

CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING: 31st July 2025, 7.02pm

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. J. Simm (Vice Chair), Cllr. S. Adshead, Cllr. M. Eyre, Cllr. J. Judge, Cllr. J. Stannard.

Also present: T. Dale (Clerk), PCSO Will Brockett and colleague, 2 Residents.

01/07/25	Apologies received from Cllr. N. Spooner, Cllr. Collins.		
02/07/25	No pecuniary interests declared.		
03/07/25	Reports: A: County Councillor’s Report: None this month. B: Borough Councillor’s Report: None this month. C: Police Report: PCSO Will Brockett reported the following incidents: 5 th July, public order offence (verbal abuse) where a visitor parked outside a resident’s house. 19 th July, minor assault at Peak Cavern, offender unknown, matter closed pending further information. Other incidents outside Castleton: Roof box stolen from car, £500 game boy also stolen. Vehicle in Bamford broken into. Due to increase in car crime there will be more patrols, covert, and high visibility. Crimes solved: An offender received a 12 months suspended sentence and a fine for the theft of an electric bike. (and other offences) The bottle of wine stolen on the 11 th May has been resolved, following identification of the offender via the use of ANPR cameras. The victim, rather than go to court, wished for cost of wine to be paid. No further action is required. PCSO Will Brockett thanked the Parish Council along with all Hope Valley Parish Councils for their commitment and funding of the ANPR project. There are now between six/seven cameras in place covering the area and these will prove invaluable. D: Chair Report: None this month.		
04/07/25	Public Participation: Resident 1. Concerns raised on the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), as it is feared that these will not address the issues, especially regarding campervans. That it was unacceptable that the police cannot deal with the issues like car parking. And that it is only if you stop overnight parking will the issues of campervans be dealt with. If Highways continue to allow this, they should come and speak to the residents and explain why. Due to the traffic issues, as a longtime resident they are now no longer happy living in Castleton. Cllr. Judge expressed her surprise at the number of residents who raised issues at the TRO drop-in. The Chair explained that this was to be expected, those that have no objection or issues with the proposals are unlikely to attend drop-ins, it is only those residents that have concerns that will attend and raise concerns.		
05/07/25	Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto: A: The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 26 th June 2025 were then considered, the minutes were approved. (Prop ME, 2nd JJ, unan).		
06/07/25	Finance: 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:		
		Current Account 31 st July 2025	NS&I
	Balance brought forward 01/04/24	£14,567.79	£18,859.17
	Total Income	£8,872.00	£0.00
	Total Expenditure	£6,858.59	£0.00
	Balance	£16,581.20	£18,859.17

Last Statement Balance 15/07/25	£17,879.20	£18,859.17
Less un-presented cheques	£1298.00	£0.00
Add uncleared deposits	£0.00	£0.00
Available Balance 31/07/25	£16,581.20	£18,859.17

B: To approve and instruct the payment by cheque, of presented invoiced items, including the following:

- i) T. Dale – Clerk’s salary, allowance, expenses - £427.60
- ii) Griffiths Gardening Ltd – Grounds Maintenance - £960.00
- iii) Castleton Village Hall – Room Hire - £36.00
- iv) Gallagher Insurance – Insurance (underpaid) - £50.00
- v) Network – AED Defibrillator signage - £84.00.
- vi) S. Hayes – Reimbursement for Peveril Post - £ 264.69

In addition, it was agreed to include late submission from the following:

- i) Police & Crime Commissioner – ANPR Project - £1,467.00

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that the project had been part funded by the donation from the previous financial year by Gate Film Production.

A request had been received by the Clerk from Cllr. Stannard, for additional wildflower seeding at the burial ground, see Council Matters item M.

C: To note the income and receipts of the Council:

None this month

All payments, receipts and requests were agreed. (Prop AD, 2nd ME, unan).

07/07/25

Council Matters:

A: An update on responses to visitor pressures in Castleton and Hope Valley was given by the Chair.

A meeting on the 26th June held by Peak District National Park Authority took place at Castleton Village Hall, prior to tonight’s Parish Council meeting notes of the meeting had been received from PDNPA, however the notes of the Chair and Clerk to Councillors had already been attached as Annex to Minutes of the June meeting. Further to the 26 June meeting, a suggestion was made to propose an agenda item for the anticipated Peak Partnership Summit, organised by the office of Mayor Claire Ward, with the focus on the importance of appropriate messaging and marketing for responsible tourism.

<https://www.eastmidlands-cca.gov.uk/news/mayor-claire-announces-peak-partnership-summit/>

Mayor Ward is keen to work across the three regions to tackle issues and realise the opportunities the Peak District, and its surrounding towns and villages, offer. She has called for a Peak Partnership Summit to be held in the coming months to speak about these shared goals, in particular highlighting:

1. Productive partnership with the Peak District National Park: focusing on spatial planning, futureproofing, and tourism.
2. Securing the future of Snake Pass: focusing on infrastructure investment and climate adaptation.
3. Strengthening connectivity between regions: building shared approaches to transport investment to ensure that people who live, work, and play in the district can benefit from improved public transport, better roads, and active travel links.

The draft agenda item has been circulated to Councillors for input with a week to feedback. Furthermore, following the meeting the Chair circulated to other Hope Valley Parish Councils for their consideration and input.

B: An update on buses and public transport strategies was issued as Annex A with the Agenda. Cllr. Simm asked if there were any questions? None were raised.

Cllr. Simm wishes to draw the Parish Councils attention to the following updates.

- i. Councillors had met with an HVCA representatives, where a transport planner was discussed along with a feasibility study, which will be considering an integrated transport system, with the aim of delivering a scheme, similar to transport systems in Switzerland, in the Peak District. The Mayors of East Midlands and South Yorkshire are expected to be involved.
- ii. The **Stagecoach Peak Sightseer** recommenced in May for the summer, running seven days a week, and September to October at weekends only. This is operating commercially with no subsidies. Concern has been expressed about the double decker bus coming down the Winnats Pass in terms of weight and the speed it often travels as reported to the Castleton Parish Council. To date we have not received a satisfactory answer to this but will pursue via the new elected DCC Councillors. We also note that there is a new timetable for **route 272 operated by First**, which

has been extended on a Sunday to include Mam Tor, and Blue John Cavern, which therefore includes the Winnats. Added to this is the need for improved timetabling and coordination of other buses arriving at Castleton Bus Station at the same time.

Standing Orders Suspended

Resident 2 explained they were under the impression that double decker buses rather than open top buses were to be used travelling the route up and down nine times a day plus the Stagecoach on Sundays only.

Resident 1 explained that previous trials with two buses travelling the same route with similar timetables caused chaos.

Resident 2 identified that there is a conflict, the want/need for more buses increasing the route now from Sheffield to Mam Tor could potentially reduce parking issues.

Resident 1 believes there is no need for larger buses, but sixteen seaters should be used.

Resident 2 explained that the tourist buses are a commercial enterprise and that they would not reduce their costs to accommodate for regular travellers. That they thought the plan was ill thought out and wondered where the money to provide regular services for residents was going to come from. The resident asked what influence the Parish Council could bring to bear regarding the 272 service, as there is now a 3-hour gap between 7 – 10 in order to travel from one end of Hope Valley to the other. That they felt this was a step in the wrong direction.

The Chair instructed that a letter to be resent raising the concerns regarding route, timetables and that further coordination is required. To include contacting Derbyshire County Council (DCC) requesting more information on the timetabling for the new Sunday route for the 272 going up the Winnats Pass and asking whether a risk assessment on the grounds of potential congestion was conducted. If this was not the case a request for this to be completed will be made. **(AP – JS)**

Standing Orders Reinstated

C: It was noted that there is currently an Active Travel Consultation, Cllr Simm had urged residents to contribute to the consultation by looking at the online details, and ideally to attend the second consultation at Bradwell Memorial Hall on August 13th. This will be a drop-in session between the hours of 1.00pm and 7.00pm and enlarged plans of any proposals will be available. This was an action point given to Cllr Simm at the previous Parish Council meeting where it was requested asked to publicise the Active Travel consultation via our village website and email group.

Cllr. Simm advised that two Councillors attended the Derbyshire County Council consultation, delivered by consultants on Active Travel. They were shown plans for improving walking and cycle routes leading into our village and were able to offer a range of contributions to make such a scheme workable. It was clear that there needs to be joined up thinking with other key stakeholders and clarity in terms of the PDNPA consultation on Active Travel, against which many of our residents have provided feedback. Timescales for implementation of any agreed actions is unclear and not likely to be imminent as it is understood they is no funding available.

A comprehensive report, provided by Cllr Simm was included as Annex A with the agenda on the above and included other updates on public transport which should be referred too.

Standing Orders Suspended

Resident 2 asked if a planned cycle route via Spital Bridge through the wooded plantation near the Spital Field was to go ahead.

The Chair advised that this was not the case, that it is believed this was a misprint.

Standing Orders Reinstated

D: An update on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) was given by the Chair. The consultation is now live giving the public the opportunity to raise any concerns, the closing date being the 8th August. All comments/issues should be directed to DCC Highways.

The Parish Council organised a village drop-in session to allow copies of the plans to be viewed and discussion with Parish Councillors on 28th July. A good number of residents attended, and it was hopefully useful though we are aware that frustrations remain on certain aspects of the proposals.

Comments from the drop-in evening included concerns about campervan overnight parking and associated waste, putting pay & display as far as Odin Mine; the need for residents parking e.g. on Weaving Avenue and on The Island with historic data on previous residents parking scheme, and concerns about proposed double yellow lines near Spital Bridge; worries about confusion over the proposed red lines and suggested

extension of these along the clearway at the top of Winnats. Also need to repaint existing yellow lines where faded.

E: An update on speeding prevention items currently under review was given by Cllr. Eyre. There has been a reduction in the number of sessions due to holidays and resident's availability. The Parish Council were asked to consider the purchase and display of signage notifying residents/visitors that Castleton is a Speedwatch village. Initial estimates are that a simple sign would cost £26.00 plus VAT, it is expected that four would be needed. It was agreed in principle that the purchase and deployment of the signs should go ahead. Design of signs, costs and required permissions from Highways to be investigated and provided for further consideration at the next Parish Council meeting. **(AP – ME)**

F: A brief update on Community Response Plan was given. This exercise is on-going, Cllr. Spooner is continuing to create a draft with inputs from other Councillors. The Clerk recently received and circulated an email via HPBC from the DCC Emergency Planning Team, with a different Community response plan template.

G: An update on repairs of the two notice boards in main car park and bus turnaround was given by the Chair.

A grant application has been made to the HPBC Regeneration fund who raised the following questions:

- i) Request for photos of the noticeboards and mark on a plan where they are located.
- ii) Copies of the two estimates for the required repairs.
- iii) It is assumed that the Parish Council are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the boards. As ownership is unknown the Parish Council were asked if they were prepared to accept responsibility should further investigation fail to identify ownership or if nobody objects to the Parish Council taking responsibility. It was agreed that subject to identification or objection the Parish Council would take responsibility. (Prop AD, 2nd JAS, Unan)
- iv) A copy of the Parish Council public liability insurance.

Items i), ii) and iv) are available and ready for submission. Following the vote on (iii), the information will be forwarded to HPBC to complete the grant submission.

H: The Clerk advised the Parish Council that she could not, due to personal circumstances, attend the meeting scheduled for the Thursday 26th September, as such would there be any objections to changing the date of the meeting to Monday 29th September. No objections were raised.

I: An update on the defibrillator sign was given by the Chair. The signage has now been received by the Parish Council with payment authorised at this meeting (see Finance B). The sign has been passed to the Village Hall to install.

J: There was no update on the Events Diary, item deferred to the next meeting.

K: A brief discussion on a footpath for repair under the 2025-2026 PROW Scheme took place. It was agreed to consider Dirty Lane where access issues were raised. Cllr. Judge to assess eligibility, work required and gain quotes. **(AP – JJ)**

Standing Orders Suspended

Resident 2 raised concerns regarding tree conditions at Squires Lane, it is believed that there is a problem with Ash Die Back. The resident advised that this had been reported to DDC.

The Parish Council noted the above and following a brief discussion felt that a survey of all village trees should commence. The resident was asked to forward the DCC correspondence, which the Parish Council will then take forward. **(AP – JS)**

L: An update on activities for VJ Day was given by Cllr. Eyre. Bunting will be placed at Market Place; it is thought there is sufficient and therefore no additional bunting will be required.

The Parish Council were asked to consider if along the bank by the Peak cavern car park rows of wildflower poppies could be planted, this has been done in other villages and looks spectacular. The Parish Council agreed this was a good idea. Cllrs Eyre and Stannard to look into the possibilities and if any permissions were required.

The memorial Birch trees are scheduled for plating in the autumn. **(AP – ME, JAS)**

M: An update on burial ground activities was provided by Cllr. Stannard. The section of wildflower is doing well, attracting bees and butterflies, and an article has been supplied to Peveril Post. The Parish Council were asked, as the wildflower plot is doing well, that the project could be extended with an additional plot introduced by the composting area. Lessons have been learnt from the initial activities, for example, a reduction in compost is required as wildflowers benefit from a harsher regime. As it was agreed to expand the project a further purchase of wildflower seed of a different variety would be required which was agreed earlier in the meeting (see Finance item B).

It was confirmed that the tree in the burial ground had been attended too. The hawthorn hedge will be the subject of a further quotation and visit.

N: An update on Parish Councils communication Facebook channel was given by Cllr. Judge. The upload on

	<p>recent items of interest for the village has been mostly successful. while currently followers of the site were few it is hoped to gain some momentum.</p> <p>O: A discussion on the condition of stile(s) on ROW 34 and 7 following a recent incident was discussed. Prior to the meeting, a resident had already been in contact with PDNPA on the condition of stiles on the walk between Castleton and Hope. The Clerk had already made Hope with Aston Parish Council aware of the incident as it happened within their parish. Further investigation highlighted that DCC is the contact for reporting issues, although it should be noted that if stiles are on private land, it is the landowner who is responsible for repairs. To report stiles the following link should be used. https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/leisure/countryside/access/rights-of-way/faqs/stiles-and-gates/stiles-and-gates.aspx</p> <p>A request was given that everyone should report this and any other stiles in need of repair to DCC through this portal.</p> <p>It was also noted that the Castleton to Hope route is promoted to visitors as one of their round walks.</p> <p>P: The Clerk advised the Parish Council that an email (circulated prior to the meeting) had been received from the Village Hall Committee regarding storage of Parish Council filing cabinets and Speedwatch equipment at the Village Hall. The committee stressed that they are currently faced with a series of expenses and are looking at ways to cover these costs, possibly charging for storage.</p> <p>Prior to the meeting the Clerk had already responded to the Treasurer explaining that storage of Parish Council documentation is essential and that it would be discussed at this meeting. The Chair had also advised the committee that there are funding opportunities and was happy to assist should this be required.</p> <p>A brief discussion took place, the two filing cabinets housing Parish Council documents have been stored at the Village Hall for some twenty-five years and have never been an issue. All documents need to be held in a safe and secured manner; this is not possible if secured at a Parish Council member's residence. The Parish Council is a big part of the community therefore as this is a community building it is appropriate to store Parish Council material/equipment required by residents working in the interests of all residents. Any additional costs would reduce the funds available to support other resident activities for example the consideration of speed cameras. The Village Hall could however also approach the Parish Council for a contribution to their current project.</p> <p>As previously mentioned by the Chair, funding opportunities do become available and that the Parish Council would be happy to support the Village Hall Committee to obtain funding.</p> <p>Q: The Chair wished to raise the Local Government Reorganisation, which is currently out for information/consultation. There are a number of cluster meetings for Parish Councils advertised, and there will be one on the 14th of August in Edale that is worth going along to. The Chair and Cllr. Simm attended the HP Parish Forum meeting on Tuesday which proved to be informative, topics were mostly on Local Government Reorganisation. Wendy Amis, CEO of DALC, was there as well as Anthony McKeown (Leader HPBC) and Andrew Stokes (Chief Exec HPBC). Cllr. Simm advised that further information can be found on HPBC Devolution Hub and will circulate the link to all Councillors. This item to be added to future agendas.</p>
08/07/25	<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) NP/HPK/0625/0541 - Holmesfield, Mill Bridge, Castleton. Proposed creation of 35 motorhome pitches. The application has been rejected as invalid until further information is provided. ii) NP/HPK/0725/0720 - Speedwell House, Buxton Road, Castleton. Retrospective change of use from Guest House (C1 Use) to Residential Dwellinghouse (C3 Use), including retention of lawful use of ancillary outbuildings as short term holiday let accommodation. No objections were raised. <p>B: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority: None this month.</p>
09/07/25	<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, Extension to B – Line Discount Travel Scheme and School Crossing Patrol Recruitment, Proposed Changes to Councils in Derby and Derbyshire Consultation. ii) DALC – Newsletters. iii) Democratic Services – Various. iv) NALC – Events, Newsletters, Bulletins. v) HVCA –Newsletter. vi) HPBC – Possible Funding Opportunities, Local Government Reorganisation, HP Parishes Forum

	<p>Agenda, HP Neighbourhood Action Grant.</p> <p>vii) HP & HV Community Rail Partnership – AGM, Annual Report.</p> <p>viii) Active Travel – Masterplan, Public Consultation Launch.</p> <p>ix) Concern for Castleton – Quarterly Report</p> <p>x) Severn Trent – Councillors Newsletter.</p> <p>xi) Honorary Secretary – APPG Call for Evidence on Access to Nature.</p>
10/07/25	<p>Items for the Peveril Post:</p> <p>No items for Peveril Post.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 8.45pm</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place at 7pm on Monday 29th September 2025 at The Village Hall, Castleton.</p>

UNADOPTED