



Dunham on the Hill & Hapsford Parish Council Newsletter. summer 2021

Message from the parish council chair...

Welcome to the Summer Newsletter and my first message as the newly appointed Chair.

I would like to give personal thanks to former Chair, Dave Cowap. Dave was committed to the work of the Council and the community it supports. The Council sends Dave and his family its very best wishes.

I would also like to give a mention and a **BIG THANK YOU** to those residents in Dunham and Hapsford who go out whatever the weather and litter pick.

There continues to be a real problem with fly tipping in the Parish; thank you to everyone who reports this to CWAC. The other blot on the landscape is the amount of rubbish strewn between the Motorway and Hapsford. It is truly shocking and extremely frustrating to see and is an issue we continue to pursue with our Councillor and CWAC.

On a more positive note, we are fully committed to seeing where we can 'green-up' areas for the future and we are looking to develop some roadside verges

There is a lot going on across the parish at the moment. As representatives on your Parish Council we have been working on a number of initiatives and projects; many are highlighted in this Newsletter.

Finally, a quick mention for our two community centres, the Boshaw Centre and the Village Hall. We hope to see both centres rising again after lockdown, I'm sure community activities will start to take place soon, please look on their websites and support our local resources.

Keith Bradley

Focus on road safety

We recently had a fatal accident on the A56. The circumstances surrounding the accident are still under investigation. As well as having the deepest sympathy for all affected by this awful event we have raised the following concerns with Highways:

Between the Wheatsheaf and Low Hill the speed limit moves from 40 to 50mph. Could it be made more consistent and be set to 40mph?

Could the full bend, at the site of the accident, be designated a no overtaking area?

Could more visible warning signs, including vehicle activated speed monitors be available?

Could the markings on the roads that are becoming faint have some attention?

The Highways team are going to do an inspection and if they are in agreement with our suggestions and/or the investigation makes recommendations for changes—we will let you know.

We have been linking with the police who have undertaken speed enforcement on the A56

Some stats:

24/6/21 - Speed Enforcement - 16.40 > 18.02

586 vehicles passed

x 33 exceeding 40mph

50+ = 11 (3 local keepers)

Total local keepers = 11

Top speed = **62mph**

The parish has access to a Speed Indicator Device (SID) You may have seen it on the A56 near the Wheatsheaf. We have to get clearance from CWAC in relation to where it is positioned but it is available for use on roads that are 30 or 40mph; it can't be deployed in 50mph + zones.

If you have any suggestions for where it might be usefully deployed near to where you live, please contact us and we will request that CWAC assess asap. Email: clerk.dunhamhillpc@gmail.com

We continue to request a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) for the Hapsford area.

We have also requested a review of the 30mph speed limit through Dunham on the Hill village



Cheshire West and Cheshire (CWAC) have produced a new APP for smartphones

Available for Apple or Android smartphones, CWAC have produced an APP called 'Report It'. Once on your phone you have quick and easy access to a range of services including: council tax information, Waste collections and bin re-ordering, current roadworks, and reporting problems such as:



- **Fly tipping**—a particular problem across the parish
- **Full Litter or dog bins**— unless prompted, these are generally emptied every 3 months
- **Grass cutting**— this is seasonal however you can report difficulties such as poor vision leaving a junction—they will cut those areas specifically
- **Streetlights**
- **Bus shelters and stops**
- **Street cleaning**

You will be asked to write a short description of your complaint, and it is helpful if you have a photo to upload. But don't worry if you can't provide a photo. They ask for some basic details about you and your email address. You will be allocated a reference number for your complaint and they should update you.

If you don't have a smart phone you can also contact them online, just put; **CWAC report it** into your search engine, e.g. Google, and the following link will come up

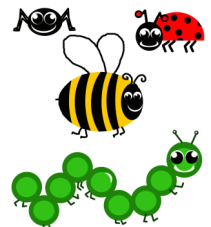
Litter picking across the Parish



Connor and Cēala helped out with the June litter pick in Hapsford and did a brilliant job.

THANKYOU...

To everyone who has helped out on this years 2 litter picks, we know it can be hard work but over 50 bin bags of rubbish have been collected



Thankyou also to those of you collecting rubbish outside of the community events—it is much appreciated.

But we understand that the litter situation can be a very frustrating subject

We would encourage you to report the litter problems that we have, particularly on our major roads, the A56 and the A5117, on your APP or the website.

We are aiming to support 3 community litter picks per year in March, May and October.



Developments & planning in our parish.... A lot is going on

There are a number of **ongoing and new** potential developments happening in our parish.

They will utilise both brownfield and Greenbelt sites. The following information is as detailed as a newsletter will allow; it is intended to draw your attention to them for the following reasons:

- **Because we want to represent your views**
- **If they go ahead we wish to benefit from them in the form of infrastructure improvements. Again we welcome any ideas you may have**

Honeywell site development: Full details can be accessed on the CWaC website: cheshirewestandcheshire.gov.uk click on 'see or comment on a planning application' then use the reference: **20/00324/FUL**



This map shows the proximity to Hapsford; note the railway line and the brook / boundary going through the site. The application is for the demolition of existing buildings and the development of **247 homes**.

Access will also be from the A56 using the same access roads as the sports site development.

Making a total of 365 new homes if we include the sports-field site. The 247 Honeywell ones extend into our parish.

The decision regarding this application has been delayed following concerns regarding flooding from the brook that is our parish boundary.

Both Helsby and DoH&H Parish councils have submitted objections to the Honeywell development. The concerns and objections can be read in full in the documentation associated with the application on the CWaC website.

If the Honeywell development goes ahead, there will be a 1.5 million pound contribution, from the developers, toward the growth of relevant services and infrastructure in the area, this is paid to CWAC. CWAC representatives have told Helsby Parish Council that the money will be spent on infrastructure projects in Helsby, Frodsham and Elton.

We now represent our parish at the relevant meetings and will do our best to remind CWAC of its commitment to rural parishes like ours.

If this application is approved, (this decision does not lie with the parish councils), Helsby Parish council have begun a draft plan regarding infrastructure. This includes a cycleway, running from the Hornsmill Pub through to the A56 near Helsby High School, along with a greenway for pedestrians

After considering the views of residents our requests include the additional development of a cycleway / pedestrian greenway along the A5117 to link up with the cycle way currently under construction along the A5117 (Shell Rd) from Ellesmere Port to Elton. With a similar development along the A56 to Dunham on the Hill.

This would address the concerns regularly raised in relation to poor management and accessibility of the current paths.



Mere's edge development:

At the pre-planning stage is the Mere's edge development:



The 2 Parish Councils have shared concerns about development on Greenbelt. We continue to consult with the developers. They will submit a proposal when the Honeywell development is concluded.

We will continue to represent your views and we will advocate for relevant resources for our community if CWAC agree with the developments - we will keep you posted and gather your views when we know how things are going to develop

Meres Edge will potentially include housing and other infrastructure e.g. shop / park on:

The Honeywell Brown field site, if it doesn't get planning approval from the current application.

The green belt land that is adjacent to the Hornsmill pub up to the boundary of the railway, all of which falls in our parish.

The landowners are Barnston estates, their website:

Barnstonestates.com

also

own much of the land around Hapsford and **they are interested in developing another local project**

Barnston Estates and ASH Aggregates project

Barnston Estates owns the land that is on the left hand side of the A5117 as you approach the M56. It is directly opposite the Hapsford Composting facility. It borders with the Travelers community site on common Lane

Ash Aggregates are a local company based near Sainsburys in Ellesmere Port.

Please look at their website: ash-aggregates.co.uk

There is growing pressure on the construction industry to move towards more sustainable methods and reduce the consumption of primary aggregates from traditional quarries. Using recycled aggregates reduces the carbon footprint of the construction industry.

Ash take the waste from construction sites and recycle it into its constituent parts. This remarkably environmentally conscious project produces one product that they struggle to sell on in quantity; Clay.

The proposal is to bury a significant amount of pure clay on the Barnston Estates land described above. This project is at an early stage but if it is to proceed we will be exploring how the area can then be landscaped and developed to the benefit of the whole parish. Again we will be asking the landowners and developers to contribute to local community infrastructure. As this progresses we will seek your thoughts and ideas.

Keep a look out for information on the HyNet Northwest project

A project across north Wales and the North West of England, HyNet West is a hydrogen energy and carbon capture, usage and storage (CCUS) project with a goal to reduce the carbon emissions from industry, homes and transport. Website: **HyNet.co.uk** look for HyNet North west

The first phase, **that they are working on now**, will involve the development of a new hydrogen pipeline - you've guessed it... the pipeline looks set to run through our parish. We'll keep you informed.



Cheshire West & Chester Council

Local Plan **Conversation** 2021



The 'Local Plan' is one of the Council's most important documents as it sets out how the area should be developed in the future.

The current Local Plan runs to 2030 and sets out, amongst other things, how many new homes are needed and where they should be built but also what new buildings should look like and where land and trees should be protected from development. CWAC are considering what changes they need to make to the existing plan and have a consultation that is open for your comment until 15th September 2021

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/localplanconversation

There are 6 themes under consideration

1) Climate change 2) Health 3) Homes 4) Jobs 5) The environment 6) Travel

DID YOU KNOW.....? CWAC have made a commitment to be Carbon Neutral by 2045

Neighbourhood planning.....

With all of the development that is going on across our parish which by comparison is a small and less densely populated part of Cheshire West and Cheshire Council (CWAC), we want to make sure that the integrity of our rural parish is maintained.

With that in mind we are currently exploring the development of a neighbourhood plan which touches on many of the themes laid out in the CWAC local plan. It's a significant undertaking however we have begun discussions with the relevant organisations to get going with this.

We will keep you updated

The Government have produced a document called 'The future of the planning system in England' first report of session 2021-2022. Access it at <https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/6180/documents/68915/default/>

Your Parish needs you.....

We have vacancies for two Parish Councillors

- Do you have a few hours to spare each month?
- Do you want to influence local building and planning and help protect and support our Parish?
- Do you want to work with us to help address issues of concern?
- Do you want to help with development projects to improve our community?

If the answer is yes, then contact our Clerk, Trudy via clerk.dunhamhillpc@gmail.com



Parish Council meetings.....

...have resumed in the Village Hall. We intend to continue to follow sensible precautions in relation to COVID-19 and as such will be opening up the meeting to the public but limiting numbers because of the size of the hall. We would ask that if you wish to attend you contact our Clerk, Trudy via clerk.dunhamhillpc@gmail.com

Next Meeting: Tuesday 7th September at 7:30pm

New projects.....



We are liaising with CWAC and hoping to develop some of the roadside verges.

Any one familiar with such projects in near by towns and cities will know how uplifting the displays can be especially if managed for a succession of flowers.

Then of course there is the benefit to wildlife.

We may be looking for volunteers to help with this project—we will keep you posted.

**In the meantime let us know your thoughts
email: clerk.dunhamhillpc@gmail.com**

Village Green—Dunham on The Hill

Following consultation with residents work is starting on the DoH village Green. Thankyou to everyone who responded

We would like to extend this work to our other village Green in Hapsford and we are interested in other communal CWAC owned spaces across the parish.

We will be canvassing opinions soon but if there are any outside spaces near you that you think might benefit from some TLC please let us know.

Where is your nearest defibrillator?

Just to remind you that Defibrillators within the Parish are located as follows: -

- **Dunham on the Hill village** – in the old telephone box opposite the Boshaw Centre
- **Hapsford Village** – in the old telephone box adjacent to the bus stop
- **Cheshire Park Homes** (off Chester Road, behind Cafe Fresh), Dunham on the Hill



If you ever have to use it don't worry. Ring 999 for help as soon as you find someone who needs CPR. Whoever goes for the defibrillator will need to ring 999 again when they get to the device. The operator will reassure you and give you a specific code for that device, in turn that will allow you to access the defibrillator.

Take the machine in its carry case back to the person you are helping. When you open the defibrillator case it will instruct you on what to do (electronic voice) until the ambulance arrives.

Have a safe summer