



Dunham on the Hill & Hapsford Parish Council Newsletter

Spring 2022

Message from the Parish Council Chair...

March has flown by and Spring has finally arrived, the season of new beginnings.

The next few months are going to be busy. In June the country will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, 70 years on the throne. We hope to see you at our community event at the Boshaw centre on June 5th

In this edition we review our local involvement in: road safety and speed awareness, wildflower planting, Village Green Development, Footpaths, a Neighbourhood Development Plan and the local housing developments

I am particularly pleased that our local community has been so vigilant about the illegal fly-tipping in the Parish, some of which has been absolutely unbelievable. It has been an extraordinary 12 months but, as we move forward, we must continue protecting our environment and our Villages from this vandalism

I would like to highlight the wonderful things a number of residents have done; our unsung helpers and heroes, out and about litter picking on a regular basis collecting bags of rubbish due to some irresponsible members of the public who are too lazy to take their rubbish home or dispose of

appropriately. A big THANK YOU to those volunteers!

Another important area of work we have been looking at; our budget plans for the next year. Always recorded in our minutes. You will know our precept is an important issue for us all. Precept is the process of calculating how much of Council Tax is allocated to your local Parish Council and this year the money we have been allocated is £7,237.

The minutes of our meetings are displayed on village noticeboards - keep an eye on how we spend the money.

Keith Bradley

Dunham on the Hill and Hapsford Parish Communities join together to Celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

**SUNDAY, 5TH JUNE 2022
1:00 - 4:00 P.M.**

**Venue - Boshaw Centre,
Dunham on the Hill**

**This will be a free event
for all to enjoy**

**Dunham Hill & Hapsford
Community Event**
(in conjunction with the
Boshaw Centre, Village Hall,
Parish Council & St Lukes
Church)



♦ **Bring & Share Food**

♦ **Bring your own
alcohol**

♦ **Catch up with family,
friends & neighbours**

♦ **Children's Activities/
Competition**

♦ **Further details will
be issued nearer time**

Road safety continues to be a priority....

With particular reference to the concerns raised by residents from the Cheshire Caravan Park, we continue to campaign for better road makings on the A56 and for consideration of a 40 mph area. We are in liaison with highways.

Our local PCSO will be out regularly using their speed device on the A56. It was most recently used on 14th March 2022.

We continue to advocate for Dunham on the Hill to become a 20mph zone through the village. We are also exploring options such as the gate system shown in this picture. Apparently strategies such as this have evidenced a significant reduction in speed.

We are considering funding streams and / or the possibility of linking the funding request to the major housing developments in the parish

We will continue to put our Speed Indicator Device (SID) machine out on the A56 at the Talbot Rd end.

The 2 Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) are up and functioning along the A5117 near Hapsford and we hope they are giving motorists an extra reminder of the 50mph speed limit!



Our local PCSO has received several complaints about inconsiderate parking, particularly in Dunham on the Hill

TACKLING ILLEGAL PARKING

Parking illegally or inconsiderately can create significant problems for other road users and pedestrians, particularly those with push chairs or using mobility scooters.

Parking enforcement
In Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, and Warrington

The enforcement of yellow lines, time-limited parking and other parking restrictions in Cheshire is entirely the responsibility of the local authorities and their parking enforcement teams.

Report online:

Cheshire East Council www.cheshireeast.gov.uk
Cheshire West and Chester Council www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Warrington Borough Council www.warrington.gov.uk

In Halton (Widnes and Runcorn)
The enforcement of yellow lines, time-limited parking and other

parking restrictions in Halton is the responsibility Cheshire Police. To report this please phone 101.

Obstruction
A vehicle causing an obstruction is one which has been parked and left unattended in such a way that it is considered to be a hazard to pedestrians or other road users. For example, a car parked on a bend in the road. This also includes blocking free passage to pedestrians and blocking access to private or public property.

If you need to contact the police because a vehicle is causing a safety hazard or an obstruction on a public road, please contact Cheshire Police on the non-emergency number, 101.

Do not report illegal parking via social media.

All road users need to be aware of and adhere to parking restrictions:

- No parking on bends
- No parking on zigzag lines
- Do not obstruct a resident's driveway
- Do not park on double lines
- Do not park on 'time-limited' single lines
- Do not cause an obstruction

The issues the police have highlighted have related specifically to:

- ♦ Parking on a corner
- ♦ Parking on the pavement

Please remember, if you are parking on the pavement in our small villages, that you need to leave enough space for pedestrians, people with prams and people using wheel-chairs to pass by comfortably.

Our PCSO is on patrol and will be positively engaging with people in a bid to highlight this issue.



www.cheshire.police.uk/priorities
Sign up to cheshirepolicealert.co.uk
Follow us on twitter: @CheshirePolice
Facebook.com/Cheshirepolice



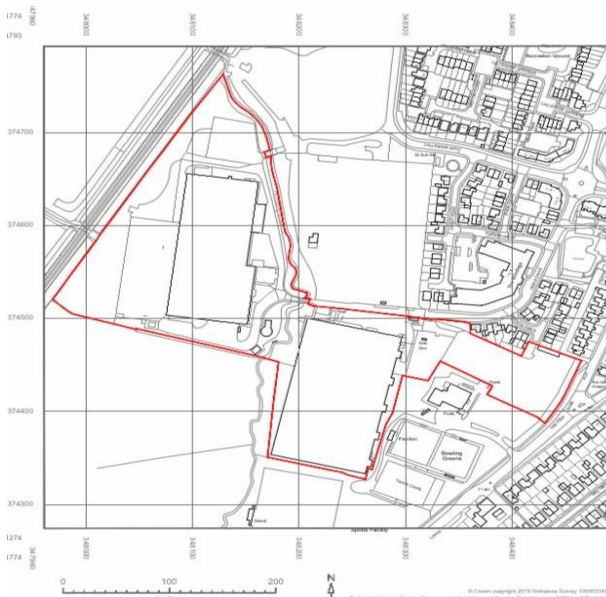
Developments & planning in our parish.... A lot is going on

As you may recall from previous newsletters there are a number of housing projects on the edge of Helsby, which are primarily in our parish. There are a combination of those with planning and those that are in the pre-planning stage with developers involved in discussion with partner agencies including us.

We ensure we have representation from the parish council at all relevant meetings and will continue to represent the views of residents.

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**

The Honeywell site is to be developed and run by Onward who are an affordable home developer in the North West. You may recall that all of the houses on this site will be 'affordable'



This map shows the proximity of the development to Hapsford; note the railway line and the brook / boundary going through the site. .

The design of the Honeywell site as described in the planning application is at odds with the potential development of a linear pathway and cycle way along the Hornsmill brook.

With the support of both Helsby and our parish council, Brookhouse Group, who worked with Helsby PC on the existing Meres Edge development, are having discussions with Onward to see if there are changes Onward can make to the plans they inherited to ensure that the proposed pathway is achievable and a pleasant place for local people to walk or cycle.

The plans for the parcel of land to the south of the Honeywell site, bounded by the railway line, and the brook, which is designated for employment opportunity will be prepared by Brookhouse in conjunction with both parish councils. This land extends approximately a third of the way from the Honeywell site to the A5117 by the Hornsmill pub.

The further area of greenbelt adjacent to this will be considered as plans for other areas progress.



On these 2 maps you can see the Honeywell site, the railway, the sewerage treatment plant and a connecting coloured line to Hapsford village. The pink lines in the first map indicate existing and well used footpaths. The red line on both maps indicates a footpath that exists but has been lost to general use. It leads through under the railway line to the back of Honeywell. There is also a pathway that turns left as you approach the railway line from Hapsford and meanders along between a line of mature poplar trees and the widening brook. It's beautiful.

We are exploring re-opening and developing these pathways—can you remember these pathways? we would like to hear from you as we progress with this project. Look out for further details on how to record information.

Neighbourhood plan.... Should we have one?

There is a lot of development going on in our rural parish. Communities now have the right to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, which allows them to have a say in the future planning of their community, covering topics such as protection of the countryside, local facilities, tourism and recreation, local economy, design etc. There are 21 adopted Neighbourhood Plans in Cheshire West, with a further 16 underway. There are grants available to the Parish Council to help with the cost. A Neighbourhood Plan has to be in conformity with national planning policy and the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan, but it means that we can help shape what future development is appropriate for Dunham on the Hill and Hapsford, what it should look like and where it should go. The Plan will be used by planning officers at Cheshire West and Chester Council to help determine planning applications in our Parish, so it must concentrate on 'land use' policies. For example, it cannot cover issues such as speed limits, litter or bus times. We will continue to support these issues through other means.

Producing a Neighbourhood Plan involves the whole community, there will be regular consultations, and at the end of the process it will be independently examined, and you will be able to vote in a referendum as to whether the plan should go forward. It is a considerable amount of work and before going ahead, the Parish Council is keen to discover if the residents of the Parish support the idea of a Neighbourhood Plan, and whether they would like to be involved.

We are hosting a launch event at Dunham Hill and Hapsford Village Hall

Tuesday 10th May at 7pm

Please come along and find out more about what is involved.

John Heselwood, Community Housing Development Manager, Cheshire Community Action, will be joining us. He has a wealth of experience for us as a community to draw upon.

In the coming weeks you will receive a flier / questionnaire asking a few simple questions.

We hope you will find the time to answer the questions and hand back the questionnaires to locations around the villages

Any help—no matter how small will be greatly appreciated

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/>

We still have vacancies on the Parish Council

Unfortunately the councils representation only covers two out of the four main areas across the parish. The majority of current councillors live in Dunham on the Hill and one lives in Hapsford. We have no representation from the Talbot road area and no one from the Cheshire Caravan Park. Of course there are also people dotted about in between. We really want to make sure we represent all areas of the parish so if you could spare any time and would like to join us please contact Trudy, the parish council clerk, clerk.dunhamhillpc@gmail.com we are really keen to hear from you. Or come along to our bi-monthly meeting. Next one is on May 3rd, 7pm at the Village Hall.



New projects..... Wildflower verges



It may not look like this yet, but.....2 strips at the entrances to Hapsford and a strip at the entrance to Talbot road have been:

- Stripped of turf
- Rotavated
- Sown with wildflower seed

We chose a 100% wildflower mix as we felt that our verges had enough diverse grasses for the wildlife!

There is a mixture of annuals and perennial native wildflowers. The annuals will flower this year and the perennials will establish this year and should flower next. Our plan is to see how things develop this year and if successful, expand year by year. Your feedback will be as ever appreciated. clerk.dunhamhillpc@gmail.com

Village Green - Hapsford

On the 9th April there will be compost, sunflower seeds and flower pots on the village green in Hapsford . Everyone is invited to come and take some seeds, plant them in your pots at home and grow them on. Only ask ... bring some of them back when they have reached 4 or 5 inches tall, to plant in the border on the green to liven it up.

All welcome



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.

Local events.....



**EASTER
BINGO**

**Dunham Hill &
Hapsford Village
Hall**

**Friday, 8th April
2022 from 7:00pm**

Free Tea & Coffee (or bring
your own favourite tipple)

Free entrance (Pay for bingo
card only)

Prizes



**Cheese, Wine &
Quiz Night**

**Dunham Hill &
Hapsford Village
Hall**

**Friday, 6th May
2022 from 7:00pm**

Entrance fee - Adults £6;
Children free

First drink 'on the house'

Date for your Diary
**Fundraiser BBQ
in aid of Ukraine**
Dunham Hill & Hapsford
Village Hall
Saturday, 25th June 2022
Further details tbc



Litter pick

Saturday April 9th - 10:00am - 12:00pm
Village Hall & Telephone Box, Hapsford

Join in with the national Keep Britain Tidy campaign and support us as we do our bit to keep our communities litter free.

Time to get walking again!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Cheshire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/cheshire> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Cheshire (part of the Walking in England website – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

www.walkinginengland.co.uk john@walkinginengland.co.uk

To share any future events in this newsletter please contact Trudy at:

clerk.dunhamhillpc@gmail.com