noise emissions from electrical equipment, given that temperatures are set to rise, must be considered.

The effects of noise on wildlife, such as bats and owls must be considered in the assessment.

Human Health

A specific section of the assessment for mental health and wellbeing must be included in the assessment. This is a nationally important health area, and the effect of solar panels covering a large area of open countryside must be assessed. Every effort must be made to ensure any development has no adverse effect on mental wellbeing.

The impact of the proposed development on the mental health of all ages needs to be assessed. More specific assessment of groups with increased susceptibility to mental health issues, such as young adult males, must be fully assessed.

The effects of the development during the operational phase on mental health and wellbeing must be continually assessed, and additional mitigation measures considered.

The health effects on elderly populations at risk of Alzheimer's disease and dementia must be scoped into the human health assessment. The area is an agricultural setting, and huge changes to this may result in an increase in the prevalence of these conditions.

Risk taking should be scoped back into the assessment. The risks associated with young adults and other individuals accessing the proposed infrastructure should be addressed.

The effects of the development on community safety should be scoped back in. A solar development is likely to attract thieves seeking metal.

Community severance and community engagement should be scoped back into human health. Psychological severance with some settlements experiencing a sense of enclosure by surrounding development, and the impacts on mental wellbeing must be assessed.

The effects on community engagement resulting from the process of engaging with the application should be considered. The process over several years has a high likelihood of reducing community engagement as time and effort will be directed away from local communities and towards the National Infrastructure Project process.

Health effects related to the project must not be deemed as temporary. As the project is planned to have a significantly long operational phase, for the assessment of health effects, these must be considered as long-term effects.

Cable routing across the site must be considered in a way that minimises any potential risks of accidental electrocution, such as running cables under roads. The routing of cables should be planned to avoid routing near houses to reduce any potential effects of electromagnetic sensitivity.

The effect of the proposed development on road traffic users should be included. Not only in terms of glint and glare, but also on the risks associated with road traffic collisions. The 'soft' environment that is currently in the area means that vehicles that come off the road network are less likely to suffer major injuries. With the proposed development the infrastructure has the potential to cause major injuries. These effects must be assessed and mitigations proposed, especially in areas that have had a high number of road traffic incidents.

Socio-Economics

Figures on employment in the agricultural sector should be included in the baseline assessment.

The applicant must submit an economic impact analysis for a reduced mixed economy as part of their assessment. e.g. depopulation of villages because of reduced job opportunities resulting in reduced or no

investment in the area, reduced or no small business start-ups, loss of jobs across the agricultural industry, including contractors, packaging, heavy goods drivers, Newark Sugar Factory, tourism.

The applicant needs to consult with the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) regarding the impact of large solar plants surrounding communities.

The effect of the development on leisure and tourism must be assessed in detail. The proposed development has a large potential to limit investment and opportunities for this sector.

The proposed development will result in a landscape that is predominantly solar panels. The reduction in diversity of businesses, and businesses that support them needs to be assessed.

The applicant must assess the effects of the proposed development on investment in small businesses that serve the area.

The applicant needs to provide data on population changes where solar plants surround villages as part of their assessment.

Loss of land knowledge should be assessed - farmers know their fields, and after 40 years this knowledge would be lost.

The effect of the proposed development on the loss of locally available jobs, in the agriculture and leisure and tourism sectors, needs to be assessed. During the short term the leisure and tourism industry is at particular risk.

The effect of the proposed development on the diversity of sectors for employment should be assessed. With no development there are opportunities for small and medium enterprises to develop in the area, the proposed development has a high chance of limiting this opportunity.

The effect of the proposed development on the tourism sector associated with the national cycle network along the Fledborough Viaduct needs to be assessed. The area saw a marked increase in people using the network during the COVID-19 period, which has continued. The applicant must assess the impact that may be caused due to their proposed development.

Customs/traditions of farming communities, along with other social heritage, risk being lost. The applicant should assess how their proposals will mitigate this.

The proposed development increases the loss of farming skills and expertise, in a sector that has an ageing population and fewer younger farmers. The applicant needs to assess how their proposals will affect young people entering the agricultural sector.

The applicant must assess the effect of their proposals on mobile phone signals and infrastructure. The effect of the infrastructure on mobile phone signals, which are vital in a rural area, must be assessed.

The long-term effects of the development on local B&B's and Air B&Bs should be assessed. This area of the leisure and tourism sector has the potential to provide even more local employment and opportunities. The proposed development will jeopardise these small businesses if the effects are not properly assessed.

The effect of the proposed development on the ability to sell houses in the area must be assessed, along with the reduction in house prices. A development of this scale will affect the local housing market as sellers are unable to downsize. The effect of this has wider implications for care, health, and employment as residents are 'stuck' in their houses.

The potential for 'brain-drain', where young adults do not return to the area as a result of the proposed development must be included in the assessment. The effects of 'brain drain' on the wider economy needs to be assessed, as adults with higher levels of education leave the area after gaining qualifications.

The proposed development is likely to result in a decrease of school places; residents will struggle to sell and downsize, resulting in an ageing population, overlapping with health effects, and fewer young families in the area with children. The effect on school places should be scoped back in.

The applicant must include in their assessment how they plan to avoid job loss due to the loss of agricultural land. They should also include plans to create jobs in the area and what they will do to avoid any jobs they create from being filled by those from outside the proposed development.

The applicant must include details in their assessment regarding wellbeing and community cohesion, and what mitigations they will provide at all stages of the proposed development.

Glint and glare

The applicant plans on including glint and glare as an appendix to their assessment. This must be scoped back into their assessment. This is in line with the National Policy Statement EN-3.

As the applicant intends to align panels in a north-south orientation, detailed assessment on roads running in similar directions within the area must be included.

Darlington Gliding Club, Gamston Airport and the Civil Aviation Authority must be consulted as part of the glint and glare impact assessment. The applicant must make specific assessments regarding glint and glare on Gliders.

Risk of Major Accidents and Disasters

The applicant has scoped this out of their assessment, with details to be included in other sections. As the proposed development includes many electrical installations, as well as battery storage, and the risks of flooding across the site, this should be a separate section.

The risk of major accidents associated with the battery energy and storage system must be assessed in a Risk of Major Accidents and Disasters section. The predicted output of the development suggests that the total battery capacity will be large. As such, more detailed assessment must be included.

There is public concern over the long-term reliability of battery storage, detailed assessment is required to address these concerns.

Battery storage risk assessments need to take into consideration the proximity to local fire and rescue services, as well as their capacity to deal with any fires at the site(s) without affecting their ability to perform their other duties.

The potential damage to soil and water quality following a fire or discharge from the battery storage must be assessed.

The effects of climate change, such as wetter winters, drier summers, and heavier/more prolonged periods of rain must be assessed in relation to major accidents and disasters. For a development that plans to be operational for many decades, the increased potential needs to be fully assessed, and design and mitigation measures considered.

Although flooding is addressed in the Hydrology and Hydrogeology section, the impacts of climate change and disasters caused by damage to key infrastructure, such as pumping stations and flood embankments needs assessing.

Waste

The applicant has scoped out waste from their assessment, being addressed in the construction plan and other plans. The effects of waste arising from decommissioning, especially for a development proposed at such a large scale needs to be considered.

The applicant must detail measures that will be taken to minimise waste during the decommissioning phase. Assessments on choice of materials and design to minimise waste that will be created in the decommissioning phase should be included.

The applicant should assess how changes over the lifespan of the proposed development will affect the accessibility to disposal of waste generated during the decommissioning phase, such as the availability of landfill.

Conclusion

This forms a response from the Parish Council of Dunham with Ragnall, Fledborough and Darlington. We hope that this feedback helps shape the Environmental Impact Assessment."

- **23/01519/SCR Screening Opinion Proposed for a New 400 KV Substation - High Marnham Power Station Fledborough Road High Marnham** – The Council **resolved** that Cllrs Lee and Bean will draft a suitable response to send to Bassetlaw Planning.

08/24 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 | 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 |

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| | | <p>playground and school children crossing.</p> | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> |
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| | | | and this is on the list for inclusion in next years 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 " |
| Dunham – A57 start of 30mph – Ref CSC514405382 | In 2022 one interactive flashing 30mph speed sign was destroyed by vehicular impact and the other no longer works | NCC to replace one and repair the other | 08/12/2023 update from Highways: "it was a VERY wet day on site yesterday however the good news is that when I left site both signs were working. Item Closed. |
| Dunham Public Highway Access from A57 past St Oswalds Church Door to Church Walk | Since May 2022 the public have experienced issues with the new owner of the Church when walking along the public highway, off putting signage and self-closing devices have been installed. | NCC & PCC have both stated they are happy with the current signage and will not grant permission to the PC to install additional or altered signage. | 15/11/2023 Cllrs monitoring the situation, asking around to see if any pedestrians have come across any issues walking through to Church Walk from the A57. 10/01/2024 – If a lock is seen on either archway gate, then a photo will be taken and passed onto Notts County Council highways dept for investigation. |
| Dunham – Laneham Road | No Bus shelter | School Children (7 at present) have no shelter | 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. 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 |

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| | | | <p><i>crossing point on both sides of the road plus the necessary hardstanding.</i></p> <p><i>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> |
| Village Hall – Low St Dunham | No Directional Signage to Village Hall | NCC to install a sign | <p>01/11/2023 update from Assistant District Highways Manager to Cllr Lee – “Further to your enquiry regarding signage for the village hall in Dunham, I can inform you that I have already put forward a scheme for signage from the A57 direction.”</p> <p>15/11/2023 Clerk chased Highways Manager and Cc Cllr Ogle to ask for clarification on timescales to install.</p> <p>02/01/2024 Clerk Chased again.</p> <p>03/01/2024 Highways Manager advised “No specific time for this but it will be done before April as its programmed for Quarter 4.”</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 | <p>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).</p> |
| River Trent Banks | What is the maintenance undertaken by the EA | Find out what maintenance is in place | <p>The EA FCRM Officer – Asset Performance North Team advised 12/12/2023 “<i>I have had a look at the area you have requested. The embankment is along the River Trent is on a programme for inspections and maintenance. This includes grass cutting, vermin control & general yearly walk overs to inspect any potential issues that arise.</i></p> <p><i>We are working through all the flood banks that have been affected by storm Babet. As you can imagine this is a large number and we are trying our best to review them as soon as possible. These will be reviewed in the new year and if</i></p> |

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| | | | <i>they are below required condition, will be placed on a recovery plan, and be repaired in the near future. This all depends how affected they have been from the storm. Apologies I can't offer any further information"</i> Item Closed. |
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New Items:

- **Cllr Lee** – Advised that Severn Trent Water have been tankering at the Low St pumping Stn due to the recent floods/rain. The defib at the Village Hall has now been registered online.
- **Cllr Watkinson** – A property in Ragnall flooded with sewage, public being advised to email a written complaint or send a letter in writing to Severn Trent marked 'Complaint Sewer Flooding' so that the water company complaints team will then handle the issue. The Bassetlaw Council page detailing contact info for the Clerk has somehow reverted back to how it was several years ago, quoting the previous clerks' details. The clerk is contacting BDC to have them amend it.
- **Cllr Barden** – The Solar meeting action group met recently.
- **Cllr Atkinson** – Positive feedback for NCC Highways Drainage Manager as the issues at Boggy Bottom are resolved and the area coped with the recent storms. Cllr Atkinson will draft a FOI request for the Drainage Board for the Clerk to send in.
- **Cllr Ballinger** – has recently written to DEFRA about the solar concerns but had no reply within 20 working days and no response to the chase, Cllr Ballinger taking the matter to the ICO.

09/24 Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 8:30pm. No further extra meeting was required for February.