

## CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING: 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023, 7pm Village Hall, How Lane, Castleton

*These Minutes are hereby approved as a true and accurate record of the above meeting following Resolution of the Council at its Monthly Parish Council meeting on 30th March 2023.*

Signed ..... Chair of meeting

In attendance: Cllr. J. Bradley (Chair), Cllr. N. Topping (Vice), Cllr. J. Simm, Cllr. B. Moorhouse, Cllr. A. Darlington  
Also present: Clerk T. Dale, Cllr. J. Collins, a seven member of the public.

Meeting commenced 7.00pm.

01/02/23	Apologies were received from Cllr. N. Spooner, Cllr. J. Judge, PC Carl Davies.
02/02/23	Declarations of personal or pecuniary interests or requests for dispensations. Cllr. J. Bradley item 09/02/23 ii)
03/02/23	<p>Reports:</p> <p>A: County Councillor's Report: None this month.</p> <p>B: Borough Councillor's Report: Cllr Farrell updated the Council on recent developments on Levelling Up. There is a possibility to double tax on second and holiday homes. The motion was passed unanimously at a recent HPBC meeting, that should it become an option then they would adopt the policy. It is hoped that this would have a positive impact on the housing situation.</p> <p>Hathersage swimming pool has been provided with a grant of £6,600 from HPBC in previous years. This grant has been used to support/provide ticket holding for c150 local individuals. It is felt that this is limiting the benefit to a small section of the community and could be better spent. It is suggested that providing a 3G football pitch at Hope Valley Collage would benefit the wider community. Until agreement is reached a transitional arrangement will apply to Hathersage Swimming Pool.</p> <p>C: Police Report: Clerk provided an update from PC Carl Davies as follows: Between the 19/01 - 18/02 no crimes have been recorded.in terms of incidents reported, nothing too alarming or of any long-term concern has been raised.</p> <p>The parking situation around Rushup Edge and the Old Mam Tor Road, numerous reports of illegal parking in the area throughout the weekends of the 4th - 5th and 11th – 12th February. These range from parking on double yellow lines to parking in clearways and obstructing driveways and farm traffic.</p> <p>The local Police and Derbyshire County Councils civil enforcement officers have issued almost 100 parking tickets to offending vehicles. Including a Traffic Offence Report for obstruction of the Highway to a driver of a vehicle that stopped in the middle of Winnats Pass, holding up traffic to take a photograph.</p> <p>They have never seen such a blatant disregard for the parking restrictions.</p> <p>Please be assured that the recent work between the local Police and the council are doing their best to combat this issue and are enforcing the current restrictions in place.</p> <p>With regards to the camper vans at the top of the Old Mam Tor Road, they are parking legally, there are no restrictions in place on that stretch of road. The bottom half of the road is different, this is a clearway, and they are only permitted to park in the marked bays, with no time limit. Anything parked out of the marked bays can be issued with a parking notice. Any further parking restrictions have to be implemented by Derbyshire County Council.</p> <p>D: Chair's Report: None this month.</p>
04/02/23	<p><b>Public Participation:</b></p> <p>Resident 1, As mentioned above 03/02/23 Reports, Police Reports the situation with parking and associated issues is getting worse. As a local farmer the resident is struggling to enter his own farm at times as it is not passable with a trailer. He has had to adjust work schedules to ensure he can move cattle safely because of the situation, which is still proving difficult. He has experienced visitors climbing over his walls and when challenged they've explained that they have needed to toilet. Whilst it is understood that Camper Vans do have these facilities, cars and self-made/converted vans do not, which is causing environmental and unsightly issues. A lot of visitors do not adhere to parking sensibly, causing additional issues with large lorries unable</p>

	<p>to turn, the road is notorious for lorry drivers taking this route only to realise that it is not usable and required either turning around or reversing back to the village.</p> <p>Mill Lane is known locally as a rat run and used by emergency vehicles when other accesses are blocked. On Sunday a visitor decided without consideration to park from 12:30 – 16:20 blocking any access causing a health and safety issue. If in the case of an emergency there could have been serious consequences.</p> <p>Resident 2, supported the comments above, with regards to parking, there are cars parking on 90-degree corners causing obstruction and hazards to oncoming traffic, there is a realistic fear that a fatal accident will happen.</p> <p>It was asked if the placing of large rocks could be considered to prevent this. People do not stay on the right side of the roads, there seems to be a lack of knowledge regarding the Highway Code. There are also issues with litter, camp fires, Barbequing, and there is a lack of signage regarding the not to and dangers these actions could cause. Dogs off leads, running over farm fields where there are animals, especially during lambing session causing stress to animal and farmers.</p> <p>It is understood that PDNPA encourage tourism, which we are not against, for the mental wellbeing but do they not have a duty of care for the wellbeing of residents?</p> <p>In addition it was also commented that there is no parking provision at this end of the village, should there be it may alleviate some of the issues.</p> <p><i>Cllr Farrell and seven members of the public left the meeting.</i></p>																														
05/02/23	<p><b>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto:</b></p> <p>A: The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were then considered, the minutes were approved following a minor adjustment. (Prop JB, 2nd BM, unan).</p> <p>B: There were no matters to discuss relating to the minutes of the last meeting.</p>																														
06/02/23	<p><b>Finance:</b></p> <p>A: The Council’s monetary assets are shown below, and the Chair examined and approved the bank reconciliation and the latest current account statement, signed at the end of the meeting:</p> <table><tr><td></td><td>Current Account</td><td>NS&amp;I</td></tr><tr><td>Balance brought forward 01/04/22</td><td>13,458.21</td><td>18,511.35</td></tr><tr><td>Total Income</td><td>14,422.37</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Total Expenditure</td><td>11,288.86</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Balance</td><td>16,591.72</td><td>18,511.35</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Last Statement Balance 15/02/23</td><td>16,671.72</td><td>18,511.35</td></tr><tr><td>Less un-presented cheques</td><td>80.00</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Add uncleared deposits</td><td>0.00</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Available Balance 23/02/23</td><td>16,591.72</td><td>18,511.35</td></tr></table> <p>B: To approve and instruct the payment by cheque, of presented invoiced items, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) T. Dale – Clerk’s salary, allowance, milage, re-imbursement Peveril Post £339.00 - £674.87</li><li>ii) Castleton Village Hall – 7 hours hire, Council meeting £30.00</li><li>iii) Reimbursement V. Burgess – web hosting- £60.00</li><li>iv) RJA Contracting Ltd – Installation of Noticeboard - £288.00</li><li>v) Reimbursement B. Moorhouse – Defibrillator battery - £354.00</li><li>vi) DALC – Annual Subscription - £406.47</li></ul> <p>C: To note the income and receipts of the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) Jepson Funerals LT Ward- £90.00</li><li>ii) HMRC VAT - £967.37</li></ul> <p>The above payments and receipts were agreed. (Prop JB, 2nd JS, unan).</p>		Current Account	NS&I	Balance brought forward 01/04/22	13,458.21	18,511.35	Total Income	14,422.37	0.00	Total Expenditure	11,288.86	0.00	Balance	16,591.72	18,511.35				Last Statement Balance 15/02/23	16,671.72	18,511.35	Less un-presented cheques	80.00	0.00	Add uncleared deposits	0.00	0.00	Available Balance 23/02/23	16,591.72	18,511.35
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07/02/23	<p><b>Council Matters:</b></p> <p>A: Following an invite from the Parish Council Meeting Sue Smith and the team provided an update on the Castleton Accessibility Guide. It was explained that funding from DEFRA had been ringfenced to provide an accessibility guide for all individuals with various challenges. The premise is to provide information including documents, signage, route maps etc showing suitable establishments, routes and visitor attractions that are and are not accessible. In addition to identify improvements, assisting businesses as well as visitors. Identifying needs/requirements and provision of equipment. For example resting shelters, toilet facilities, ramps, Trampers that cope with various terrains, wheelchairs and so forth. They are hoping to use Castleton as a template for other villages in Derbyshire. Members of the team who have experience of dealing with day-to-day challenges and daily struggles are currently assessing the area and identifying requirements, noting the smallest of things that make a big difference. The aim is to support visitors have an enjoyable</p>																														

hassle free day out with the added bonus of supporting local residents who also face challenges. On completion of the data gathering all the information will be drawn together to produce the guides that will be available from various places and online.

B: An update from the TEE Group was received and circulated with the agenda prior to the meeting (see Annex A point 1). It was confirmed following a meeting with Marianne Quick that the next event will take place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

No feedback on concerns and issues raised to Northern Rail has been received. A response will be chased. With regard to the fines being issued due to none purchase of tickets, regardless of the reason, if you have a permit to pay then a fine will not be issued. It was noted that to gain a permit to pay is an awkward process. The Council was asked if there were any questions.

In relation to dog fouling the group was asked if there was a possibility of obtaining and installing dog waste bins in the village, as have other villages within Derbyshire Dales. HPBC to be contacted requesting the bins. **(AP – JS, AD)**

C: It was agreed at the January meeting a HVCA Climate Action Champion should be a non-member of the Council, a request for a volunteer to be issued via the village mail group. **(AP – JS)**

D: The review and discussion of Events Diary deferred till the next meeting.

E: An update on Cold Calling Posters and Police Survey was given. The Clerk had contacted PC Carl Davies who was aware of the issues and has agreed to obtain and distribute cold calling leaflets/signage around the village. He also encourages residents to report this kind of behaviour. With regards to the completed questionnaires the results are input into the Derbyshire Alert, which is their community messaging service. This, plus other information, forms a priority list for the upcoming three-month period. Clerk to ask PC Davies where this can be found. **(AP – Clerk)**

F: The Clerk updated the Council of a grant up to £550.00 being available for the Kings Coronation. It was agreed to ask for village volunteers to organise an event. Request to be communicated via the village email group. **(AP – JS, AD)**

G: An update was given on the Peveril Post. Firstly it was requested and agreed unanimously that a thank you from the Parish Council should be given to Jon Haddock for all the tremendous work he has done over the years. Moving forward there will be four editors, one for each quarterly publication. Jackie Topping, Steve Hayes, Linda Jackson and Val Burgess. Steve Hayes will be covering technical issues with Alan Darlington providing additional backup. In addition several new volunteers have agreed to support the distribution of the magazine.

Peveril Post should not exceed 32 pages due to costs and weight of the magazine. It was also agreed that whilst payment for advertising/sponsorship had lapsed over the years this would be reinstated. There will be no clawback for previous issues but going forward a charge will be made with collation of payments. Cllr Jo Bradley agreed to taking on this activity. Clerk to check that this would not be of a detriment to the Parish Council before commencement. **(AP – JB, Clerk)**

H: The Asset Register was reviewed and approved with the new Noticeboard being added. (Prop AD, 2<sup>nd</sup> BM, unan) Clerk to update website. **(AP – Clerk)**

I: A discussion on the possible closure of the Visitor Centre took place. Cllr Darlington and Cllr Moorhouse wrote requesting dispensation to talk and vote on the matter, as both declared non-pecuniary interest as Trustees of Castleton Historical Society (CHS), which runs the museum. Dispensation was granted in accordance with Standing orders.

Prior to leaving the meeting Cllr Farrell advised the council that DEFRA funding had not increased since 2020 and coupled with inflation and increases in energy costs making the financial situation difficult. It was said that the Castleton Visitor centre had only made a profit in 2015, 2018 and 2021. It was asked what was included in the figures as they could be cut in several ways, this information was not available at this point. It was also noted that the Visitor Centre was set up in 2003 as a partnership with CHS and grant funding obtained by CHS. The recent refurbishment (2017) was expecting to break even within 5 – 6 years. Cllr Farrell confirmed that MP Robert Langan had been requested to lobby for funding.

Concerns were raised over what the plans are, the site is freehold and owned by PDNPA. The impact on the village is unknown, as it will depend on what the proposal is.

With regards to finances, a request under the freedom of information has been requested by ~~the Historic Society~~ CHS to obtain the facts. The Visitor centre does have other income other than from DEFRA, including rental from Blueberry café and income from retail.

Due to all the unknowns at present it is difficult to know what actions are required but as a formal consultation process is likely to be agreed at the end of April and work has already commenced behind the scenes, actions need to be agreed and commence as soon as possible.

CHS are planning actions including letters to PDNP Members and petitions.

It was agreed that the Parish Council will establish how residents, business and visitors feel about the impact

	<p>of a possible closure. This will require research. A meeting to be arranged to discuss how this will be achieved and what is required. The Clerk will continue to communicate with other Parish Councils where Visitor Centres are being threatened with closure. (AP – Clerk, NT, JS)</p> <p>J: The issues of parking at and around Mam Tor, Rushup Edge, top of Winnat and Treak Cliff. Whilst the Council welcomes visitors to Castleton and appreciates the support provided to some of the business establishments within the village, it is becoming more apparent that unfortunately there are number of visitors that are not abiding by the Highway Code, illegal parking, disrespecting nature, visitors and residents. This is impacting law abiding visitors and residents alike. See above items 03/02/23, Reports, Police Report and 04/02/23 Public Participation. In addition the Council have received several other complaints raising the same issues with the addition of overnight, long term stays, feeling of intimidation/abuse and general erosion of what is a beautiful scenic place, which could be ruined for all. That the situation has got worse since Covid and the fear of how much bigger this problem will get as we move into spring and summer.</p> <p>It was reported in a previous meeting that these issues have been raised to Robert Largan MP, District and County Councillors with requests for actions to be implemented such as double yellow lines. It was also noted that it had been agreed that Robert Largan (MP) would take up the case pulling together a committee, consulting with various agencies; Environment Health, Highways, Fire Brigade, Castleton Parish Council and other appropriate organisations. The Clerk informed the Council that a request had been made for an update and dates of meetings to be shared. On response this will be circulated and posted for residents to view. In the meantime until a response is received the Clerk will continue to request this information and forward all correspondence received. (AP – Clerk)</p> <p>K: A discussion regarding the request from Playing Fields Committee for the removal of diseased Ash tree on Robinlands Lane (south side), Clerk requested to contact the Committee to obtain further quotes in line with Financial Regulation Policy. Item to be added to the next agenda. (AP- Clerk)</p> <p>L: A brief discussion to agree next steps regarding the closure of Edale Road took place, it was agreed no further action to take place.</p> <p>M: A discussion on a request for a memorial bench at Mam Tor on Mam Tor Road took place. It was confirmed that this would be a decision by National Trust. Clerk to inform the requestee. (AP – Clerk)</p> <p>N: An update on Parish Council events for Residents, possibility of Repair Cafe event in conjunction with Edale Parish Council deferred to next meeting. Add to next agenda. (AP – Clerk)</p> <p>O: With the upcoming elections and the introduction of the Vote ID requirement it was agreed that in addition to the Clerk already requesting the information to be included on the village website that a leaflet drop should be undertaken. (AP – NT, Clerk)</p> <p>A couple of issues were raised concerning conditions in the village, a sink hole has appeared at Waterside and there is damage to a wall that faces Peak Cavern. Pathway numbers to be identified, on identification HPBC/DCC to the notified of the required repairs. (AP – AD, Clerk)</p>
08/02/23	<p><b>Condition of the Village:</b></p> <p>A: The 2022 funding allocated for the maintenance of public footpaths and bridleways to be used for Furlongs Lane providing for additional gravelling. A quote of £360.00 (including VAT) for 10 Tonnes of 40 mm clean stone (nine bags) has been obtained. Chair to confirm when work has been completed, at which point the Clerk will claim the funding. It was resolved on this basis. (Prop JB, 2<sup>nd</sup> AD, unan) (AP – JB, Clerk).</p> <p>B: Updates on the actions identified on the Village walkabout can be found on Annex A point 2.</p>
09/02/23	<p><b>Planning:</b></p> <p>A: The following applications were discussed, and the Clerk instructed to report the Council's views to PDNPA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) NP/HPK/0123/0005 - Hillside House, Pindale Road, Castleton. Extension to form a courtyard area, replacement of existing garages and installing solar photovoltaic panels. <b>NO OBJECTIONS RAISED</b> <i>Cllr. J. Bradley left the meeting.</i></li> <li>ii) NP/HPK/1222/1620 - WINNATS HEAD FARM WINNATS PASS CASTLETON removal of the existing non-traditional Nissen hut and siting of 1No. traditional 'shepherd' hut in its place. The hut would be used as holiday accommodation, to allow the farm to diversify and supplement the income of the farm. <b>NO OBJECTION RAISED</b> <i>Cllr. J. Bradley returned to the meeting.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>In addition</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii) To receive an update on NP/HPK/0822/1030 - Toll Bar Cottages, Castleton. Holiday Let. Councillors attended the Planning meeting where the application was discussed and</li> </ul>

	<p>granted. The Councillors were disappointed, they felt there whilst some sympathy was shown in general there was a total disregard from the planning committee who did not consider the objections raised.</p> <p>B: Application for the Grant of a Premises Licence</p> <p>i) High Peak Wine and Beer Co, 2-3 Barnby Buildings. How Lane, Castleton.</p> <p>There was some confusion over the application, the Council believes that the details given were inadequate and confusing. Is this to be an Off Licence or opening as a public house? And if the latter what is the layout and facilities provided? There is mention of the use of a small area outside for customers to consume purchased products, this area is very small and unsuitable for this purpose, and fears of noise pollution were raised. Clerk informed the Council, that concerns have been raised regarding the impact on existing businesses selling the same products. The sale of these products subsidised other interests that are fundamental to the residents. Whilst these specifics would not be a reason to object the residents wished for them to be noted.</p> <p>Clerk to raise these concerns with Planning Department. <b>(AP – Clerk)</b></p> <p>C: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority: None this month</p>
10/02/23	<p><b>Correspondence and DALC Circulars:</b></p> <p>A: The following correspondence, received and pre-circulated to Members by email, was noted and discussed: unless otherwise indicated, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) DCC – High Peak &amp; Hope Valley Community Rail Partnership, Parish and Town Council Liaison, Community News, Mobile Library Route.</li> <li>ii) NALC – Bulletins, Newsletters, Events.</li> <li>iii) HPBC – Agendas, Sustainable Warmth Competition.</li> <li>iv) Cllr C Farrell – 20s Plenty workshops, update.</li> <li>v) Public Sector Executive – Various.</li> <li>vi) HVCA – Newsletter, Retrofitting Your Home, Use the Bus.</li> <li>vii) PDNPA – Join the Peak District Mosaic Team, Bold Ambitions for Peak District Transport, New Funding Unlocked National Park Access Improvements, Events at Bakewell Visitor Centre.</li> <li>viii) Robert Largan (MP) - Various.</li> <li>ix) Democratic Services – Various</li> <li>x) DALC – Newsletter.</li> </ul> <p>It was recommended that the communication received from Cllr C Farrell, “20’s Plenty” should be added to the Village Website for residents to be aware. In addition the item to be added to the next agenda. <b>(AP – Clerk)</b></p>
11/02/23	<p><b>Items for the Peveril Post:</b> None this month.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 9.08pm The next Annual Parish Council Meeting will take place at 7.00pm on Thursday 30th March 2023 at The Village Hall, How Lane, Castleton.</p>

## **1. TEE update for February CPC Meeting**

\* Topic of next event in the Village Hall will be “Travelling Light” with Marianne Quick who is the Project Manager for this project with HVCA. The confirmed date is Monday March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – MQ will facilitate this. The Village Hall is booked for a public meeting – MQ will present the project and invite feedback.

\* Online meeting February 14 with MQ, to clarify aims of our next event and support publicity and organisation of the event. We have already put this in Peveril Post and will be advertising on posters and Facebook.

\* As part of rail transport links made use of the Permit to pay ticket at Hope Station. This applies if arrive with no ticket. It allows you to board the train and pay cash for journey and avoid fines. To date no replies have been received from Northern Rail re our list of concerns regarding Hope Station, including car parking charges. (see January TEE report)

\* Attended the February online meeting of Hope Valley Climate Action (HVCA), to find out more about the youth engagement climate action project with local schools that include Castleton School. There was a call for all villages in the Hope Valley to appoint a climate action champion. At the January CPC meeting it was agreed that this should come from outside the parish council to encourage wider participation.

\* Refreshing dog poo and Castleton Code signs will continue as necessary. Further TEE events will include be an e-bike demonstration in the village (others have been held in Bamford and Hope). Suggestions are invited from councillors and post-its suggestions from previous events to remain on file are:

1. A repair café [various venue now in HV]
2. Clothes swap
3. Renewables and lobbying. The issue of single use plastics
4. A plant diet, vegetarianism, vegan diets
5. Can we have Wi-Fi in village hall?

## **2. Castleton Village Walkabout 2022**

Items listed 1, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been completed and closed, for detail see Minutes 24.11.22.

2. The two benches at the bottom of Goose hill require re-teaking

Action update – Cllr Moorhouse offered to teak the benches, to be confirmed. Cllr Spooner offered his assistance.

3. At Waterside there is shrubbery in the wall that needs removing

Action update – The residents has been made aware of the issues and has been kindly asked to remedy.

4. An overhanging tree on Waterside needs to be checked in the autumn when the leaves have fallen. Query whether this is a cherry tree.

Action update– Cllr Bradley to discuss with the Resident requesting and the cutting back of the tree.

5. Sluice gate – where is the key?

Action update – Cllr Topping to investigate and find key.