



Dunham Hill & Hapsford Parish Council Newsletter

Summer 2025

Message from the Chair

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Neighbourhood Plan, especially Councillor Claire Green for all her hard work over the years in putting the plan together. **There is a Referendum on the plan set for Thursday 28 August 2025.** Please ensure you vote on the Plan...it's your village....your plan!

Your Councillors have had a busy few months mainly dealing with planning and in particular the Solar Farm (see enclosed article) and future developments around the Hornsmill pub. (More details be made available once we have received the submission). We need to ensure local residents are listened to, especially any impact it may have on our community. It is crucial that your voice is heard by the developers.

As Chair I am keen to hear your ideas and feedback, whether it is about the village environment, facilities or anything else you think we can support as a council. Our meetings are open to the public and you will find all the details on the Parish Council website or on our noticeboards.

Thank you for helping keep Dunham on the Hill and Hapsford a welcoming and well-looked-after village.

Enjoy your summer and **DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON 28 AUGUST 2025.**

I hope you enjoy the newsletter

Keith Bradley

Neighbourhood Plan Update

All documents related to the plan (Plan, Consultation Statement, Basic Conditions) were reviewed by an independent examiner along with comments made during the Regulation 16 consultation. The examiner concluded that subject to a small number of amendments, the Plan met the Basic Conditions and should proceed to referendum stage.

The CWaC Cabinet Member approval was then secured confirming that the Plan should proceed to referendum.

The Neighbourhood Plan referendum will take place on Thursday 28 August 2025. All residents entitled to vote will receive a polling card. In the referendum eligible residents will be asked - *Do you want Cheshire*

West and Chester to use the neighbourhood plan for Dunham on the Hill and Hapsford to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

We encourage all residents to take part in the referendum and take the opportunity to have their say in how development in the parish should look.

The plan has policy areas designed to achieve the vision:

In 2030 Dunham on the Hill and Hapsford will remain a friendly and welcoming community, where residents of all ages feel safe, valued and enjoy an excellent quality of life. The parish will remain set within an attractive landscape and enjoying easy access to facilities and the countryside. Any new development will be sustainable and maintain the separate nature of each of the villages of Dunham on the Hill and Hapsford with the appropriate infrastructure to meet the needs of all residents, whilst conserving and enhancing the local character, heritage and the natural and built environment.

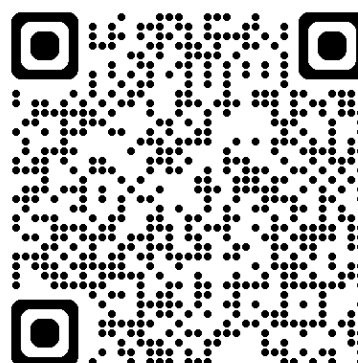
This will be achieved through the following land use policies:

- Local Green Spaces
- Incidental Open Spaces of Community Value
- Wildlife and Biodiversity
- Dunham and Hapsford Design Code
- Hapsford Area of Special Character
- Local Heritage Assets
- Housing development: site of the former Wheatsheaf public house
- Protecting community facilities and assets
- Sustainable urban drainage and flood mitigation
- Renewable energy generation

As a parish council, we feel we have worked closely with residents, landowners and developers to bring together all voices in a plan that will ensure that future development within the parish meets the needs of the residents and preserves the welcoming and friendly community set across two villages. The parish is full of character and heritage within a rural setting. The plan and design code will work to preserve the character and heritage of the parish so that generations coming after us will be able to enjoy life here in the same way their ancestors have.

See below QR code for the Notice of Referendum

Dunham on the Hill and Hapsford Neighbourhood Plan Referendum Details



Proposals for Green, Renewable Energy

The Parish Council have received the following Notice of Acceptance, see below.

Notice of Acceptance - Frodsham Solar

We are pleased to let you know that the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), acting on behalf of the Secretary of State, has accepted the Development Consent Order (DCO) Application for Frodsham Solar. This is a significant milestone as it means that our proposals will now progress towards the Examination stage of the process.

Before reaching this stage, our team undertook a non-statutory phase, and a statutory phase of consultation, followed by two phases of targeted consultation, to inform the assessment and design of Frodsham Solar. We are grateful to everyone who has taken an interest in our proposals and has spent time engaging with us as we have worked to reach this stage.

We have produced a Project Update Newsletter to highlight the design changes and considerations that have been made in our final DCO Application,

The upcoming Examination is a key part of the process. We are looking forward to working with our colleagues, the Examining Authority and interested parties to ensure that the examination can be delivered in the best possible way.

Accessing our documents

The full DCO application documents can be viewed and downloaded free of charge online on the Botley West Solar Farm page of the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website under the Documents tab: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010153/documents>

The document library on our project website (www.frodshamsolar.co.uk) also provides a link to these documents.

Next Steps

Until 28 August 2025, the Frodsham Solar team is inviting members of the public and any interested stakeholders to consider whether they would like to submit a Relevant Representation to PINS. By submitting a Relevant Representation (a written summary of a person's views on the Application), the person (or organisation) will then become an 'Interested Party' to the Examination. Interested Parties will receive ongoing correspondence from PINS on how to get further involved and have the opportunity to submit detailed written representations and attend and participate in the Examination hearings.

Members of the public have until 28 August 2025 to register as an Interested Party and submit their Relevant Representation to PINS, via this link: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010153/register/register-have-your-say>

Our communications channels are still open for any questions or comments you may have. You can get in touch by:

- *Emailing: info@frodshamsolar.co.uk*
- *Writing to: FREEPOST FRODSHAM SOLAR*
- *Calling: 0808 175 4004*
- *Visiting: www.frodshamsolar.co.uk*

DEVOLUTION - Cheshire West & Chester, Cheshire East and Warrington

Cheshire and Warrington leaders have welcomed confirmation that the area can progress to the next stage of pursuing a devolution agreement, and that potential Mayoral elections for the area will also be deferred to May 2027.

Cllr Louise Gittins, leader of Cheshire West and Chester Council, leader and deputy leader of Cheshire East Council, Cllr Nick Mannion and Cllr Michael Gorman, and Cllr Hans Mundry, leader of Warrington Borough Council, said: "We're pleased that the Government has listened to our local residents, businesses and communities through the formal consultation, and has concluded that we can keep working on the best possible devolution agreement for our area.

"A devolution agreement would mean shifting additional powers and funding from government to Cheshire and Warrington – bringing more jobs, better transport and smarter investment to the area."

They added: "Following the announcement, we can now work with certainty to unlock the huge benefits and opportunities of devolution. As we continue, it is important we take on board and respond to the feedback received through the government consultation.

"We are equally pleased that government has agreed to defer Mayoral elections to May 2027.

"This gives us greater clarity on our plan to establish a Mayoral Combined Authority in 2026.

"It also means that if a Mayoral election takes place in May 2027, it will save money and could also result in more people voting and having their say."

Following the Government's confirmation that Cheshire and Warrington has met the statutory tests, the decision to progress with establishing a Mayoral Combined Authority is now subject to formal decisions by the three councils in September 2025.

Parish Councillor Vacancies



The Parish Council has vacancies and would welcome residents from Talbot Road or Hapsford onto the council.

The responsibility of a Parish Councillor is not daunting. There are jobs to do but our highly competent clerk does a lot of the heavy lifting!

We would really like to increase our numbers to share the workload and so the Council reflects the diversity of the area and connects with the range of people living in Dunham on the Hill and Hapsford.

Your Councillors are unpaid. We work collaboratively together, with respect for different views; and are a friendly and welcoming group. The council meets every other month on a Tuesday evening from 7:00pm in the Village Hall. We all work together in ensuring we have a smooth, efficient meeting.

Are you interested in planning, the environment, natural areas or community spaces? Or do you simply want to get more involved in your community?

If you would like to help us to get things done and contribute to the wellbeing of our Parish community, we would love to hear from you! You can have an informal chat with one of the Councillors or our Clerk before making up your mind.

For more information, please contact Trudy – clerk@dunhamhillandhapsford.co.uk

Volunteers



Our community has a couple of volunteers who assist within Parish but we need more and we are reliant on so few people. We need help with the likes of watering planters, litter picking, speed watch. If you are interested in just volunteering within your area, street, road, please do get in touch.

Next Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 2 September 2025 – 7:00pm

Dunham Hill & Hapsford Village Hall

Members of the public welcome



Crime Stoppers - Speak up about crime and stay safe

Crime Stoppers are an independent charity that gives you the power to speak up and stop crime, 100% anonymously. They do not judge; they just listen to what you know and pass it on for you.

They are there to help you tackle crime in your community - by phone and online, 24/7, 365 days a year. Telephone 0800 555 111

It can be difficult to come forward with information. You might have seen or heard something about a crime but do not know what to do or are scared to tell someone. It is easy to think there is nothing you can do, but they offer you a safe way to do this. No police. No witness statements. No courts.

Crimestoppers is not an emergency service and if you see a crime taking place you should ring 999 to report it immediately.



Highways Maintenance Issues

Village residents are reminded that it is always quicker to activate an investigation if you report any highways issues directly online as precious time could be lost if you contact the Parish Council.

To report any highways issues to CWAC, go to:-

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/>

or download the Cheshire West and Chester App directly onto your phone

Here you can report potholes, pavement/kerb/drainage defects, blocked culverts, overgrown trees or hedges, blocked or damaged footpaths etc.

Defibrillators Around the Parish

If you have to make an emergency 999 call, the call handler may decide that the defibrillator is required. You will be asked if you are able to go to the Cheshire Park Homes; the phone box opposite the Boshaw Centre (Dunham on the Hill) or the phone box in Hapsford to get the defibrillator but this would only usually happen if someone is able to stay with the person in need of assistance as phone contact with the emergency service must be maintained at all times. The call handler will give you the code to open the box. When you return to the patient, open the defibrillator and you will hear an automated voice giving instructions. The call handler will also talk you through all that you must do and when the paramedics arrive they will take over from you.

Remember – No special training is required and the Emergency Services will guide you through everything.



Cheshire West and Chester Council Local Plan



Visit: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/localplan



<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/localplan>

The easiest way to respond to the consultation is online. The consultation portal will guide you through the consultation, providing an opportunity to comment on each policy area that you are interested in, and make it quicker and easier for us to analyse and respond to your comments.

Alternatively, if you want to respond by email or post, please send your comments to:

- Email – planningpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Post – Planning Policy, Cheshire West and Chester Council, The Portal, Wellington Road, Ellesmere Port, CH65 0BA

Hapsford Residents

We would like to draw to the attention of Hapsford residents that the Parish Council dedicated funding for the purchase of a Christmas tree has now been spent. If residents wish to have a tree then they will need to consider empowering residents to crowdfund in order to continue with this initiative.

CWaC, in partnership with Spacehive, the Cheshire West Crowd empowers people to create projects that make a positive difference within their community.

For more information to create or support projects visit: spacehive.com/movement/cwc or contact Trudy (Parish Council Clerk) clerk@dunhamhillandhapsford.co.uk

Cheshire West and Chester Council is consulting on issues and options for a new Local Plan, that will update and replace all policies in the current Local Plan (Part One) and Local Plan (Part Two).

The consultation will run for eight weeks beginning on Friday 4 July and ending at 23:59 on Friday 29 August 2025.

The new Local Plan will identify how much development is required in Cheshire West, including for housing, retail and employment uses and the plan will need to allocate sites to deliver the development needed.

This consultation is the first formal stage of producing a new Local Plan, and they are seeking views on how and where to accommodate new development, including identifying potential growth areas around settlements. The consultation sets out possible policy approaches across a range of subject areas including transport, protection of the environment and infrastructure.

To view all documents and supporting information and submit your comments online, visit:

Local Transport Plan



Have your say and influence Cheshire West and Chester creating a new Local Transport Plan – and make sure it works for everyone.

How we get around affects all our lives. Whether it is bus, train, car, walking, cycling, wheeling and so on. Transport helps us get to work, school, shops and services. It connects our communities, friends, families, customers, services and suppliers. But in too many places across the borough, it is not working as it should. It needs to change.

This plan sets out our long-term approach to transport across the borough. It is about making transport fairer, greener, safer and more joined up.

We have already heard from over a thousand people about the biggest challenges and priorities for transport across the borough through our early engagement. This has shaped the first part of a new Local Transport Plan, which we are calling a Core Strategy.

Cheshire West and Chester Council want to know if you think they have got this right. Share your views to shape the future of local transport.

What feels right? What needs changing? What have we missed? This is a conversation, and your views really do shape what happens next.

Closing date: 17 August 2025

For more information and to take part, please visit our consultation hub:
www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/LTP4

Cheshire West and Chester Council are keen to make sure that as many people as possible have the opportunity to respond to our consultation and we would really appreciate your help in sharing this information with your partners and networks.

There are several ways you can share your views:

- Taking part in our online survey or ideas board at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/LTP4
- Email your views to: LTP4@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Come and talk to the Council's Transport Team at one of our drop-in sessions. A list of these can be found [here](#).
- Write to them at: Let's Talk about Transport, Insight and Intelligence, Cheshire West and Chester Council, The Portal, Wellington Road, Ellesmere Port, CH65 0BA
- Telephone: 0300 123 8123 quoting 'Local Transport Plan' and let them know your thoughts



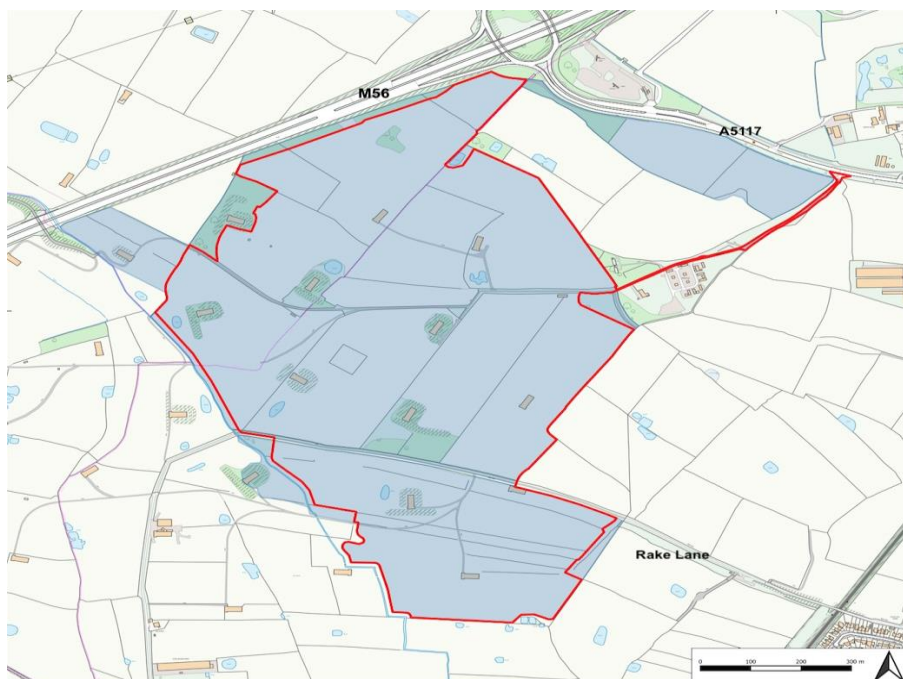
Community Litter Pick

Saturday 11 October 2025
10am – 12pm

Meet at Dunham Hill & Hapsford Village Hall
and the 'Phone Box' Hapsford
Refreshments afterwards in the Village Hall

Bell Town Power – Hob Lane Solar Planning Application

A planning application has been received for a 190 acre solar farm with an installed capacity of circa. 30MW (Mega Watt), between Hob Lane and the A5117. The application and comments can be viewed on the CWaC website under application No. 25/01339/FUL.



The Parish Council had a meeting with the developers and have submitted our comments on the application. Apparently the substation near Encirc Glass in Elton, to which the power will be connected, is one of the few in the country that can accept the level of power generated.

A previous planning application for the site was rejected and we believe that there are better locations rather than using green belt agricultural land. There is

also an application to build a gas pipeline across the land with a terminal compound by the railway bridge on the A5117.

Water Leak

We are aware that we have at least one water leak on Low Hill and Severn Trent Water Company are currently investigating this for the third time.

We are encouraging as many residents as possible to ring the following number 0800 783 4444 to report any leaks that you come across.

Did you know?

Helpful Information re any Interruption to your Electricity, Gas or Water supply

- Know your free emergency telephone numbers: Power Cut – dial 105; Gas emergency – dial 0800 111999
- Prepare your home: Keep a torch handy and get your appliances serviced by a Gas Safe registered engineer to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Register as a vulnerable customer: Vulnerable households can get extra support by signing up to the Priority Services Register (PSR). You can find out more by going to: www.thepsr.co.uk
- In the event of a power cut or a gas emergency, please also check on your neighbours.
- For our area – Electricity provider is SP Energy Networks; Gas provider is Cadent.

DH&H Village Hall

DUNHAM ON THE HILL & HAPSFORD VILLAGE HALL

Village Road, Dunham on the Hill, WA6 0NN

AVAILABLE TO HIRE

Includes:

6m x 10m hall space
Kitchen (with serving hatch)
Tables and chairs
Ample car parking available



Ideal for:

Birthday/Celebration parties
Fitness classes
Coffee mornings
Meetings/Groups

Hire Charges
from as little as
£10 per hour

Contact us for further details:

Tel: 01928 444724

Email: VillageHall@DunhamHillandHapsford.co.uk

See also our Facebook page - www.facebook.com/Dunhamhillhall

And follow us on Instagram - [Dunhamhillandhapsfordvillhall](https://www.instagram.com/Dunhamhillandhapsfordvillhall)

Volunteers - We're a friendly bunch of volunteers keen to bring fun events to the community and are looking for like-minded volunteers to join us. If you would be interested in joining / helping organise events etc or would like more information, please get in touch 01928 444724

Dunham Hill & Hapsford Village Hall, Village Road,
WA6 0NN

Saturday 27 September 2025
6pm

Oktober Fest

FREE ENTRY

MUSIC FOOD BAR

Sponsored by:

 **COMPLETE SECURITY SERVICE**

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 27 September
Oktoberfest

Friday 14 November 7pm
Quiz & Supper

Friday 5 December 7pm
Xmas Bingo

Sunday 7 December
4:30pm

Xmas Lights 'switch-on'
in conjunction with the
Parish Council

WHIST GROUP

For Adults

Meet at

Dunham Hill & Hapsford Village Hall

Every **Thursday** From **7 - 9:30pm**

New players and beginners are welcome to join



Interested?

Contact Joyce & Norman 01928 723280

The Boshaw Centre

The Boshaw Centre, a former primary school, in Dunham on the Hill, is run by a committee of trustees and volunteers.

The committee are part of The Dunham Hill and Hapsford Community Project that provides a space to be utilised by the community.

The Hall



There is a large hall that is used for community events during the year such as the recent VE Day celebration, fundraising coffee mornings for the local hospice, and Vintage Land Rover Rallies.

The room can host approximately 80 people seated / 120 people standing and can be hired by clubs, for meetings and private parties.

The Business Centre



The classrooms and offices are available to hire by local businesses.

We have 4 small businesses currently using the Boshaw Centre; -

Drawn Together, Northern Eye Books, Stuart Williams Guitar and Banjo lessons, and Twigtwisters.

The Grounds



Everyone in the community and their visitors are welcome to access the grounds and play areas during the day, via the pedestrian gate. The grounds are surrounded by mature trees, and are a lovely peaceful place for picnics, to relax, and explore. There is a children's play area, and a playground suitable for ball games. There is a wildlife area, with a pond and large meadow of native flowers and grasses.

To ensure it is a safe place we request that children under 12 are accompanied by an adult, no dogs are allowed, and the grounds are closed after 4pm (8pm Spring and Summer). The times are displayed on the gate.

Events

Events are promoted on posters, on the Boshaw Centre Instagram page, in the Parish Council newsletter, The DH&H support WhatsApp, and Dunham Hill and Hapsford Facebook page.

Volunteering/Information/ Bookings

We welcome volunteers to be part of the committee at The Boshaw Centre. For more information and bookings please contact Claire Jones

Tel: 01928 723606 Email clairejones1066@gmail.com