

CASTLETON PARISH

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 22nd MAY 2023 AT 6.30PM, Peveril Centre, Castleton

These Minutes are hereby approved as a true and accurate record of the above meeting following Resolution of the Council at its meeting on Thursday 30th May 2024.

Signed Chair of meeting

Present: J. Bradley (Chair), Cllr. J. Simm, Cllr. A. Darlington, Cllr. J. Judge, Cllr. N. Spooner, Cllr. J. Collins, PC. C. Davies, 6 Resident.

Clerk to Parish Council: Mrs T. Dale

APM A: The Chair gave a brief introduction and welcome.

01/05/2

3 B: Apologies were received from a resident.

APM Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto:

02/05/2

3 A: The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th May 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record of that meeting upon agreement of all those present (Proposed JB, Seconded JJ, unan).

B: There were no matters arising.

APM Reports and Presentations:

03/05/2

3 A: The Chair gave an Annual Report for 2022/23, see **Annex A**.

B: The Clerk had previously circulated the 2022-23 accounts which were discussed at the April meeting and included in the next Annual Parish Council Meeting immediately following this meeting, approving for submission to the external auditor following a successful internal audit.

Balances in the accounts on 31/03/23 are as follows:

Current Account £14,397.58

NS&I £18,528.58

C: Presentations, Updates and Reports by Village/Community Organisations

PC Carl Davies gave an update on recent events from the beginning of 1st May to 21st May.

1st May – An assault took place, this involved two males, not locals, in a case of road rage escalating.

3rd May - Public disorder on Robinlands Lane, an individual step out in front of a bus verbally insulting the driver.

4th May – Public disorder at the Peak Hotel abusing a member of staff.

5th May Suspected burglary being investigated. It is not clear at present if there was an attempted burglary, it maybe that a key was stuck after being sheared off in the lock, no entry to the premises were gained.

16th May – Assault involved in a civil dispute; this is currently under investigation.

17th May - An instant where a large Artic vehicle was witnessed driving up Winnats Pass, stopping several times and looked unsteady, then stalled. Cars had to pull back and stop whilst another had to mount the side to avoid the vehicle. A photograph of the Artic was taken for evidence and given as evidence. From the evidence provided investigation have led to a UK based Company. The Company will/is being contacted to ascertain the name of the driver to pursue a prosecution. In addition DCC will be contacted about the lack of suitable signage especially at Travellers Rest traffic lights, which could help to prevent further incidents.

PC Carl Davies left the meeting.

Jackie Topping gave a brief update for the WI and Village Hall Committee.

Village Hall – The village hall has ended the year in a reasonable financial position mainly thanks to donations/funding from the Playing Fields Committee, Castleton Christmas Tree and from the family of Nona Holwell. A request for a plaque at the village hall was agreed with a small plaque honouring Nona and Paul installed.

The village hall continues to be used by regular parties providing addition income.

WI – The WI have continued to be very active, instrumental in the setting up and providing, managing the warm rooms initiative. This year the group have attracted half a dozen new members.

The Playing Fields Committee shared their Annual Report and Financial Accounts with the Parish Council See Annex B.

Paul Borland explained that they are in a better position than 4 years ago, recovering from the impact of Covid. According to their constitution it is their job as trustees to ensure that Playing fields provides a benefit to the village, and as such, work will be taking place consulting with residents in what they would like, what priorities and how money should be spent.

Question and Answer session.

Q: What is the situation with the Rugby Club.

A: The Rugby Club are tenants; they lease the field for training sessions

Q: What is the situation regarding the existing goal posts, is there a chance for a football club or anyone to play football

A: Yes, there was a cricket club in the past but unfortunately the playing fields are underused by the village possibly because of the location being a “bit far out of the village”. The intention is to consult with residents on usage via the Peveril Post.

Q: Last year there was a proposal for training and providing first aiders at village events, what has happened to this initiative

A: Unfortunately there was a low take up, but it is still on the agenda

Q: Possibly consider installing a defibrillator at the playing field.

A: Committee will consider with all other recommendations

Q: Could you use part of the field as allotments

A: It is suspected that this is not within the constitution of the charity. By installing allotments the part of the field would become exclusive therefore not available for all, legal advice has already been sought on this matter.

D: No written notices were received or read out

APM

04/05/2

3

Open Forum – Any Business to Be Raised for Discussion and Invitation for Questions from the Public:

No matters of concern were raised.

Meeting Closed 6.53pm

*Mrs T. Dale, Clerk to Castleton Parish Council
clerk@rfo.cpc@gmail.com*

Chair and Vice Chair Report 22nd May 2023**Successes**

- The Burial Ground. This has been kept in good order. The Council has received occasional appreciation and, more importantly, no complaints.
- The village green spaces. These have also been kept neat and tidy, which is important for the village and visitors alike.
- The Council has been instrumental in enabling the Village Hall to be the venue for the warm spaces meetings, held between January and March. Thanks to the WI for running the scheme, which was much appreciated by those who attended.
- Similarly with the Coronation. The Council enabled the grant to be obtained. Steve Hayes and his team made sure the event was a success.
- The Council is ultimately responsible for the Peveril Post. There has been a successful transition to a new team (the first issue has been published) who will take it in turns to produce the quarterly editions. The Council would like to repeat its thanks to Jon Haddock for all his sterling work over many years.
- The Council has purchased and installed a new notice board (the old one rotted and has been removed).
- The Council has recovered control of the land behind the Burial Ground.
- The TEE Group ran an event in the Village Hall to inform villagers about how to reduce energy costs and what help was available.
- The Council finances have been kept in good order. The Council had a small surplus against the budget, despite a reduction in Government grants and increasing costs.
- Our Clerk, Trisha, has done a first class job, often in trying circumstances. She has been pivotal in keeping the Council functioning.

No Progress

There are many issues that have been raised by villagers to the Council which are not under the Council's control. The Council has lobbied the relevant authorities but for the most part, there has been little action.

- Traffic and parking are the subject of frequent complaints. The only progress has been repainting the white lines on How Lane near Spital Bridge.
- The vans parked along the old road and near the Blue John Cavern have also been the subject of complaints. It has now been established that the parking is legal and there is no evidence of a risk to public health.
- Dog excrement, especially dumping "doggy bags", is a problem that seems to have no solution.
- There has been no progress on improving or integrating public transport in the Hope Valley. Indeed, the installation of parking charges at Hope Station is a retrograde step, which will deter potential passengers.
- The greatest concerns have been about the growth in the number of second homes/holiday lets. In parts of the village, these are now the majority. There are signs that HPBC will raise Council taxes for second homes. However, PDNPA recently authorised the change of use to a holiday let, despite objections from the Council.

It can be frustrating for Councillors to deal with the complaints without having the power to make changes. The TEE Group has been unable, despite their best efforts, to make any significant impact other than organising the meeting about energy, mentioned above.

Council meetings

It is regrettable that Council meetings have become more ill-disciplined, with constant interruptions and lack of preparation. Informed debate is essential for good decision-making and as a consequence of the way Councillors have conducted themselves, the Clerk has struggled to make sense of what has been decided (if anything).

Thanks

The Council wishes to thank the WI for the warm rooms, the Playing Fields Committee for the Coronation event and the Village Hall, which hosted the events. Also, to the Care4Castleton group – the village looks a lot more colourful as a result of their hard work. Finally, particular thanks go to Trisha, our Clerk, for doing such an outstanding job.

CASTLETON PLAYING FIELDS CHARITY

2022-2023

Report of the Chair of the Managing Trustees to Castleton Parish Council

1. It has been a successful year for the charity. There have been a number of projects and our fundraising has been remarkably effective. We ensure that we keep the village informed of what we are planning and doing. We are seen as an important part of village life with our social events. Our bank account is looking healthy and we have had generous support from the Breedon Group, Education Planning Books, The George Hotel, the Parish Council and numerous individuals and businesses in the village. We are grateful to many people for their interest in the Charity.
2. The Charity has an effective working group of volunteers who give their time and expertise in maintaining the field and woodland. There is a high level of participation by this group.
3. We will continue to make the land environmentally friendly and we have made progress in rewilding some of the area. The management of any piece of land costs money though our income is likely to exceed those annual expenses. We need to address how we make any capital improvement and how we engage with as many residents as possible in determining what our priorities should be? How do we decide what to spend money on? The field is underused by locals generally. The last consultation via the Parish Magazine advised that we should avoid any major expenditure on children's play equipment. Our research into modern playgrounds suggests we might be spending in excess of £35,000 on items that in reality would be used more by young people staying at the Hollowford Centre than the children or grandchildren of residents.
4. The children and staff at Castleton School continue to use their woodland adventure area and the staff appreciate our efforts to respond to their requirements.
5. The Managing Trustees are bound by the Charity's Constitution which clearly states we need to manage the field for the welfare and recreation of the community of Castleton - this we have done and will continue so to do.

Paul Borland

24.04.2023

Castleton Playing Fields Committee Financial Statement Year End 31 March 2023

2022-23

(2021-22)

Income**Fund Raising Income**

Duck Race (2022)	£1028.56	
Fun Day (2022)	£1384.16	
Race Night (2023)	£1263.25	£3675.97

Donations

Mower Sale	£ 60.00	
Open Gardens	£530.00	
Leek Night	£740.00	
Castleton Christmas	£200.00	£1530.00

Rental Income

£200.00				
£ 50.00	£250.00	Total	£ 5455.97	(£5215.10)

Expenditure**Fund Raising Expenditure**

Fun Day Alcohol and Expenses	£516.50	
Lottery License	£ 20.00	
Card Reader	£ 29.00	
Temp Event Notice	£ 21.00	
Stationery & Printing Duck Race	£ 15.77	
Silver Band	£100.00	£ 702.27

Insurance and Inspection

Insurance	£303.23	
Safety Inspection HPBC	£141.80	£445.03

<u>Mower Running Costs</u>	£155.60	£155.60
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Field Maintenance

Sand / Cement fence wire etc	£141.13	£141.13	Total	£ 1444.03	(£1493.50)
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Bank Balance at Close 31 March 2022 £ 6741.02

Bank Balance at Close 31 March 2023 £10,752.96

Excess of Expenditure over Income: (Credit) £ 4011.94

Steve Hayes
Treasurer, Castleton Playing Fields Committee

28 April 2023