

CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING: 22nd May 2023, 7.22 pm following the Annual Parish Council Meeting, 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 Monthly Parish Council meeting date to be confirmed.

Signed Chair of meeting

In attendance: Cllr. A. Darlington (Chair), Cllr. J. Simm (Vice), Cllr. J. Simm, Cllr. N. Spooner, Cllr. J. Judge.
Also present: Clerk T. Dale, Cllr. J. Collins, five members of the public.

Meeting commenced 7.22pm.

Annual PC Meeting	No apologies received
Annual PC Meeting	Declarations of personal or pecuniary interests or requests for dispensations. None
08/05/23	<p>Reports:</p> <p>A: Chair Report – See Annex A</p> <p>B: County Councillor's Report: None this month.</p> <p>C: Borough Councillor's Report: Following elections everybody is settling into their roles therefore not much to update. Both Cllr J. Collins and Cllr C. Farrell have been re-elected as Borough Councillors.</p> <p>Of interest at present in the management of verges, HPBC are contracted by DCC to maintain the verges. Discussions have taken place due to issues being raised, either the verges are mown just as the wildflowers begin to bloom whereas verges which need mowing due to obstruction to pathways are not, meetings are to be arranged to discuss/resolve the issues with HPBC. The Council were asked if there are similar issues within Castleton.</p> <p>Q: Would Hollowford Lane, where there is undergrowth such as brambles that is hazardous for pedestrians avoiding traffic, especially when wagons are using the road that has been neglected, be included?</p> <p>A: Yes, could an email, outlining the issues along with a map, be sent to Cllr Collins who will take this forward. (AP-AD)</p> <p>Q: Young trees along Siggate and at the back of the quarry have been brutally cut back, it is believed they are on the verges but could possibly be on Duchy of Lancaster land?</p> <p>A: Issue to be included in the above email to Cllr Collins. (AP-AD)</p> <p>Cllr Collins advised the Parish Council that candidates for the election on to PDNPA were still being sought, should they be interested. Cllr Judge may consider.</p> <p>Q: How many meetings per month?</p> <p>A: Meetings held every two weeks plus a full monthly meeting.</p> <p>Q: Would it involve the full responsibilities of PDNPA?</p> <p>A: No, it is believed that the responsibilities are divided between Planning and Transformation but would need to be confirmed. It was suggested that Cllr Judge speak to Cllr C Farrell for further information.</p> <p>Q: How many vacancies for Parish Councillors?</p> <p>A: Two out of all HPBC Parish Councils would be elected.</p> <p>D: Police Report: The report was given in the preceding Annual Parish Meeting.</p>
09/05/23	<p>Public Participation:</p> <p>Resident 1: Questioned why the County Councillors was not present at meeting and how often did he attend, that the councillor should be supporting resolution of issues.</p> <p>The resident was informed that the County Councillors was invited to every meeting with the agenda being sent. Unfortunately there has been no attendance for months. That the Clerk will continue to invite and stress that a representative is required.</p> <p>Resident 2: Reiterated the issue with Hollowford Lane (see above 08/05/23 Borough Council Report)</p>

	<p>Pedestrians have not been able to move safety out of the way with traffic forcing them into the brambles etc. A Councillor relayed the history of the road, in that it was rarely used by traffic years ago, occasionally you would see farm traffic, and the usage of the road has now changed but the structure has not been adapted, it is not suitable for current use.</p> <p>Resident 1: Asked if Hollowford Lane could be designated a quiet lane? The speed some drivers using the lane is dangerous, and in addition due to traffic the verges are being worn away.</p> <p>Council advised they will take up the suggestion of a quiet lane with Cllr Gourlay. (County Council).</p>																														
Annual PC Meeting	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto:</p> <p>A: The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 27th April 2023 were then considered, the minutes were approved following a minor adjustment. (Prop JS, 2nd JJ, unan).</p> <p>B: There were no matters to discuss relating to the minutes of the last meeting.</p> <p><i>Resident left the meeting</i></p>																														
10/05/23	<p>Finance:</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> <p>Statement as at 31st March 2023</p> <table><tr><td></td><td>Current Account</td><td>NS&I</td></tr><tr><td>Balance brought forward 01/04/23</td><td>14,397.58</td><td>18,528.58</td></tr><tr><td>Total Income</td><td>7,107.00</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Total Expenditure</td><td>1,556.60</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Balance</td><td>19,947.98</td><td>18,528.58</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Last Statement Balance 15/05/23</td><td>19,947.98</td><td>18,528.58</td></tr><tr><td>Less un-presented cheques</td><td>0.00</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 22/05/23</td><td>19,947.98</td><td>18,528.58</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">i) T. Dale – Clerk’s salary, allowance – <u>£359.87</u>ii) Castleton Village Hall – 3 hours hire for April 2023 meeting – <u>£30.00</u>iii) Peveril Centre – 3 hours hire for May 2023 meeting – <u>£45.00</u>iv) C. Bugg – Removal of old Noticeboard – <u>£40.00</u>v) Hiscox Insurance Company Limited – Insurance – <u>£484.48</u>vi) John Marriott – Internal Audit – <u>£110.00</u> <p>C: To note income and receipts of the Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) HPBC – Precept – £7,107.00 <p>The above payments and receipts were agreed. (Prop AD, 2nd NS, unan).</p> <p>D: Following minor amendment, the Chair of the meeting to agree and signed the latest current account bank statement and RFO’s bank reconciliation. (Prop NS, 2nd JS, unan).</p> <p>E: Certificate of Exemption of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return - form 2 2022/2023 was considered and agreed. (Prop JJ, 2nd AD, unan).</p> <p>F: Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 3 – Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 was considered, agreed, and signed. (Prop AD, 2nd JS, unan).</p> <p>G: Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 3 – Accounting Statements 2022/233 was considered, agreed, and signed. (Prop JJ, 2nd NS, unan).</p> <p>All documentation to be issued to the external auditor with the Parish Council website updated. (AP – Clerk)</p>		Current Account	NS&I	Balance brought forward 01/04/23	14,397.58	18,528.58	Total Income	7,107.00	0.00	Total Expenditure	1,556.60	0.00	Balance	19,947.98	18,528.58				Last Statement Balance 15/05/23	19,947.98	18,528.58	Less un-presented cheques	0.00	0.00	Add uncleared deposits	0.00	0.00	Available Balance 22/05/23	19,947.98	18,528.58
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11/05/23	<p>Items arising from Annual Parish Meeting:</p> <p>Following the Annual Parish Meeting the Parish Council requested that the consultation with the Playing Field Committee to be added to the next agenda. (AP – Clerk)</p>																														
12/05/23	<p>Council Matters:</p> <p>A: As there were four candidates for three vacancies each vacancy is taken in turn and each councillor present and voting has one vote per vacancy. Voting is by show of hands, candidate must secure an absolute majority of votes to be co-opted.</p> <p>For fairness and consistency each candidate, in alphabetical order, read out their statement as on the</p>																														

application form, and for those that could not attend, the clerk read out on their behalf.

All Four Candidates were proposed:

Candidate A – Prop JJ, 2nd AD

Candidate B – Prop NS, 2nd JS

Candidate C – Prop AD, 2nd JJ

Candidate D – Prop JS, 2nd AD

Vacancy one:

Votes: Candidates A – 1, B – 0, C – 0, D – 3

By absolute majority candidate D was elected for co-option. The Council welcomes John Stannard.

Vacancy Two:

Votes: First vote Candidates A – 2, B – 1, C – 1, no absolute majority

Second vote Candidates A – 3, B – 1, C – 0

By absolute majority candidate A was elected for co-option. The Council welcomes Simon Adshead.

Vacancy Three

Votes: Candidates B – 0, C – 4

By absolute majority candidate A was elected for co-option. The Council welcomes Matthew Eyre.

Those present signed in front of the Clerk a declaration of office and were given the notification by members of a local authority of pecuniary and other interest forms to complete and return.

For those not present it was agreed that the Chair would issue the forms and sign on behalf of the Council the acceptance of office.

Clerk to notify and send copies of forms to the returning officer and update the website.

Clerk to update those candidates that were not present at the meeting of the outcome. **(AP - Clerk)**

B: A brief update was given by TEE group. Whilst normally a report is produced there was not much to add this month except for a Travel Light Survey. Several Councillors have completed the survey, which was easy to complete, asking questions on patterns of travel, what journeys have been taken and where if it were possible would you like to go. The link and some communications to be sent to residents via the village email group, with attendance from the Traffic Light team to present at the Community Café. It was recommended that the Council ask the team to bring along tablets to assist the residents in completing the survey, as they have done on previous occasions. By involving the residents it will provide for a more complete overview of what is required and what would be enjoyed. **(AP – JS)**

C: No further update on Events Diary was available.

D: An update on the possible closure of the Visitor Centre was given. A letter has been received by residents from Robert Largan with what is believed to be misleading information.

£440K funding to help support visitor and educational centres etc, how? Will this funding be used for transitional arrangements, the installation of touch pads etc for visitor centres, clarification on exactly what this means needs to be established.

Confirmation the Visitor Centre building will remaining open and operating? The Council understands this but in what form, will it be rented out? If so to whom? The Café remains as they are already renting the space. Confirmation that the visitor information and local historical displays remain in place on site. In what form? Will it remain, for example, in digital form and touch pads?

In addition to the letter a PDNPA statement of May 5th stated that all Visitor Centre operations are continuing to run as normal, and when that is not the case Castleton Visitor Centre has already lost staff. A response to the letter will be drafted and sent seeking clarification from RL. **(AP – AD, Clerk)**

E: No further update on correspondence sent on parking/traffic issues in the village was available. Whilst there are numerous issues raised, including a recent event where large numbers gathered for barbeques, including disco lights and music playing at a high volume, the Councillors are aware that there are some good and respectful visitors. A Councillor spoke to one individual that demonstrated such a case, the love of being with nature, ensuring all rubbish is taken away, etc. The Councillor reported that there was no evidence of antisocial behaviour, no litter found on a walk around Odin Mine.

F: A brief update was given on Parish Council events for Residents, the possibility of Repair Cafe event was discussed with Tideswell Parish Council, a contact was given who will help/support the setting up of the event. **(AP – JJ)**

Cllr A Darlington granted nonpecuniary interest see minutes 30/03/2023

G: Following a request at the last meeting it was agreed that some official documentation such as the agendas be cascaded via the village email group with more complex/bulkier documents a link would be provided.

	<p>(Prop AD, 2nd JJ, unan).</p> <p>In addition, the Council Facebook page to be reinstated. (AP – JJ)</p> <p>H: No further update regarding rental of strip of land behind the burial ground was available.</p> <p>I: No urgent matters raised to note.</p>
13/05/23	<p>Condition of the Village:</p> <p>A: To date the repairs to Furlong off How Lane is still pending.</p> <p>B: Due to Highways declining to visit and with the Parish Council needing to identify all roads that require white lines being reinstated it was agreed that Councillors will identify and produce a map to be sent to Highways. (AP – NS, JJ)</p> <p>C: There was no update on request for re-installment of a waste bin at Arthurs Way. A brief discussion took place on the merits of introducing more bins in the village, there is a theory however that more bins encourage more waste.</p> <p>D: Issues on Hollowford Lane discussed earlier. (see above 08/05/23 Borough Council Report and 09/05/23 Public Participation)</p>
14/03/23	<p>Planning:</p> <p>A: The following applications were discussed, and the Clerk instructed to report the Council's views to PDNPA:</p> <p>None this month</p> <p>C: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority:</p> <p>None this month</p>
15/05/23	<p>Correspondence and DALC Circulars:</p> <p>A: The following correspondence, received and pre-circulated to Members by email, was noted and discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) DCC – Community News, Mobile Library Routes, Division Boundaries. ii) NALC – Bulletins, Events, Newsletter, Star Council Awards, Chief Executives Bulletin iii) HVCA – Newsletter. Annual Report iv) HPBC – Whaley Bridge Consultation, Agenda. v) Public Sector Executive – Various vi) Cllr Collins – Roads Update from DCC vii) PDNPA – News, District Birds of Prey Initiative Closes, Rural Awards Launched, Nominations Open for CNP's, PDNPA Changes. viii) HP & HV Community Rail – Newsletter, AGM. ix) DALC – Newsletter. Excellence Award. x) Robert Largan MP – Various xi) PPPF – Review Minerals Topic Paper <p>It was recommended that the Parish Council look at training availability, Good Councillor, Employment/Finance, Navigating Planning. Concerns were raised about the lack of planning knowledge on the present council, but new councillors co-opted onto the council should aid filling this knowledge gap. Item to be added to the next agenda. (AP – Clerk)</p>
16/05/23	<p>Items for the Peveril Post:</p> <p>To be reviewed at next meeting ready for August's publication.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 8.21pm</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place at 7.00pm on Thursday 29th June 2023 at The Village Hall, How Lane, Castleton.</p>

Chair's Report APCM 22nd May 2023

Grateful thanks to the councillors who have just stepped down, for their long service to the village. Often the efforts and commitment of parish councillors go unnoticed, but the remaining council can testify that their years of experience have been very valuable for the community.

Making progress as a Parish Council can sometimes be challenging. However I'd like to mention a few examples of how we can help the community, to add to those already mentioned by our out-going Chair at this and the last Parish Council meeting. The PC has reacted quickly to external funding opportunities such as the DCC Rights of Way grant that has allowed improvements to local footpaths including over David Matthew's field near Squire's Lane, and the post-Covid regeneration grant that helped support the 2021 Family Fun Day organised by the Playing Fields Committee. Through the TEE (Transport, Energy, Environment) group set up to bring ideas to the PC on Climate Change matters, a public information poster based upon the Countryside Code was produced and displayed throughout the village, and three events aimed at local people have been organised in the Village Hall including one on e-cars and another on saving energy at home. Littering and appropriate disposal of dog waste have also been addressed but these are continuing problems throughout the Hope Valley.

Looking forward, we want to develop our team structure within the PC and make further progress on several fronts, including communications within the village. As well as needing to get our message out there in the community we want to know what villagers want for Castleton and we invite ideas, questions, and concerns. We are very conscious that PC meetings need to be conducted in such a way that all participants have an opportunity to be heard clearly. We warmly welcome today's co-opted councillors, and supported by our excellent Clerk, we look forward to productive meetings and good outcomes for the Castleton community with our new Parish Council team.