

CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF ORDINARY MEETING: THURSDAY 27th February 7PM

Village Hall, How Lane, Castleton

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a meeting of Castleton Parish Council to be held at 7.00pm on Thursday 27th February 2025, for the purposes of transacting the business below:

T Dale

Mrs T. Dale, 22nd February 2025

Clerk to Castleton Parish Council

Email: clerkfo.cpc@gmail.com

01/02/25	To consider accepting any apologies for absence.																														
02/02/25	To record declarations of personal or pecuniary interests from Members as to any items to be discussed and as necessary or appropriate to receive and approve any Members’ requests for dispensations on matters in which they have any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.																														
03/02/25	Reports: A: County Councillor’s Report B: Borough Councillor’s Report C: Police Report D: Chair’s Report																														
04/02/25	Public Participation: Members of the public will be allowed to speak to the meeting including upon items on the agenda in accordance with Standing Orders and at the discretion of the Chair of the meeting.																														
05/02/25	Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto: A: To consider for approval the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 30 th January 2025, and to arrange for the Chair of this meeting to sign them as a true and accurate record of the meeting to which they relate.																														
06/02/25	Finance: A: To note the Council’s monetary assets: National Westminster Bank Current Account and National Savings Investment Account, and for the Chair of the meeting to examine, approve and arrange to sign the bank reconciliation and latest current account statements. <table border="1"><thead><tr><th></th><th>Current Account</th><th>NS&I</th></tr></thead><tbody><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>16,980.36</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Total Expenditure</td><td>14,632.41</td><td>0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Balance</td><td>15,820.03</td><td>18,671.94</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Last Statement Balance 14/02/25</td><td>15,860.03</td><td>18,671.94</td></tr><tr><td>Less un-presented cheques</td><td>40.00</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 27/02/25</td><td>15,820.03</td><td>18,671.94</td></tr></tbody></table> B: To approve and instruct the payment by cheque, of presented invoiced items, including the following: i) T. Dale – Clerk’s salary, allowance, milage and expenses - <u>£409.39</u> ii) Castleton Village Hall – Room Hire - <u>£30.00</u> iii) DALC – Subscription - <u>£528.20</u> C: To note the income and receipts of the Council: None this month		Current Account	NS&I	Balance brought forward 01/04/24	13,472.08	18,671.94	Total Income	16,980.36	0.00	Total Expenditure	14,632.41	0.00	Balance	15,820.03	18,671.94				Last Statement Balance 14/02/25	15,860.03	18,671.94	Less un-presented cheques	40.00	0.00	Add uncleared deposits	0.00	0.00	Available Balance 27/02/25	15,820.03	18,671.94
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07/02/25	Council Matters: A: To discuss feedback following Jon Pearce MP attendance at the last meeting and agree next steps. Topics raised were as follows: i) The loss of permanent homes to holiday homes ii) The future of Rural Transport iii) Visitor pressures (such as parking and littering) on infrastructure and public services iv) Local Government reorganization																														

	<p>B: To discuss Local Government reorganization and next steps.</p> <p>C: To receive an update on the Castleton Public Transport Survey 2024 and Bus strategy currently being developed. (Annex A)</p> <p>D To receive an update on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)</p> <p>E: To discuss a request for signage to advise no HGV access to Pindale Road via Market Place</p> <p>F: To receive an update on speeding prevention items currently under review</p> <p>G: To receive an update on the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) project</p> <p>H: To receive an update on parking issues in and around the village and signage</p> <p>I: To receive an update on litter, including signage on lower Mam Tor Road</p> <p>J: To review and discuss Events Diary.</p> <p>K: To receive an update on flood management planning.</p> <p>L: To receive an update on options for moles on Goosehill Green</p> <p>M: To receive an update on Litter bin on Buxton Road update</p> <p>N: To discuss Regeneration fund, possible objectives, new notice boards.</p> <p>O: To discuss memorial plaques and wild flowering section at the burial ground.</p> <p>P: To discuss feedback and any other requests from Castleton Christmas Group.</p> <p>Q: To discuss and agree April, and May Annual Parish Council and Annual Parish meeting dates.</p> <p>R: To note and if urgently required to discuss and or resolve.</p>
08/02/25	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>A: To discuss, consider and instruct reporting of the Council's views on applications received and available to view on www.peakdistrict.gov.uk, including the following:</p> <p>None this month</p> <p>B: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority:</p> <p>None this month</p>
09/02/25	<p><u>Correspondence & Circulars:</u></p> <p>To note and discuss, if necessary, correspondence received and pre-circulated to Members by email, unless otherwise indicated, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) DCC – Community News, Parish and Town Liaison Forum Invitation and Agenda. ii) DALC – Newsletters, February Forum. iii) Democratic Services – Various. iv) NALC – Events, Newsletters, Bulletins. v) PDNP forum – Minutes. vi) HVCA – Newsletter. vii) HPBC – Regeneration Fund, Possible Funding Opportunities. viii) PDNP Foundation – Newsletter. ix) HP Green Party – Housing Event. x) HP & HV Community Rail Partnership – Newsletter. xi) Robert Largan – Help keep High Peak in Derbyshire.
10/02/25	<p><u>Items for the Peveril Post</u></p> <p>To be discussed</p>

The following Ordinary Meeting of the Council is currently planned to take place at the Village Hall, How Lane, Castleton on Thursday 27th March 2025.

Concerns were raised over the Service 62 bus which has been funded for a year and due to end in spring 2025. There has been some positive feedback, including responses from the **Castleton Public Transport Survey** which gave clear indications that the new route should be retained. However, there is a funding gap, in that funding opportunities will not become available until 2026. The Parish Council (CPC) wrote to Derbyshire County Council (DCC) to emphasise the need for continued funding. Our action group Better Buses for Castleton (BB4C) also lobbied DCC. Both the CPC and BB4C have received replies stating that Service 62 will be funded until March 2026. There was general agreement that this service must have improved publicity for both residents and visitors. To this effect we are attending a meeting at the beginning of March with the parishes of Hope and Edale, DCC and the bus operator, Centre Bus, to consider not only publicity but improvements to the service. DCC have also responded to the Castleton Public Transport Survey which they will take to the last meeting of The Bus Services **Improvement Plan (BSIP)** before this becomes part of the remit of the **East Midlands Mayoral Authority** who will assume responsibility for bus strategy and delivery. We have been advised to send representation of Hope Valley rural transport issues to the Mayor's office which has now been sent along with a copy of the Public Transport Survey. We have also made DCC aware of the cancellation of one of the commuter services by one of the Service 272 operators. Replies back from this company state this is a commercial operation, and if passenger numbers are low services will be cut.

Rural Transport and questions to our MP - the CPC and public participation asked a number of questions to John Pearce, MP which are captured in separate notes by our Clerk.

National Better Buses Campaign – this group continues to gain momentum and in our neighbouring county, Better Buses for South Yorkshire is worked with their Mayor to consult with the public as to whether buses should be in public control.

From a Derbyshire perspective it is hoped that our own and bordering counties will work together on improved transport links. The East Midlands region is conducting their own consultation via a petition to try and take back control of the bus network. To date our Mayor appears to be in favour of working in close partnership with existing operators. Either way it will be vital to inform the Mayor's office of our key concerns for improving rural transport.

Hope Station -we have been informed that Hope Valley Climate Action (HVCA) is campaigning for an all-ability access to the eastbound platform at Hope Station. They are seeking a feasibility study and have asked parish councils to support.

Active Travel - the Peak District National Park are also consulting on a 'high level network of routes for active travel in the National Park. The consultation uses interactive mapping for letting the Park know about important places and suggestions for improvements of walking and cycling routes : <https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/looking-after/consultations/current-consultations/active-travel-consultation> . In addition to the above are the details of The Moving Together Project. Publicity for this project can be found on the village noticeboard, and <https://hopemovingtogether.co.uk>

Local government reorganisation

Current opposing positions of DCC and District and Borough councils

Derbyshire councils must submit interim plans for restructuring in March, with a view to submitting a full proposal in November. Below are two recent statements, with different views on the matter, one from DCC and another from the eight local councils including High Peak Borough Council.

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/news-events/news-updates/news/statement-from-the-leader-of-derbyshire-county-council-councillor-barry-lewis-on-local-government-reorganisation.aspx>

Statement from the Leader of Derbyshire County Council, Councillor Barry Lewis, on local government reorganisation 21 February 2025

“Following the government’s announcement of a major reorganisation of local councils across England, ordering all two-tier council areas to move to single-tier unitary authorities, the county council has carefully considered the best options for Derbyshire.

“It’s important to stress that the government has set this process in motion, and despite concerns about a top-down directive that isn’t optional, we must get on with securing the best outcome for Derbyshire residents.

“Derbyshire County Council’s position is clear: a One Derbyshire council would best serve our residents and could save in the order of £126 million of taxpayers’ money over 5 years.

“Creating smaller unitary councils – such as dividing Derbyshire into two council areas as proposed by the district and borough councils and Derby City Council – simply wouldn’t achieve these savings.

“A single whole Derbyshire council would cut duplication – with fewer chief executives, fewer council buildings, and more efficient services – and a single tier across the whole county would make council services more streamlined and simpler for residents to understand.

“But equally importantly, Derbyshire has a strong identity and spirit that’s recognised nationally and internationally. Splitting Derbyshire into 2 councils breaks up our historic county and creates confusing new boundaries.

“This is a big decision that will affect generations to come, and there’s no easy way back.

“In a democratic society it’s absolutely right that we have an open and honest debate about the best way forward for Derbyshire.

“Local government reorganisation might not seem like the most exciting topic, but it directly affects the services we all rely on - road repairs, bin collections, schools, social care, and planning decisions that shape our communities.

“That’s why we’ve launched a simple poll to ensure everyone has a chance to give their views and I’d urge every resident to take part at derbyshire.gov.uk/poll.”

Derbyshire councils have until 21 March 2025 to put forward an initial proposal to government.

Parish and town councils aren’t affected by the government’s plans.

[Take part in the quick online poll](#). The poll closes on 9 March 2025.

<https://derby.gov.uk/news/2025/february/joint-statement-on-local-government-reorganisation-proposals-feb-19/>

A joint statement from the Leaders of Derbyshire’s eight District and Borough Councils and the Leader of Derby City Council 19 February 2025

Amber Valley Borough Council,
Bolsover District Council,
Chesterfield Borough Council,
Derby City Council,
Derbyshire Dales District Council,
Erewash Borough Council,
High Peak Borough Council,
North East Derbyshire District Council,
South Derbyshire District Council

“In our roles as the Leaders of Derbyshire’s eight District and Borough Councils and the Leader of Derby City Council, we came together last week to discuss options for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Derbyshire, mindful of the Government’s deadline of Friday 21 March for initial proposals. The Leader of Derbyshire County Council was also invited but declined to attend.

“Working collaboratively, and in the best interests of local residents and businesses, we explored a range of options that would ensure that Derbyshire’s historic boundaries remained intact, while also creating new unitary councils of the right scale to deliver the best possible services for our communities.

“The current options we are exploring would involve the creation of two new unitary Councils utilising the geographies of the eight district councils as the key building blocks alongside the geography of Derby City Council.

“It is important to stress that the County of Derbyshire and the City of Derby would continue to exist and retain their own unique identities irrespective of whatever option is agreed going forward. The proposals would however result in both Derbyshire County Council and Derby City Council being abolished, along with Derbyshire’s eight District and Borough Councils.

“The options under consideration clearly meet the criteria set out in the Government’s invitation to submit proposals for unitary Local Government, in particular a population size of c500,000, and a sustainable local taxbase that is fair and balanced across all of Derbyshire and Derby. They also provide the opportunity for the two new unitary Councils to work in genuine partnership and collaborate on the delivery of all local government services, in turn ensuring the best possible value for money to local taxpayers. Most importantly, we believe they would be of the appropriate size to strike the right balance between retaining the strong local connections we already have with our communities and being financially sustainable.

“To guide our final decision, our proposals will be subject to extensive consultation with residents, businesses, our workforces, partner public bodies, and the voluntary sector; ensuring all voices are captured and heard collectively.

“We are of the view that Derbyshire County Council’s proposed ‘county unitary’ option would effectively ‘doughnut’ Derby City Council. This would create a large and remote Council, with disparate communities, particularly across Southern Derbyshire, that would in turn lead to the inefficient delivery of services. It would also create a significant imbalance in the local taxbase; a County Unitary with a taxbase of c810,000, and Derby City Council with a taxbase of only 270,000, with little space for growth.

“Across the wider East Midlands, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and likewise, Leicester and Leicestershire, are engaging in discussions between the respective city and county councils to restructure their local authority frameworks, with a focus on creating more efficient and cohesive unitary systems.

“Consequently we are still open to meeting with the Leader of Derbyshire County Council for future discussions around LGR, as although our current positions aren’t aligned, we firmly believe this would be in the best interests of the residents that elect us and use our services, and the businesses that rely on us to support local employment and drive economic growth.”