

CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING: 25th July 2024, 7.05pm 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 date to be confirmed.

Signed Chair of meeting

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

01/07/24	Apologies received from Cllr. J. Stannard, Cllr M. Eyre, PCSO Will Brockett, PC Alex Simpson
02/07/24	No pecuniary interests were declared.
03/07/24	<p>Reports:</p> <p>A: County Councillor's Report: None this month.</p> <p>B: Borough Councillor's Report: Cllr Collins reported that following the launch of the number 62 bus service feedback has been requested in order to improve the service. To date a request has been received to provide earlier buses. During the meeting feedback was given via a resident that there are no services between 10:30 – 13:30, this should be considered.</p> <p>Cllr Simms advised the Parish Council that the information leaflet provided contain errors, including villages that do not exist and incorrect Pub names, and these are currently being corrected.</p> <p>Cllr. Collins to forward contact details for feedback.</p> <p>Cultural Strategy Advisory Group are looking for new members to join the project. They have released an interactive map that shows details of geographics, vegetation, biodiversity etc. Cllr Collins to check if this can be shared at present. The group have released a short consultation portal, which is now open.</p> <p>PDNPA will be, in autumn, consulting on their local plan, whilst it is very long you do have the opportunity to pick only the elements of interest.</p> <p>A reminder was given that small grants were still available through the Councillors Initiative Fund, and it was recommended that if funding has been applied for in the past then it is preferred that something different is applied for.</p> <p>The Chair questioned if restoration of Moorland would be suitable for funding, the idea being this would be a natural flood defence. Cllr Collins confirmed that this would be acceptable.</p> <p>C: Police Report: Clerk in the absence of PCSO Will Brockett reported the following: Below are the figures for the past 4 weeks in Castleton for crimes, which is thankfully low.</p> <p>28th June - Theft on How Lane - Armoured cable stolen from building site by males in a white van, numerous reports of this van being involved in thefts across the High Peak and enquiries continuing.</p> <p>6th July - Drugs possession visitors centre car park - Male discovered unconscious in car park and eventually taken to hospital and found to be in possession of drugs.</p> <p>Other incidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Domestic outside a licenced premises.• Damage to garden wall on How Lane by vehicle doing 3-point turn.• HGV's using Winnats Pass - weight restriction signage at the top missing from the Sparrowpit direction and most reports lack vehicle details preventing any action. There has been monitoring when possible and prevented a number of HGV's from taking the route. <p>D: Chair Report: No report this month.</p>
04/07/24	<p>Public Participation:</p> <p>Resident 1 – Advised the Parish Council that the invoice for Peveril Post had been received of £236.80, that copies will be out for delivery next Tuesday.</p> <p>Resident 2 – raised concerns over traffic on Winnats, especially regarding buses meeting and have difficulties passing. Not isolated to buses, any large vehicles, tractors, etc. Whilst accepting there is additional traffic due to the Bradwell closure, it is an ongoing issue. Recently a farm tractor and a bus struggling to pass forced the tractor to move towards the side of the road and bring down the kerb stone. Summer is beginning and will only exacerbate the problems.</p>

	<p>The Parish Council are aware of the issues and working with resident groups that are working hard to improve the situation. Concerns have also been raised with regards to the stagecoach/open top bus. A letter was sent to Cllr Cupit notifying that the double decker bus comes down the Winnats Pass, often at speed, causing drivers on Arthurs Way to move out of the way due to the width of this bus. Cllr Simms personally had to take evasive action when the bus was driving in the middle of the road. Residents in the Hope Valley, including cyclists making use of the Winnats Pass have raised concerns. Winnats is receiving unprecedented high levels of traffic due to the Brough Road closure, and although it is appreciated that DCC are trying to manage the situation further consideration about road safety is required before someone is involved in a road traffic incident. To date a holding reply has been received and should be followed by a comprehensive response.</p> <p>Another issue is a shortage of bins, they were full by this Friday. It is appreciated the operatives are doing their best, but it does not help the litter issue.</p> <p>Cllr Collins will speak again to Cllr Gourlay about the possibility of more bins.</p> <p>The Parish Council has mixed feelings on this. Providing bins where campervans are parking shows encouragement for longer stays, it also does not encourage visitors to take waste home and can encourage more waste but on the other hand more bins may help the situation if only small scale. Once the TRO's have been implemented the Parish Council will revisit the options of more bins.</p> <p>Resident 3- Also raised the issue of litter, predominantly dog waste/bags, on one occasion they picked up c75 poo bags. They are not of the opinion that the main culprits are those with campervans but more likely it is the day trippers. The resident does not think more bins is the answer, that it would be nonproductive, encourage more waste, costing more money and manpower. They put forward the suggestion of a voluntary <i>Sponsor-a-Bin</i> scheme, in that a sponsor has the responsibility for emptying that bin. The resident asked the Parish Council if they could try it themselves and feedback, the Parish Council agreed.</p> <p>The resident reported that a group of young men from Sheffield have been poaching at Peakhole Water towards Hope and that the police had been informed. After a brief discussion it was discovered that the activity is taking place outside Castleton Parish Council, that it is within the Hope parish boundary. The resident will send the details to the Clerk who will forward to Hope Parish Council.</p>																														
05/07/24	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto:</p> <p>A: The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 27th June 2024 were then considered, the minutes were approved. (Prop AD, 2nd JS, unan).</p>																														
06/07/24	<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> <table><tr><td></td><td>Current Account</td><td>NS&I</td></tr><tr><td>Balance brought forward 01/04/24</td><td>13,472.08</td><td>18,671.94</td></tr><tr><td>Total Income</td><td>8,212.50</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Total Expenditure</td><td>5,421.89</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Balance</td><td>16,262.69</td><td>18,671.94</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Last Statement Balance 15/07/24</td><td>16,352.69</td><td>18,671.94</td></tr><tr><td>Less un-presented cheques</td><td>90.00</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 25/07/24</td><td>16,262.69</td><td>18,671.94</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, milage and printer ink - <u>£394.26</u>ii) Castleton Village Hall – Room Hire - <u>£50.00</u> <p>C: To note the income and receipts of the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Three Roofs – Rental 2023-24 - <u>£180.00</u>ii) Three Roofs – Rental 2024-25 - <u>£270.00</u>iii) Burial Ground – Holland - <u>£80.00</u> <p>The above payments, receipts were agreed. (Prop AD, 2nd JS, unan).</p> <p>It was agreed, as there is no meeting in August, all invoices received will be processed and included in the September meeting.</p> <p>(Prop AD, 2nd JJ, unan).</p>		Current Account	NS&I	Balance brought forward 01/04/24	13,472.08	18,671.94	Total Income	8,212.50	0.00	Total Expenditure	5,421.89	0.00	Balance	16,262.69	18,671.94				Last Statement Balance 15/07/24	16,352.69	18,671.94	Less un-presented cheques	90.00	0.00	Add uncleared deposits	0.00	0.00	Available Balance 25/07/24	16,262.69	18,671.94
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07/07/24	<p>Council Matters:</p> <p>It was agreed that item L should be brought forward in the meeting for discussion.</p> <p><i>Standing Orders Suspended</i></p>																														

L: Following correspondence from a resident proposing the introduction of a village environment group. The Resident attended the meeting and provided the following overview:

The idea came from being fed up picking up litter in the village. What could be done to reduce rubbish? How could they help? They would like to set up a group working with the Parish Council, High Peak Borough Council on Climate Emergency and similar initiatives from Derbyshire County Council, other villages, looking to follow similar projects like Transition Buxton.

The group could look at specific projects for example:

1. Introducing a scheme for reusable coffee cups and environmentally friendly takeaway packaging in conjunction with local cafes etc. This was encouraged generally before Covid lockdowns stopped this, but since then it seems not to be a priority.
2. Local facilities for recycling packaging etc on the lines of what e.g. Transition Buxton do.
3. Encouraging one of our local businesses to have a zero-waste section, as Plant and Planet did.
4. Lobbying High Peak Borough Council to provide bins for tourists to separate e.g. cans and bottles from other waste as Sheffield City Council do.
5. Installation of a clothing bank - the red textile sack scheme of High Peak Borough Council does not seem to work for us.
6. Working with the councils to make our verges more wildlife friendly and the churchyard - we see there is a Derbyshire church initiative on this. Other Derbyshire villages seem to be proactive.

The hope is to gain buy-in from the village community, involving businesses. Starting small and hoping to make a difference.

Initially a group would need to be set up, attracting members, agreeing priorities, actions etc.

The Parish Council thought this was a grand idea and were happy to support and work with the group. Further discussions need to continue.

A: Cllr. Simm gave a brief update on Bus strategy currently being developed and Active Travel in Hope Valley this was provided with the agenda on Annex A. The Parish Council were asked if there were any questions? No questions were raised.

Following the recent election, it will be interesting to see what changes will be introduced by the new government and the newly elected East Midlands Mayor.

A new bus service from Glossop to Buxton is now in operation and will be running through the summer. Parish Council were asked if there were any questions? No questions raised.

B: Cllr Simm and Cllr Spooner updated on the Transport Survey. The survey has now been printed and will be distributed alongside Peveril Post next week with a deadline of the end of August, after which the results will be analysed with a report being produced for the Parish Council meeting scheduled for the 26th September.

It was questioned, following the availability of the results, if a village meeting should be arranged to discuss the results and possible actions required. This is to be considered and discussed further.

C: Cllr Darlington led on the review of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). The Parish Council are preparing recommendations for DCC on a proposed TRO dealing with several areas of the village and includes issues outstanding for a few years. At present these are a proposal - once the TRO process has begun, DCC will have to consult with stakeholders and part of the process is a formal consultation with the community. However, DCC wish to tune the TRO more to the needs and wishes of Castleton before pressing "GO" rather than be faced with an outcry (as happened in 2016) as a result of which the TRO was eventually abandoned. CPC has discussed the current proposals at two Parish Council meetings and has held a community drop-in at the Village Hall where c50 residents attended.

D: The Clerk, in Cllr Eyre absence, provided an update on various parking issues in the village.

An email to Highways has been sent twice regarding the missing clearway signs at the top of Winnats. No reply has yet been received. It was intimated at the meeting in the village that they needed replacing as the parking enforcement officers had queried whether there was adequate legal signage for them to issue an enforceable ticket. It seems strange that they have replaced the signage at the bottom but are ignoring the top. A report on HGVs to the authorities for using Winnats has been completed.

Cllr Eyre continues to receive photos and complaints regarding camper vans and parking on the lower road from residents, especially regarding wide vehicles etc. Cllr Eyre will contact Will Brockett PCSO to see if there has been progress since the last meeting in terms of identifying if there has been a rise in the parking ticket issued. . (AP – ME)

An issue raised by villagers on the extra traffic using Castle Street/Market Place and Pindale given that Back Street is closed and the Bradwell Road is shut. A request for extra slow down signage, and even to limit parking to one side on Castle Street as it is now a bottleneck.

Feedback given at the meeting varied from the above, the Parish Council were advised that since the closure of Back Street traffic had been quieter, that little inconvenience had been experienced.

The Parish Council will write to James Adam regarding "Access only signs" and that Cllr. Spooner will monitor the situation. **(AP- AD, NS)**

Concerns were also raised about speeding on Pindale Road, this will be included in the notification to James Adam.

E: The Brough Road closure continues to be monitored. See above item D for issues as a consequence of the closure. The Chair reiterated that any HGV seen travelling up or down Winnats should be reported to the police with evidence. Photograph, licence plate number and company name. The road closure at Brough resulted in structural damage to a cottage on Back Street and closure of Back Street to traffic. James Adams of DCC who is responsible for any issues arising from the road closure has asked for reports of HGVs in Castleton (including on Winnats) which he will then follow up, but he requires vehicle registration and preferably business name to do this. Likewise, if you see an HGV on Winnats, report to the Police as well with the same information, as soon as you can.

F: Cllr Spooner gave a brief update on the setting up of the Speedwatch group. It is understood there are now 20 volunteers, a good job has been done by the Lead Resident on this project. That a discussion had taken place where it was suggested that if the village had Speed Indicator devices (SIDs) at each end of the village there would be no need for a speed watch group.

Standing Orders Suspended.

Clerk advised that this had been discussed with the previous council who decided not to pursue due to costs and other concerns. That whilst there were advantages there could also be disadvantages such as increase in speeding due to young drivers using the equipment to record high speed.

Cllr Collins advised that others reported that they tend to get ignored over a period of time by regular users of the roads.

Cllr Simm explained that in villages where they have Speedwatch and posters notifying of this, it makes you think and slow down.

It was questioned how often the Speedwatch group will be monitoring. Perhaps it is only required a number of times a year at random, keeping everyone on their toes.

A further debate to take place on the issues of SID's, to be added to the next agenda, with the caveat that no decisions to be made at least until the results of the recent traffic survey have been analysed, which is anticipated to be ready for the September meeting. However, the results received to date have gaps for various reasons, including battery failure on equipment. It will be requested that where there are gaps these will be repeated in order to give a full picture. Further research on SIDs is also required.

Early signs are indicating that higher speeds appear to be at certain times on Buxton Road. Morning and evening during commute times appear to be the worst. *Standing Orders Reinstated*

G: A brief update on the Events Diary was received. Clerk to chase up details of the event to be held in September. **(AP – Clerk)**

H: Cllr. Adshead updated on the village defibrillator. Breedon have now funded a second defibrillator which will be installed at the village hall on the 7th August. For the first few days there will be stickers on the equipment stating, "not in use" and these will be removed once the equipment has been registered. The Parish Council thanked Cllr Adshead and especially Jonnie Collins for their hard work in making this happen.

I: Cllr Darlington updated on flood management planning . DCC have recently sent out letters to those people affected by the floods and making resilience grant claims, regarding changes to the rules. In addition, the surveyors employed by DCC to advise households on flood resilience measures have as yet only contacted a few residents and with no promise of getting in touch with others in the near future. This could compromise, for example, any attempt for residents to use the same contractor. This is causing considerable confusion and an affected resident who is also a flood warden is following this up with DCC.

J: An update on footpath considered under the 2024/25 PROW scheme was given. The clerk confirmed that a quote had been received of £500.00 plus VAT to install crushed stone, clean out existing water grips and compact. All material, equipment and labour included. It was agreed to commence with the repairs. Clerk to complete relevant forms. **(AP – Clerk)**

(Prop AD, 2nd SA, unan).

K: An update on the repair of walls at Goosehill Green was given. The contractor visited the site and testing

	<p>the wall and steps, found that the steps are stable however the wall needed to be neatened up and has done this. A quote to be received.</p> <p>L: This item was brought forward in the meeting, see above, above item A.</p> <p>M: Email to be reissued regarding Reap-Consultancy, meeting on Community engagement work in the local area. Agreeing date for meeting/s. (AP – Clerk)</p> <p>N: There were no urgent issues raised for discussion or resolution.</p>
08/07/24	<p>Planning:</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"> i) NP/HPK/0724/0709 – Castleton Hall, Castle Street, Castleton. Alterations and works to rectify unauthorised changes made by the YHA. NO OBJECTIONS RAISED ii) NP/HPK/0724/0710 – Castleton Hall, Castle Street, Castleton. Listed Building consent - Alterations and works to rectify unauthorised changes made by the YHA. NO OBJECTIONS RAISED <p>B: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) NP/HPK/0324/0332 - Hollowford Training Centre, Enhancement of north entrance to implement a masterplan reworking of the internal usability and accessibility of the facility, also including upgrading of the north and west elevations of the dining hall, extension to Winnats accommodation block and addition of two electric charging parking spaces. GRANTED CONDITIONALLY ii) NP/HPK/1123/1397 - Millbridge Farm, Conversion of outbuilding to garage and home office ancillary to dwelling. GRANTED CONDITIONALLY i) NP/HPK/1223/1505 - Toll Bar Gift Shop, Listed Building Consent approval for installation of fire curtain, window alterations, positive input ventilation unit and rear drainage channel, works to ground floor ceiling including removal of secondary joists, internal lime plastering and external limewash, and structural support to first floor ceiling, along east wall of ground floor and over foot of stairs. GRANTED CONDITIONALLY
09/07/24	<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, Road Closures. ii) DALC – Newsletters, iii) Democratic Services – Various. iv) NALC – Events, Newsletters, Bulletins. v) PDNPA – News. vi) Concern for Castleton – Overview of Report vii) HVCA –Newsletter viii) HPBC – Climate Change Public Consultation, Cultural Strategy Advisory Group, Possible Funding. ix) Robert Largan – Various. x) PPPF – New Local Plan, Planning Training for Councillors. xi) Police Commissioner – Derbyshire Police and Crime Plan Consultation. xii) Derbyshire Wildlife Trust – Invitation to Woodland Habitat Creation Workshop. <p>The Chair recommended that Councillors should read and consider the High Peak Plan for Nature included in the correspondence.</p> <p>The Chair advised that it was important that Councillors read the PPPF Local Plan and should consider the available training once the details are available.</p> <p>The discussion was expanded to cover training in general. Clerk advised that available DALC training courses are circulated regularly, should a Councillor wish to attend they need to request and gain agreement at a Parish Council meeting as costs could be incurred. It was agreed that a register of training sessions attended by each councillor should be maintained. (AP – Clerk).</p> <p>In addition to the above, on behalf of residents the clerk advised the following were received by residents.</p> <p><u>Correspondence Residents 1:</u></p> <p>All pop-up camp sites within Castleton are being monitored by a number of residents, they are concerned that breaches in the terms under the 60-day Camping regulations may be taking place. The Parish Council were notified that the PDNP Enforcement team have confirmed that all campsites must notify them of the dates they are to be open before the beginning of the season and define the Calendar year as being from January 1st each year. Residents have noted that some campsites are only notifying the PDNP of 2 days per weekend when in fact campsites are in use for 3, the PDNP has confirmed that any days that the land is in use for camping count towards the 60 days limit.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One campsite has had their field in use for 45 days this year already and will exceed their quota of 60 days by the end of August. • It is believed that a field nearby has been registered in the name of a relative of the owner of the campsite, therefore providing two pop-up sites, the concern is that this could be seen as a way of extending the number of days of camping in the same vicinity. • At the new campsite, despite a diagram of the field site being submitted showing the location of fire extinguishers, water, sink, toilets and waste disposal, none of these have been visible so far from neighbouring fields, which is a concern. • PDNP Monitoring & Enforcement team have been made aware of all of the above. <p>A meeting with one of the managers of the Enforcement team has recently taken place and they indicated that they are aware of the detrimental impact of these poorly controlled developments and the possibility of more popping up year on year, they are looking at ways that they will be able to monitor and enforce the legislation. They affirmed the fact that they rely on the General Public to alert them to breaches of planning legislation. The legislation flies in the face of so many of the goals of the PDNP and is frustrating for them. They reported that the Planning department and enforcement team have this year been able to recruit all vacant posts and so the increase in staff should make them better placed to respond to planning issues. They also said that they had noticed that one of the campsites has modified their access to the main road without planning permission and that they will be following this up.</p> <p>The addition of another campsite this year is likely to mean an increase in traffic down Millbridge.</p> <p>The Parish Council wished to thank the residents for monitoring the sites. The Parish Council also have some concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loopholes that will always be exploited • Exemption from highways scrutiny - 60 days still means unsafe roads and access • Difficulty of monitoring, reliance on local action groups • Interpretation of the rules, including landholding and what counts as days on site • Trashing of peak park "beauty" spots. Castleton becoming the "Paignton of the Peak" • Visitor management problems • A need to have a joined-up thinking, working with national trust and DCC where appropriate <p>It was agreed that all concerns should be raised at the appropriate levels within the various organisations involved. A letter to be drafted, reviewed and sent regarding these concerns. (AP – AD) (Prop AD, 2nd JS, unan).</p> <p><u>Correspondence Residents 2:</u></p> <p>Raised concerns over the current Back Street temporary road closure extended to the 31st January 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic are being diverted via Market Place and Castle Street. The Market Place is already being used as a car park, with cars double-parked and this weekend parked on double lines making it increasingly difficult to drive safely through. With school holidays approaching this is likely to worsen becoming even more time consuming for local drivers and dangerous. • Castle Street is now a bottleneck mid-week, weekends will see an increase in car traffic. There is no pedestrian pavement, making this street unsafe. • Concerns that the Highways department has not made temporary provision to ensure the safety of cars or passengers during the closure. • Questioned why Highways do not make one side of Castle Street from Castle Inn to Market Place unavailable for car parking on a temporary basis to coincide with work being carried out. • Tourists are likely to be driving around looking for a free car parking space and do not know that they are adding to the problem, and where this will cause most issues. • Concerned that Highways have not considered the implications of Back Street closure and have been negligent in not following through other traffic/parking considerations for the diversion routes. <p>This issue was discussed earlier in the meeting see Council Matters item D above.</p>
10/07/24	<p>Items for the Peveril Post:</p> <p>None this month</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 8.40pm</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place at 7.00pm on Thursday 26th September 2024 at The Village Hall, How Lane, Castleton.</p>