

CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING: 26th June 2025, 7.05pm

At the Village Hall, 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. M. Eyre, Cllr. J. Judge.

Also present: T. Dale (Clerk), PCSO Will Brockett, Sargent Haley, 2 Residents

01/06/25	Apologies received from Cllr. S. Adshead, Cllr. J. Simm, Cllr. N. Spooner, Cllr. J. Stannard, Cllr. Collins, Cllr. Farrell.
02/06/25	No pecuniary interests declared.
03/06/25	<p>Reports:</p> <p>A: County Councillor's Report: None this month.</p> <p>B: Borough Councillor's Report: None this month.</p> <p>C: Police Report: PCSO Will Brockett reported the following incidents:</p> <p>2nd May a smart watch was stolen from a campsite.</p> <p>11th May a £50.00 bottle of wine was stolen from a local business, investigation is ongoing.</p> <p>11th May a car was stolen from Old Mam Tor, investigation is ongoing.</p> <p>15th May a motor bike was stolen from Old Mam Tor carpark, investigation is ongoing.</p> <p>15th May a Caravan was unhitched from a car and stolen; investigation is ongoing.</p> <p>High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) have reinstated Public Space Protection Order relating to fires and barbeques from the 24th April 2025. The Police are currently working with HPBC on how this will be enforced, until an agreement is reached the fall-back position is to educate offenders.</p> <p>The Chair, following a report from a resident, asked who fires should be reported to as there is some confusion. In response, calls should be directed to 999 fire services, Signage and advertising are expected to be displayed shortly.</p> <p>PCSO Brockett also reported that the Speedwatch group is doing a tremendous job with outstanding work done by the group co-ordinator.</p> <p>D: Chair Report: None this month.</p>
04/06/25	<p>Public Participation:</p> <p>Resident 1. A report was provided from a representative from the Playing Field Committee. A five-year development plan has been agreed covering ten objectives. From providing a timber gazebo, enhancing play equipment to wildlife support by the pond and other wilding areas. Fund raising activities are going well although more volunteers would be welcomed. See annex B for a full report.</p> <p>The Chair asked what are the recent plans advertised in relation to the five a side pitch? In response, the old, damaged goalpost will be removed and replaced with removable goalposts, and the area will be maintained.</p> <p>The Chair gave thanks for the update.</p> <p>Resident 2: Stated that they had spoken to Cllr. Simm on transport issues and totally backed the project of integration.</p> <p>It was explained that it was felt that there were still issues with the size of the buses in relation to the number of users. Instead of using double-deckers for two to three travellers they should be using smaller sixteen-seater electric buses, as these would be more suitable and assessable to more areas.</p> <p>This was noted. The Chair was of the view that fewer double-deckers were being used, observation only, With buses reaching capacity as they travel the routes around nearby villages this would be a difficult request. The Chair will raise with Cllr. Simm.</p> <p><i>Resident left the meeting.</i></p>
05/06/25	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto:</p> <p>A: The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 28th May 2025 were then considered, the minutes were approved. (Prop ME, 2nd AD, unan).</p>
06/06/25	<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>

		Current Account 26 th June 2025	NS&I
	Balance brought forward 01/04/24	£14,567.79	£18,859.17
	Total Income	£8,872.00	£0.00
	Total Expenditure	£6,176.21	£0.00
	Balance	£17,263.58	£18,859.17
	Last Statement Balance 15/05/25	£18,525.58	£18,859.17
	Less un-presented cheques	£1262.00	£0.00
	Add uncleared deposits	£0.00	£0.00
	Available Balance 26/05/25	£17,263.58	£18,859.17
	<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, expenses, and Microsoft annual subscription - £483.96 ii) HMRC – Employee Tax & NI - £26.43 iii) Castleton Village Hall – Room Hire - £36.00 iv) John Marriott – Internal Audit - £110.00 <p>In addition, it was agreed to include late submission from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Paul Newberry – Reimbursement for trolley to transport Speedwatch equipment - £25.99 (see Council Matters D below) <p>C: To note the income and receipts of the Council:</p> <p>None this month</p> <p>All payments, receipts were agreed. (Prop AD, 2nd JJ, unan).</p> <p>D: The Clerk advised the Parish Council that the 2024 – 2025 internal Audit had been completed successfully, with all relevant information posted on the Parish Council website and sent to the external auditor. The Clerk will update further on response from the external auditor on receipt of any information. The Chair thanked the Clerk for her efficient work on the Finances.</p>		
07/06/25	<p>Council Matters:</p> <p>A: An update on responses to visitor pressures in Castleton and Hope Valley was given. Prior to the Parish Council meeting a meeting was held regarding the visitor pressures. In attendance Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA), Derbyshire County Council – Highways, Bus Service Improvement Plan representative, County Councillor, Jon Pearce MP Office, Police, National Trust (NT), High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) Councillors, Castleton Parish Council, Castleton local groups – Concerned for Castleton and Better Buses for Castleton.</p> <p>It is hoped that the meeting was the start of a something solid to address the issues related to visitor pressure that are being experienced.</p> <p>The meeting was led by the Head of Planning (PDNPA) who gave an update on the current position. An initial meeting was held in March to bring together all the relevant agencies who could develop and action a plan to address the issues, lots of ideas were presented/discussed with some actions being assigned to different organisations. All agencies confirmed their commitment to a management plan and the development of the plan with further meetings being arranged.</p> <p>Activities currently underway:</p> <p>DCC Highways will be actioning the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which is now not just five plans but ten plans. It was requested that these additional plans be shared with the Parish Council prior to the consultation. Jon Pearce MP Office are in discussion with the Ministers Office regarding the campaign to increase parking fines and other related activities.</p> <p>A lot was discussed; the Parish Council and other attendees now need time to absorb and understand the information given. Whilst the Parish Council are positive that the issues are being taken seriously and at high level there are concerns that whilst there is a lot of talking there needs to be action.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting, provided by Peak District National Park Authority will be published by the Parish Council upon receipt, for Parish Council notes see annex A. Add item to the next agenda. (AP – Clerk)</p> <p>B: An update on buses and public transport strategies was provided with the agenda on Annex A. No questions were raised.</p> <p>C: An update on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) was discussed earlier in the meeting, see item</p>		

A above.

D: An update on Speedwatch was given. To date there have been nineteen sessions, 7484 vehicles have been monitored with 136 captured driving above the speed limit. The Parish Council reiterated the sentiments of PCSO Will Brockett (See Police Report above) in that the Speedwatch group and Co-ordinator are doing a tremendous job.

A trolley was purchased at a cost of £25.99 to facilitate the transportation of the equipment needed, the Parish Council were asked if they would consider paying for the trolley, it was agreed to cover the costs as the Speedwatch group was originally a Parish Council initiative and they have purchased, by gaining funding, all Speedwatch equipment to date. (Prop ME, 2nd AD, Unan).

The Clerk advised that she had become aware that funding opportunities had become available through the Police Commission that could possibly be used for the purchase of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). Clerk to forward the information to the Chair and Cllr. Eyre. **(AP – Clerk)**

E: The Chair provided an update on the Community Response Plan. Following the Clerk providing examples of plans the Chair, Cllr. Simm and Cllr. Spooner met to select one on which to base our own Castleton Resilience Emergency Plan. Cllr. Spooner has since started to draft a Castleton Plan.

By completing a Community Resilience Emergency Plan, the Parish Council is putting in place arrangements to mobilise resources that exist in the community to support residents, businesses, visitors and outside agencies in the event of an emergency.

Community resilience plans are designed to cover a range of possible emergencies, and the Councillors have made a provisional selection of those most likely to affect Castleton. There are plenty of useful resources online including a 2025 UK Government Risk register which lists various emergencies and the risk of them occurring. There is also a 2022 High Peak Community Risk register more tailored to our community.

Other features of the Plan include identifying potentially useful resources in the community, including facilities suitable as safe places, people with particular skills, equipment etc. A draft of the plan will be circulated to councillors for comment soon. **(AP – All)**

F: A discussion on a proposal to repair the two notice boards in main car park and bus turnaround took place. A quote has been received for repair at a cost of £1650.00 and £300.00 for a new lockable showcase with a metal frame to fix to the sign at the bus terminal. The aim is to obtain funding via the Regeneration fund under community needs, however, to be eligible the noticeboards cannot be for the use of advertising business. Discussions need to agree primary use of the boards for such things as fire, litter, and Countryside Code type notices. In addition, as the regeneration fund will not cover the total cost and will need matched funding, a top up to the funding may be via the County/District Councillor funds. The Chair to consult with Cllr. Collins and Cllr. Farrell to establish possibilities of funding. **(AP – AD)**

G: A brief discussion on recognising Concerned for Castleton Group took place. It was agreed that following the move to a website to collate issues that the Parish Council were happy to endorse their actions and work collaboratively with the Group. (Prop JJ, 2nd ME, Unan)

The Parish Council recently received correspondence from the group highlighting an issue over the previous weekend where a resident had tried to report a fire outside a campervan, as there was confusion on how this was to be reported when contact was made with agency. The reporting of issues was clarified by PCSO Will Brockett earlier in the meeting, see Police Report above. The Chair to liaise with Fire Services contact on educational events and materials **(AP - AD)**

H: Following a brief update on the small sign to thank Breedon for the funding of the Village Hall defibrillator, the Parish Council were asked to consider covering its costs of £54.00 plus vat. The sign will be wall mounted. It was resolved to cover the costs. (Prop AD, 2nd ME, Unan)

I: The Events Diary will need to be updated to identify any upcoming events. The Clerk confirmed that contacts have been identified with correspondence being sent to Peak Go events.

J: It was agreed to defer the discussion on the footpath for repair under the 2025-2026 PROW Scheme to allow for further time to consider which footpaths were priority. **(AP – All)**

Standing Orders Suspended.

Resident two suggested that Hollowford Road should be considered due to the overgrowth, that as the road has become busier with vehicles it causes pedestrians to be forced onto the overgrowth. The Parish Council advised that this had been previously investigated and is the responsibility of High Peak Borough Council.

Standing Orders Reinstated.

K: The item on activities for VJ Day were deferred until the next meeting as the councillors responsible were on holiday. However, the purchase and planting of the birch tree at the burial ground in recognition of both VE and VJ day has already been agreed although planting may need to be delayed until autumn. **(AP – ME, JJ)**

L: An update on burial ground activities was given, the cherry tree and a dead tree are scheduled to be trimmed within the next couple of weeks. The hawthorn hedge will be scheduled in once the nesting season

	<p>is over, probably later in the year.</p> <p>M: A brief discussion on Parish Councils communication channels took place. It was agreed that the Facebook page should be utilised more to provide useful communication to the village. The page is purely for information and is restricted to uploaded information from the Parish Council lead and does not allow for members comments. It was resolved that links to agendas, minutes, funding etc to be communicated. All Councillors with information useful to residents will share to Cllr. Judge who will update the site. (AP – JJ)</p> <p>N: An update on flood resilience activities was provided. Work has been completed with the installation of the non-return valves to prevent flooding of the path on Waterside. It is expected shortly that at Newhall bridge and downstream before Tricket Bridge de-silting will be taking place.</p> <p>O: The following items were brought to the Parish Councils attention:</p> <p>The memorial bench on Weaving Avenue is in a bad state of repair and has become a health and safety risk. After some investigation by Cllr. Adshead it was discovered that the bench was installed by the village WI group. The bench will now be repaired and repositioned.</p> <p>A willow tree has fallen on the footpath by the Rotary field blocking the footpath and making it extremely difficult to access the stile. The tree is unstable and a genuine hazard. The footpath which is also a PROW is very well used by residents and by visitors to the village which includes large parties of children staying at the nearby YHA. We have been informed that the tree sits on diocese land and as such the Clerk has written to the diocese to remove the tree.</p> <p>The Clerk advised the Parish Council, following a session with DALC, that all Parish Councils nationally will need to move to a “. gov.uk” domain which involved a change to emails and possible the village/parish council website. The move will need to take place before the end of the 2025/26 financial year to ensure compliance and the ability to confirm on assertion 10 Annual Governance and Accountability Return. The estimated ongoing charges to the Parish Council are likely to be c£500 pa. The Clerk will investigate further and update the Parish Council. (AP – Clerk)</p>
08/06/25	<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) Breedon Cement – Request for a scoping opinion related to proposal for the lateral extension of Hope Limestone Quarry. Cllr Judge raised expressed concerns about the project. <p>B: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority: None this month.</p> <p>C: Applications received by the Licensing Authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Castleton Village Hall, How Lane, Castleton – Fundraiser Event – 21/06/2025 – No objection raised. ii) Castleton Village Hall, How Lane, Castleton - Charity Event – 05/07/2025 – No objection raised. iii) Field off Warehouse Lane, Castleton, S33 8WB – Wedding – 05/07/2025 – No objection raised.
09/06/25	<p>Correspondence and DALC Circulars:</p> <p>A: The following correspondence, received and pre-circulated to Members by email, were noted and discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) DCC – Community News, Major repairs Along the A6187, Mobile Library Routes, Holiday Activities and Food Programme. ii) DALC – Newsletters. iii) Democratic Services – Various. iv) NALC – Events, Newsletters, Bulletins. v) HVCA –Newsletter, Open Wild Gardens. vi) HPBC – Possible Funding Opportunities, Town and Villages Regeneration Fund, Campaign Begins on Local Government Reorganisation. vii) PDNPA – Announcing an Ambitious New Cultural Heritage Project, SMDC Community Climate and Nature Fund. viii) Peak Park Parishes Forum – Draft Minutes, Local Plan Review: Business and Land Management Survey. ix) Cllr. Collins – Councillors Initiative Fund 2025/26. x) Travel Light – Follow Up. xi) Breedon – Liaison Meeting Notes. xii) Citizens Advice – Annual Impact Report.
10/06/25	<p>Items for the Peveril Post:</p> <p>Chair and Vice Chair to draft an article for Peveril Post.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 8.35pm</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place at 7pm on Thursday 31st July 2025 at The Village Hall, Castleton.</p>

Annex A

Notes from Visitor Management Meeting 26 June 2025, 5pm Village Hall

The Head of Planning PDNP, Chair of meeting: The PDNP Plan has shifted a bit from sustainable travel to wider issues. In March they started talking to other agencies re Mam Nick about a set of measures. With regards to area management Castleton is bad but other HV areas too call for a similar approach, and in Staffordshire Moorlands e.g. the Roaches. They have certain tools to hand, e.g. red lines, and he (BT) has a set of data on visitor pressures that he can share.

Area management - look at the whole of the national park or smaller areas, need to be agreed boundaries and map areas as whilst there are some generic issues individual areas may/have different problems.

Point made that PDNPA visitor messages are inconsistent, could they not encourage visitors to other areas? Management plan is to encourage walkers and cyclists. PDNPA recognise recreational status not always in the interest of residents.

Sally de Pee for Jon Pearce: Jon is working collaboratively on car parks, increasing fines (ongoing), and looking at ways that tourism is managed in other areas e.g. Northumbria.

DCC Highways: The TRO is expected to go to a 21-day public consultation period (end of July), can formally comment then. CPC will have an open evening in Village Hall to display the plans and be on hand to answer questions. Depending on the amount of feedback/objections the TRO could be implemented in the autumn.

The plans will include red routes being implemented which is apparently quite unique – these apply to the verge and not just to the carriageway. Advisory signs will also be put up when signage changed, for clarity. DCC Civil Parking Enforcement team cannot monitor overnight. A general understanding is that the fines aren't high enough. Overnight could still be an issue, difficult to schedule enforcement officers. But could look at peak times such as Summer Solstice etc.

Jon Pearce MP has written to the Minister for Transport regarding the fines and getting them increased. A request to share the correspondence was requested with agreement that permissions would be requested.

National Trust: the NT doesn't actively promote Mam Tor. They have interpretation up there, staff presence in car parks, not resolving but they are trying, and are gathering visitor data on Mam Tor, Odin Mine, Winnats, Broken Road. 1.4 million people in that area in one year, and 1 million walking up or down Mam Tor. They are increasing car park capacity for Mam Tor. People won't stop coming, no matter what you tell them. They have commissioned "alternative solutions" – all NT income is invested back, e.g. into low rails on the ridge by the path – these are working to some extent, and they may extend this scheme. They are encouraging tenants of NT land to consider opening up for parking, as part of their diversification. They are considering installing places for campervans with facilities.

The County Council said that the Active Travel Plan doesn't solve numbers of visitors in Castleton.

Head of planning said that in collecting data they have seen a huge shift in how people use the outdoors. Money was an issue.

The Highways representative mentioned HPBC litter bins on marked parking bays – not sure where these were envisaged, however. Discussion needed between HPBC and Highways.

Other points: The usual restraints, DEFRA cuts. Changing in funding moving to Capital Fund which could make buying land for car parks easier but takes funding away from other initiatives. Other possible changes to the structure led by Reform could have a financial impact.

Annex B

CASTLETON PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE REPORT TO PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 26 JUNE 25

Thank you for the opportunity to update you on the activities of the Castleton Playing Fields Committee.

You will know that the playing fields are established as a charity. We have 6 trustees, and Steve Hayes has taken over as Chairman from Paul Borland. Our reporting to the Charity Commission is up to date and on time.

As of 18 June, we have £10,470 at Bank and on Deposit. Our income last financial year was £6,257 and our expenditure was £5,243.

Maintenance and development of the playing fields is by a team of 6-8 enthusiastic volunteers who meet at the playing fields on a weekly basis. We also have a number of additional contacts in the village who have indicated a willingness to assist with specific tasks.

The team has laid on a number of social and fundraising events for the village and the playing fields, these have recently included:

- Scaled down fun day in 2024.
- Horse race night at the George.
- Duck race in 2024 but cancelled/postponed in 2025 due to lack of water.
- Very Popular Quiz night and meal in the village hall.
- With others, the Castleton Fell Race which is drawing increasing numbers having been cancelled during the Pandemic.
- And looking ahead, this year's fun day will be on 6 July. We hope to see you there.

Following wide consultation in 2023, the 5-year plan is taking shape and includes 10 action areas:

- A substantial timber gazebo (~£10k) with external support for funding being sought.
- Enhancing the play equipment; enclose, clean and paint, replace matting.
- Repairs to and re-fencing the school area. The school reports that they are pleased with the facility and progress.
- Enhancing the wooded area with ~200 trees from the Woodland Trust this winter.
- Provision of raised beds later on.
- Development of the pond area, digging out, lining, filling, and planting. See picture below.
- Development of the picnic area around the gazebo with better, more accessible benches.
- Development of the playing field, marking and maintaining a pitch with new removable goal posts.
- Development of the playscape among the trees in due course with a willow arch into the school area.
- Wildlife support by the pond and other wilding areas.



Routine maintenance such as grass cutting, fence and wall repair, mole catching, play equipment inspection (contract with HPBC) and maintenance continue. The mower continues to work well and is saving us a considerable amount compared to contract mowing.

In July 2024 we had a break in to the stone shed and smaller sheds. Nothing of value was taken, but the risk to the mower was considered and better security measures instigated.

In summary, the playing fields committee is well founded and well led, it has funds under control, it has an action plan advised by a survey of residents and is proceeding with its implementation.

Picture: The new pond with water being delivered by Breedons.