

# CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025, 7:03pm

### 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. M. Eyre, Cllr. J. Stannard.

Also present: T. Dale (Clerk), Cllr. C. Farrell.

01/10/25	Apologies received from Cllr. M. Adshead, Cllr. J. Judge, Cllr. N. Spooner.
02/10/25	No pecuniary interests declared.
03/10/25	<p><b>Reports:</b></p> <p>A: County Councillor's Report: None this month.</p> <p>B: Borough Councillor's Report: Cllr. C. Farrell updated the Parish Council as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Local Government Reorganisation, a meeting of High Peak Borough Council will be held next week, where it is expected that the Councillors will vote in favour of High Peak moving to North Derbyshire Unitary Council with Amber Valley moving to the South Derbyshire Unitary Council. Following this the proposals will be sent to the Government for approval. There will be changes when moving to a Unitary Council, resulting in cost cutting/efficiency. Currently as there are two Councils, the Borough and County Councils there will be a reduction in Councillor numbers, currently there are 447 Councillors, and this will reduce to 162 Councillors. It is expected that to accommodate these changes Councillors will assume larger areas, with estimates that each Councillor covers c1500 residents and following implementation this is likely to increase to c5500. This is likely to result in Councillors becoming less visible and unable to attend Parish Council meetings regularly, as they manage the increase in their workload.</li><li>2. The Parish Council was notified that a motion will be raised at the next Borough Council meeting regarding the Planning and Infrastructure Bill, currently being introduced by the Government, due to various concerns. Mainly, planning controls will be taken away from Councils, it will provide for developers to build on various sites including those that are currently protected. It is unclear at present how this will impact on the Peak District National Park Authority. It is expected that a consultation on plans will be coming soon.</li><li>3. There is a small pot remaining in the Community Initiative Funds, should the Parish Council require any funding on a suitable project they will need to apply as soon as possible.</li><li>4. Cllr. Farrell was sorry to hear about the Museum at Castleton Visitor Centre. The Chair, a trustee of the Historical Society, thanked Cllr. Farrell and explained that whilst it was disappointing, they remain upbeat and look at this as an opportunity to be creative and explore new ways of displaying the artifacts. That the society has had a strong relationship with the PDNPA for a number of years and cannot ignore the financial constraints that they are under. Although the visitor centres throughout the Peak District benefited from an anonymous donation, two centres are closing, and Castleton and Bakewell the only ones remaining will need to become more financially viable.</li></ol> <p>C: Police Report: Post meeting a police report was provided by PC Alex Simpson, reporting the following incidents:</p> <p>6<sup>th</sup> October – How Lane, a cement mixer was stolen during the early morning. This investigation is ongoing.</p> <p>16<sup>th</sup> October - Numerous locations in The Hope Valley. Two suspects have passed fake £20 notes in various business premises. This investigation is ongoing. Officers have visited other businesses in the area and given advice about the incident.</p> <p>The Police are also aware that there has been an increase in shed and outbuilding break-ins in the Hope Valley. They are looking to conduct proactive covert and hi-visibility patrols in the valley to identify the suspects and reassure the public.</p> <p>Now the clocks have gone back the police are anticipating an influx of visitors to Mam-Tor to see the sunrises and sunsets. The Police are planning to place "No-Waiting" cones on Rush-up Edge and the surrounding areas to deter visitors from parking on the double yellow lines and clearways. They have secured some cones for this, but will need to secure more. The cones will also need placing out and collecting as they</p>

	<p>cannot be left on the road permanently.</p> <p>D: Chair Report: The Chair reported that on the 11 October a Parishes Day organised by Peak Park Parish Forum (PPPF) and Peak District National Park (PDNP), was held at Aldern house in Bakewell. The focus was on the PDNP Local Plan, there were presentations and discussions on housing, government targets and how realistic these are for a rural area in a national park. It included the issue of second homes, transport and recreation and tourism. Active Travel initiatives were supported unanimously by National Park members. The next round of consultation on the Local Plan will be coming up soon. The Chair advised the Councillors that it is worth attending the events for quality of presentations and chance to talk with other Peak Park parish councillors.</p> <p>Meetings on visitor pressure continue at PDNPA with a promise to keep the Parish Council updated. Clerk to also contact Midlands Rural Housing regarding a housing needs survey for Castleton.(AP-Clerk)</p> <p><i>Cllr. C. Farrell left the meeting.</i></p>																														
04/10/25	<p><b>Public Participation:</b></p> <p>There were no residents in attendance.</p>																														
05/10/25	<p><b>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto:</b></p> <p>A: The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025 were then considered, the minutes were approved. (Prop AD, 2nd ME, unan).</p>																														
06/10/25	<p><b>Finance:</b></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 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025</td><td>NS&amp;I</td></tr><tr><td>Balance brought forward 01/04/24</td><td>£14,567.79</td><td>£18,859.17</td></tr><tr><td>Total Income</td><td>£14,740.00</td><td>£0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Total Expenditure</td><td>£13,031.32</td><td>£0.00</td></tr><tr><td>Balance</td><td>£16,276.47</td><td>£18,859.17</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Last Statement Balance 15/10/25</td><td>£17,538.47</td><td>£18,859.17</td></tr><tr><td>Less un-presented cheques</td><td>£1,262.00</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 30/10/25</td><td>£16,276.47</td><td>£18,859.17</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"><li>i) T. Dale – Clerk’s salary, allowance, expenses - £481.73</li><li>ii) Griffiths Gardening Ltd – Grounds Maintenance - £720.00</li><li>iii) Castleton Village Hall – Room Hire - £36.00</li><li>iv) Networks (Lean3) – Litter signage - £209.04</li></ul> <p>In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>v) A. Darlington – Reimbursement for various flood equipment - £784.59</li><li>vi) M. Eyre – Reimbursement for Speedwatch signage - £201.60</li><li>vii) The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – Wreath - £50.00</li></ul> <p>C: To note the income and receipts of the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) HPBC – Precept - £5368.00</li><li>ii) Poor Piece Rent - £500.00</li></ul> <p>All payments, receipts and requests were agreed. (Prop ME, 2nd JS, unan).</p> <p>D: The Clerk talked the Parish Council through the draft 2026/27 budget/precept (Annex A).In summary, there is an expectation that costs will increase with inflation, therefore expenditure will increase by 2.5% (slightly lower than the current Interest rate). There is no expected increase in expected income, last year the Parish Council subsidised the Precept, reducing the costs to residents, however this therefore impacts on the percentage increase for 2026/27 raising the resident’s payment by 7%. As the Parish Council has been frugal, acquiring funding for spend on various projects such as Speedwatch and Flood equipment for the village and used appropriate reserves for ongoing project the Parish Council have offset the increase to the precept reducing the impact to residents. The precept will therefore be increased by only 3%, covering inflation costs. (Prop ME, 2nd AD, unan).</p>		Current Account 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	NS&I	Balance brought forward 01/04/24	£14,567.79	£18,859.17	Total Income	£14,740.00	£0.00	Total Expenditure	£13,031.32	£0.00	Balance	£16,276.47	£18,859.17				Last Statement Balance 15/10/25	£17,538.47	£18,859.17	Less un-presented cheques	£1,262.00	£0.00	Add uncleared deposits	£0.00	£0.00	Available Balance 30/10/25	£16,276.47	£18,859.17
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07/10/25	<p><b>Council Matters:</b></p> <p>A: An update on responses to visitor pressures in Castleton and Hope Valley was provided by the Chair. The Chair is in the process of arranging a meeting with Hope Valley Parish Councils, and including some Derbyshire Dales Parish Councils, to discuss common issues around tourism within Hope Valley. Hathersage</p>																														

Parish Council has offered to host the initial meeting. At the recent Parish & Town Council Liaison Forum our Police and Crime Commissioner made a presentation on her work and took questions – some of these were on nuisance vehicles and she has written an interesting letter in response, which will go on the village website and to the email group. **(AP – AD)**

B: An update on buses and public transport strategies was provided by Cllr. Simm. It is unfortunate that a response to issues raised regarding the tour bus on Winnat Pass etc has not been received from Cllr. C. Hill. Cllr. Simm will chase **(AP – JS)**.

Correspondence continues with Hope Valley Climate Action (HVCA), including attending meetings. The Switzerland in the Peak initiative is still very active with a draft brochure currently being reviewed. The initiative hopes to learn lessons from Switzerland, including transport, and adapting them to the needs of rural villages in the Peak District. Both the Parish Council and Better Buses for Castleton are currently involved in reviewing the brochure. Upon completion it is intended that a convincing case will be sent to Mayor Claire Ward for consideration. The mayor has already expressed interest in the concept. A petition produced by Better Buses National and East Midlands is now live, the aim is to bring bus services into public ownership. The Parish Council is working in partnership with Better Buses for Castleton to ensure Residents are aware.

C: There was no further update on the Active Travel Masterplan Consultation to report.

D: An update on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) was provided by Highways and given by the Clerk as follows:

“The proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for Castleton was advertised between 17 July and 8 August 2025. Following the consultation period, we reviewed the feedback received. After careful consideration, I can confirm that the scheme will proceed as originally proposed, with one minor amendment to the Made Order. Specifically, the extent of the double yellow line restriction on Weaving Avenue has been reduced by 1 metre. The revised restriction is as follows:

**Weaving Avenue, Castleton**

**North-east side**

From its junction with How Lane, in a south-easterly direction, for a distance of 18.5 metres.

We are now moving towards sealing the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and coordinating the associated works, which include:

- Carriageway lining
- Signage installation
- Pay machine setup

As we approach the winter period, we will begin discussions around the timing of installation. Due to the nature of the works and the need for favourable weather conditions, we anticipate scheduling the installation for March or April 2026. We will continue to keep you informed of progress and will notify you once the works are programmed and the TRO has been formally sealed.”

E: An update on the speeding prevention items currently under review was provided by Cllr. Eyre, the permanent signage advising that Castleton is a Speedwatch Village have now been purchased and is awaiting installation. Highways were contacted requesting details of the process to gain permission to attaching to lampposts etc. Sadly, the following response was received.

“Unfortunately, Derbyshire County Council does not permit the installation of Community Speed Watch (CSW) signs on the public highway or highway assets. This is because the CSW signs are not prescribed under the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016 (TSRGD), therefore do not meet the legal requirements for highway signage.”

The Parish Council will investigate further as to how other villages have signage on the Highways; meanwhile other possibilities will be pursued such as on private property in prominent locations.

**(AP – ME, Clerk)**

F: The Chair advised that a follow up meeting on the Community Response Plan will take place with Cllrs. Darlington, Simm and Spooner, following which the plan will be shared with all Councillors. **(AP – AD, JS, NS)**

G: An update on the repair of the two noticeboards in main car park and bus turnaround was given by the Chair. The grant application was successfully made to the HPBC Regeneration fund, and on receipt of a signed completion form work can commence. As previously discussed, there is an element of match funding, various avenues to gain further funding have been fruitless therefore it was requested that the Parish Council agreed to provide the funding via the contiguous/small project fund included in the 2025/26 budget to the sum of £400.00. It was agreed to the funding.

**(Prop AD, 2<sup>nd</sup> ME, Unan)**

The Chair advised that a review of the reserves and projects should take place as priorities may have changed. A meeting to be arranged. **(AP – AD)**

H: A discussion on the 2026 Grounds Maintenance Contract proceeded. The specification and tender process was agreed. Notice of tenders to be placed on the noticeboard and website with the Clerk to issue the specification to contractors who have previously tendered last year.

**(AP – AD, Clerk)**

I: A discussion on the events diary took place. The Clerk advised that notification of the TFG Castleton and Cake Trial Runs were received. The event is expected to attract c80 runners. The event will involve Marshalls, First Aiders, route signage (removed after the event), a team covering litter management, a parking policy, parking at the Visitor Centre and a farmer's field etc. The Parish Council advised last year to consider contingency parking should the weather be wet and leave the farmers field unusable; it was also advised that further parking could be available at Peak Cavern Car Park. Clerk to advise the organisers that the village is likely to be busy as they are considering holding the event on a bank holiday. **(AP – Clerk)**

J: The Clerk advised that the forms for entry into the Public Rights of Way (PROW) funding have been completed and that Cllr. Adshead can be advised that instruction to commence the required work on Dirty Lane can be given. **(AP – SA)**

K: A discussion on replacing the existing dog foul signage took place, as existing signage has faded. Whilst it was agreed they need replacing, the actual message on the signage and illustration were considered. What would make people take notice and action? It was agreed that people were more likely to take notice if signage included picture/s drawn by children. As such, Cllr. Stannard will contact the school to see if they would support the children taking part in a competition to produce a picture for the signs, with a small cash prize for the winner. **(AP – JAS)**

L: An update on activities for VJ Day was provided, Cllr. Eyre to purchase and organise the planting of the Birch Tree at the Burial Ground. **(AP – ME)**

Cllr. Stannard continues to investigate possible locations for the planting of poppies with Cllr. Eyre kindly agreeing to donate the poppy seeds. **(AP – JAS)**

The Chair asked Cllr. Eyre what was the intention with the Tommy silhouettes, are they expected to be a permanent fixture, or will they be displayed only around Remembrance Day? Cllr. Eyre advised that they will be taken down and stored by a resident to be redeployed a few weeks prior to Remembrance Day each year.

M: It was agreed to purchase a 6ft Christmas tree for the war memorial through the village scheme,, Cllr. S. Adshead to organise. (Prop JS, 2<sup>nd</sup> ME, Unan) **(AP – SA)**

N: The revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations policies were circulated to the Parish Council prior to the meeting for review, enabling a decision to adopt the policies at this meeting. It was agreed for both policies to be adopted. Clerk to update records and website.

(Prop JAS, 2<sup>nd</sup> JS, Unan)

O: An update on flood resilience activities was given by the Chair. A short summary in the Parish Council news in Peveril post and an article from a flood warden, highlighting the de-silting of the river at two pinch points, commissioned by Environment Agency. Another recent highlight was a recent and very useful training session using the water pump at Waterside. A second pump for use at Millbridge has just been purchased, thanks to a grant from Derbyshire County Council (DCC).

P: There was no further update on the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) other than that provided by Cllr. C. Farrell (see Borough Councillor Report). However, the Parish Council needs to be aware of any developments that may impact on Castleton and Hope Valley and as such the item will remain on the agenda.

Q: Following last month's meeting regarding a request for funding from the Village Hall Committee and providing the requested financial statement the Parish Council considered the request. For the Parish Council to be able to provide a donation it needs to consider if it is appropriate to make such donations on behalf of the residents. They also need to consider that any donations need to be funded via the S137 pot, which is capped each year. After careful consideration it was agreed to provide a donation of £500. The Parish Council believes that the Village Hall is a great asset to the village and will endeavour to support in the future. Support will be given to identify and advise of any funding opportunities they become aware of and will consider any requirement for matching funding required by obtaining external grants where appropriate. (Prop AD, 2<sup>nd</sup> JAS, Unan)

R: It was agreed that the Parish Council will continue to take part in the Snow Warden Scheme with Cllr. M. Eyre and Cllr. S. Adshead taking the lead roles. Clerk to instigate the process. **(AP – Clerk, ME, SA)**. Further discussion took place on filling the empty grit bin on Millbridge, Cllr. Eyre to ensure the bin is filled. **(AP – ME)**.

It was also agreed that a communication should be issued advising businesses and residents to start preparing for Winter. Cllr. J. Stannard to produce the communication. **(AP – JAS)**

	S: There were no items to note or urgently required to discuss and/or resolve.
08/10/25	<p><b>Planning:</b></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"> <li>i) NP/HPK/0725/0732 - Losehill Hall, How Lane, Castleton, Listed Building consent - Creation of hard standing including timber fencing and access gates x 2 and installation of flogas tank and associated works. (Application Withdrawn), <b>NOTED</b>.</li> <li>ii) NP/HPK/1223/1521 - Hope Shale Quarry, Pindale Road, Hope, Amended Information. <b>NO COMMENTS RAISED</b>.</li> </ul> <p>B: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) HPK/0325/0201 - 1 Castle Villas, Buxton Road, Castleton. Conversion of existing outbuilding into ancillary accommodation for the family. To include replacement rear extension and new side extension. <b>GRANTED CONTIONALLY -NOTED</b></li> <li>ii) HPK/0725/0733 and 0734 - Castle Hotel, Castle Street, Castleton. Various internal and external works. <b>GRANTED CONTIONALLY - NOTED</b></li> </ul> <p>C: Applications received by the Licensing Authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Castleton Village Hall - Wedding 11.10.2025 – <b>NO OBJECTIONS RAISED</b></li> <li>ii) Castleton Village Hall - Village Dance - 13.12.25 - <b>NO OBJECTIONS RAISED</b></li> </ul>
09/10/25	<p><b>Correspondence and DALC Circulars:</b></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"> <li>i) DCC – Community News, Mytham Bridge Repairs, Castleton and Hope Footpath Repairs, Police and Crime Commissioner Response.</li> <li>ii) DALC – Newsletters, DALC Day, October Forum.</li> <li>iii) Democratic Services – Various.</li> <li>iv) NALC – Events, Newsletters, Bulletins.</li> <li>v) HVCA –Newsletter, October AGM.</li> <li>vi) HPBC – Possible Funding Opportunities, High Peak Forum.</li> <li>vii) PDNPA – 2024/2025 Impact Report, 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Peak District National Park</li> <li>viii) Concern for Castleton – Quarterly Report.</li> <li>ix) HP &amp; HV Community Rail Partnership – Invitation to Performance Celebrating Railway200.</li> <li>x) PPPF – AGM &amp; PPPF Committee Agenda, Minutes.</li> </ul>
10/10/25	<p><b>Items for the Peveril Post:</b></p> <p>No items for Peveril Post.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 8:49pm</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place at 7pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at The Village Hall, Castleton.</p>