



## **BASLOW AND BUBNELL PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk: Sarah Porter

Phone: 0786695132

Email: [clerk.baslow.bubnell@googlemail.com](mailto:clerk.baslow.bubnell@googlemail.com)

Web: [www.baslowvillage.com](http://www.baslowvillage.com)

### **BASLOW & BUBNELL PARISH MEETING NOTES**

#### **FOR THE MEETING BEING HELD ON 30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, BASLOW**

1. Attendees:

- Cllr Christopher Brown
- Cllr Richard Clark
- Cllr Jane Buckham
- Cllr Simon Chalk
- Cllr Stephen Brown
- Doreen Gridley
- Ray Gridley
- Graham Duncan
- Alison Haynes
- Robin Haynes
- Lucy Burrell
- Alex Birch
- Kath Winter
- Nick Winter
- David Skelton
- Angus Reynolds
- Jenny Reynolds
- Peter Skinner
- Bridget Skinner
- Graham Dale
- Lorraine Dale
- Pen Thompson
- Penny Peysner
- Richard Plant
- Derek Collins
- Mike Holcombe
- Geoff Machin
- Irene Machin
- Ben Hanbury
- Matt Lovegrove
- Danny Udall
- Diarmuid Crehan
- Cllr Susan Hobson
- Sarah Porter

2. Welcome

Cllr Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to sign in. We went round the room introducing ourselves.

Cllr Brown explained although the meeting has been convened by the Parish Council, it is not a Council Meeting and its purpose is to allow the various organisations in the village to come together, exchange information and report on their activities during the year and to see how we can work together to improve the community in which we live and work.

3. Notes from the Parish Meeting on 30th May 2023 were noted

4. Baslow - Openreach to run a Fibre Community Partnership to bring full fibre to Baslow and Bubnell

Matt Lovegrove from Openreach explained the project is to upgrade the existing broadband network from superfast to ultrafast. This would remove the last sections of the copper wiring. The ultrafast broadband was a project led by Derbyshire County Council a few years ago which brought fibre to the cabinets in the network. This project will bring fibre to your property.

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to the voucher scheme. There have been 175 pledges which means the scheme will happen over the next 12 months for the network but cannot guarantee every property will be connected, especially the more remote areas. A map was projected showing the network and the red dots represent properties with no fibre currently. The pledging website is still open and please do sign up and encourage your neighbours too, especially in the more remote parts of the Parish and network.

Key points to note:

- Openreach will only get the voucher money once the build is complete and the householder has signed up to a fibre contract.
- Openreach are the wholesalers, and the service can be provided by your existing supplier or one of the 690+ suppliers available. If you are already within a contract, your supplier will adapt it to fibre as the suppliers have signed up to do this with the Government.
- This project is one of only 40 across the country.
- The build won't be as disruptive as other utilities as utilising the existing network. Openreach will keep the parish informed.

There was also a discussion about the analogue phone network being switched off at the end of 2025. This is a separate project which is happening regardless of this project.

5. Flooding in Baslow and Bubnell

Cllr Dawson explained that there had already been 2 meetings regarding flooding; 1 led by Sarah Dines MP which was for an invited group of people from across the whole of the Derbyshire Dales and 1 led by the Environment Agency which was an open meeting to impart information. This evening is about hearing what you have to say and is Baslow and Bubnell specific.

The meeting then broke out into table discussions answering 4 questions:

- What and where were the effects of the flooding?
- What help have you received and what more do you need? From whom?
- What should be done to minimise the risks from flooding in the future?
- Specifically, what contribution did the PC make and what more could we do?

The tables then fed back on these questions. Noted in Appendix A.

Cllr Dawson then explained that the main reason the village was flooded was due to surface water run off rather than the Derwent. Bar Brook was overwhelmed. There had been unprecedented rainfall in a short amount of time on already wet ground. Bar Brook level was the highest since records began and the highest of all the tributaries. Climate change may make this a more regular occurrence. Cllr Dawson then showed photos of previous floods in Baslow especially at Nether End. He then went on to explain the infrastructure was inadequate to deal with the water. Bar Brook has not been well maintained. The pipe through Hulley's is only a 6 inch pipe. 70 drains were blocked but also so much water the unblocked ones couldn't cope. The village is a small community who came together to support those who flooded especially the village hall. However, because it is a small community with a small number of properties which flood, it is unlikely there will be much support from the bigger agencies. Need to look at flooding resilience and improvements. There is lots of advice and grants, once you have flooded.

Cllr Dawson then introduced Danny Udall from Eastern Moors Partnership and Diarmuid Crehan from the Peak Park. Danny explained that they look after publicly owned lands to recover nature so nature can do more for people. There is currently a bid in with the Environment Agency to implement some Natural flood management to restore the land on the Moor to reduce how quickly the water runs down. If slower, the existing infrastructure would cope better. This work includes bog restoration, slow the flow water obstacles such as leaky dams, stone dams and wiggly water ways. The project is in partnership with the National Trust and Chatsworth.

There are not that many gulleys on the Moor. It is a big open space, so vegetation is key. Sphagnum is being planted as like a green sponge. Diarmuid explained that the Peak Park has field labs in different parts of the Peak District. There has been one on the top of Kinder for the last 17 years which has been monitored for how much rain falls and how quickly it runs off. The use of sphagnum has helped and another area near Kinder has been revegetated with 1200 plug plants. The monitoring is in partnership with Manchester and Leeds Universities.

There was then a more general discussion. There was a discussion about more woodland and putting the right tree in the right place. The Moor does not have a huge amount of woodland, but it could be increased. Bog regeneration is a 50-year project. There is a plan to plant over 300000 plants by the end of March and volunteers are welcome to help. Within 3-4 years these plants will be the size of a dinner plate and so already making a difference. Looking to not graze the moors so hard.

There are some things which can be done more quickly such as leaky dams (replicates the work of beavers), wiggling the water course and having off line storage such as ponds and flood plains.

All the fields around Baslow were water meadows which were drained in the 1800s. Could some be reinstated?  
Yes with landowner permission.

There was a discussion about the Bar Brook dam and the reservoir that is still there. This is owned by Severn Trent Water and would need the gulleys reinstating and permissions to reopen the reservoir granted as it was closed due to the reservoir act. It would take a lot of money to reinstate. It may be better to do lots of little interventions rather than one big holding spot. Residents raised concerns about flooding down from Stanage Edge.

Cllr Susan Hobson said what an interesting evening it had been. There was practical help given at the time by Derbyshire Dales District Council and the Parish Council were out and about even if not everyone saw that. Derbyshire Dales District Council is doing a Section 119 report. Need to remember that lots of other areas were affected locally and not just a Baslow issue. Please keep reporting the drains. The response has not been good but there is now a new contractor supporting this work. Derbyshire Dales District Council has a fantastic flooding page on their website with lots of information and help.

There was a suggestion that the main roads should have been closed earlier as the wash from vehicles caused some of the flooding. There was also a discussion about getting information out. DDDC and the Parish Council sent out information electronically and via WhatsApp. Those who flooded said this was not helpful and perhaps a paper detailing support would be useful. The Parish Council will consider options.

Cllr Dawson ended the meeting saying the parish needs to do a lot of the changes themselves. The East Moors Partnership and Chatsworth do accept volunteers to help with their initiatives. The Flooding grants are about to go live for those who were flooded. However the Parish is at the bottom of a valley so it maybe about learning to live with the floods rather than stopping them completely.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - May 2024

<p><b>What and where were the effects of the flooding?</b></p> <p>Derwent Drive flooded; toilet backed up. Drains in the area too shallow. Slope of driveway protected another property. Bar Brook flooding.</p> <p>One end affected by surface water flooding main road and then into the properties. Difficulty in accessing areas of the village due to flooding so couldn't get sandbags or people in to help. Frequency of flooding that seems to have increased. Lorry wash causing damage – village green and Calver Road</p> <p>Village Hall a big focus. Church View Drive flooding and sewage linked to blocked drains. Access issues of flooded roads.</p> <p>Bar Brook/Nether End area with rapid rise of water levels, couldn't do a lot to rescue items. Concerns about the amount of water coming off the Moors and into the tributaries. EA only go as far as that tributary branch and then local landowner responsibility.</p>	<p><b>What help have you received and what more do you need? From whom?</b></p> <p>Different needs in different parts of the village. No help received. Flood walls – walls generally have the stopped water or assisted the flooding. Look at further back from the flood areas, what can be done to stop it getting to us. Aware of what is available but can't get it until actually flood.</p> <p>At the time of the flood, people didn't have a huge amount of help. Meeting of EA was very helpful for flood resilience particularly for the future. Concerned about lack of maintenance of drains and culverts. Road closure ought to be have been more timely. Support for who have had flooding in their homes but not if your garden is flooded.</p> <p>Individually no particular help. Key thing how village came together to help the village hall. Do we need flood gates to prevent water getting in. VH has insurance but high excess.</p> <p>Community wise there was support but further out a bit hit and miss and not really any help. Probably because whole of Derbyshire in a bit of a mess. Prefer to see some longer-term actions getting done rather than talking about them</p>
<p><b>What should be done to minimise the risks from flooding in the future?</b></p> <p>Unblock the drains. Non return valves installed by STW. Weir increased by 1m by dropping this level then could prevent flooding. Culverts on Bar Brook</p> <p>Storing more water on the Moors with leaky dams etc. Offline storage of water which might help the Calver end of the village as well as the Wheatsheaf area. Local landowners being able to access grants. How do they get notified? There are signposting available. Management of watercourses. Dredging not necessarily good everywhere is important in narrow area.</p> <p>Pumping out Hulleys, creating leaky dams, more on the Moors. Tarmac Bar Road to stop rubble which blocks drains, this will stop the rural feel, can put water diversion in place too.</p> <p>Maintenance – brook, clearing of debris, reducing bottom of brook down a bit. EA has cleared under the bridge but needs dealing with annually rather than once every few years when flood. Needs a schedule.</p>	<p><b>Specifically, what contribution did the PC make and what more could we do?</b></p> <p>Councillors wandered around the village to help on Saturday. Sandbag storage. Perhaps not one central location for dropping off especially when that location is flooding.</p> <p>Asked what the PC did do? Need to communicate to the village better. In fairness to the PC relatively little a PC can do, as helpless as anyone else.</p> <p>Did too – communication. Very busy working with DC and CC. After the event assisted. Provided a dehumidifier to the Village Hall.</p> <p>Disaster recovery plan. Taken electricity out. Knowing where things will be in advance.</p>