

# CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING: 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025, 7:00pm

### 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. Judge, Cllr. N. Spooner, Cllr. J. Stannard.

Also present: T. Dale (Clerk), Cllr. J. Collins.

01/11/25	Apologies received from Cllr. M. Adshead.
02/11/25	Cllr. M. Eyre nonpecuniary interests declared Council Matters H.
03/11/25	<p><b>Reports:</b></p> <p>A: County Councillor's Report: None this month.</p> <p>B: Borough Councillor's Report: Cllr. J. Collins provided the following updates.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Local Government Review – Work continues, options/preferences for High Peak, currently concentrating on Amber Valley moving to South Derbyshire Unitary Council. Whilst there are four options for High Peak, the preference is to be part of North Derbyshire Unitary Council.</li><li>2. Peak Partnership Summit – Derbyshire Dales District and High Peak Borough Councillors attended the summit, those attending were in pursuit of engaging with the Mayoral Office to gain agreement of collaborative working with the District and Councillors at all levels. The summit consisted of round table events, each discussing various issues and solutions. It is hoped that information gathered from each table would be shared.</li></ol> <p>The Chair confirmed she had been told at the meeting that information would be shared. Peak Park Local Plan – The Plan was discussed at the Peak Park Parishes Forum; it was agreed that a response will be given. A high-level draft response will be produced and circulated to Parish Councils giving the options for input. The draft will include highlighted concerns directing Parish Councils to check that the four categories they have been allocated are accurate. The Categories range from Larger Towns/Villages to Smaller Villages (Hamlets), it is expected that the category will influence which areas are to be addressed, such as housing. With regards to housing there seems to be a desire to include a residency clause of up to 10 years. Some concerns were raised and reiterated by the Chair that this does not fit with the change in demographics. The Chair added that the Local Plan consultation was open but instructions on how to access was not available. Cllr. J. Collins informed the Parish Council that residents need to register for access. The Chair will revisit the site to see how to register, seek advice and produce a user guide to be circulated to residents. <b>(AP – AD)</b></p> <p>C: Police Report: None this month.</p> <p>D: Chair Report: There are lots of surveys and consultations running concurrently at the moment, public transport, the way in which the region will develop in the future including planning polies and tourism. It is important that residents have their say. A plea will be issued to residents to become involved, putting their views forward. With regards to the Peak Park Local Plan the Parish Council will be responding, and a draft response will be produced and circulated to Councillors for input. <b>(AP – AD, JAS)</b></p> <p>The Chair, on behalf on the Parish Council, wants to thank the Castleton Christmas Group for all their hard work. The Village lights look good with Peveril Castle looking spooky. <b>(AP-Clerk)</b></p>
04/11/25	<p><b>Public Participation:</b></p> <p>There were no residents in attendance.</p>
05/11/25	<p><b>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto:</b></p> <p>A: The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025 were then considered, the minutes were approved. (Prop ME, 2nd AD, unan).</p>
06/11/25	<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>

	Current Account 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	NS&I
Balance brought forward 01/04/25	£14,567.79	£18,859.17
Total Income	£16,748.41	£0.00
Total Expenditure	£15,514.28	£0.00
Balance	£15,801.92	£18,859.17
Last Statement Balance 15/11/25	£17,113.92	£18,859.17
Less un-presented cheques	£1,312.00	£0.00
Add uncleared deposits	£0.00	£0.00
Available Balance 27/11/25	£15,801.92	£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 - £408.27
- ii) HMRC – Employee Tax Period 4 – 8 – £64.59
- iii) Griffiths Gardening Ltd – Grounds Maintenance - £480.00
- iv) Castleton Village Hall – Room Hire - £30.00
- v) Castleton Village Hall – Donation - £500.00
- vi) A. Darlington – Reimbursement outstanding elements of flood equipment - £22.78 +£8.99 = £31.77
- vii) S. Adshead – Reimbursement for Village Christmas Tree - £35.00

In addition:

- viii) J. Stannard – Reimbursement for wildflower seeds and soil - £56.93

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

- i) DCC Grant – flood Equipment -754.00
- ii) HMRC – VAT reclaimed - £1,254.41.

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

07/11/25

**Council Matters:**

A: An update on responses to visitor pressures in Castleton and Hope Valley was provided by the Chair and included with the agenda Annex A. In addition, members of Concerned for Castleton met with the Senior Strategy and Performance Officer from Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) to discuss visitor data, with the team representatives sharing the information they have been collating. It is hoped that this information will be included in the PDNPA analysis, and it was felt that this had been a useful meeting. Data from High Peak Borough Council and the Peak Partnership Summit indicate growth in tourism across the Peak District. There appears to be a will to invest in infrastructure in towns bordering the PDNPA, increasing the attractions to areas currently less frequented e.g. Whaley Bridge and Chapel.

B: Cllr Simm provided an update on buses and public transport strategies included in Annex A with the agenda. Cllr. J. Simm and Cllr. A. Darlington attended the Peak Partnership Summit. One of the key topics was the transport plan. The draft brochure mentioned at the last meeting on transport initiatives has been reviewed with key points being raised. Two questionnaires, one for residents, a second for Businesses and Organisations, are currently active giving the opportunity to identify concerns and influence the outcome. The closing date is 8<sup>th</sup> February, which allows time to read supporting information and complete the questionnaire. Cllr. Simm will pull together a communication drawing attention to key points and circulate to the village. **(AP – JS).**

C: Cllr Simm provided a brief update on the Active Travel Masterplan Consultation with the agenda (Annex A), it highlighted that the consultation had now closed with the results from the survey helping inform how next steps could proceed. Feedback about the consultation will be available through the Derbyshire County Council website. The East Midlands Combined County Authority has also secured money via Active Travel England to promote walking and cycling which is being promoted as part of the Mayor's Transport Plan.

D: There was no further update on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), and it is anticipated the scheduling for implementation around March or April 2026.

Cllr. J. Standard reported that the road markings at the junction of Back Street and Hollowford Road near the school had faded. It was agreed that the Parish Council will report to Highways, Cllr. J. Stannard to provide location details to the Clerk. The more reports the more likelihood of action being taken, therefore as the Parish Council would only be classed as one report it was recommended that Cllr. J. Stannard report additionally along with all other Councillors. **(AP – Clerk, All)**

E: An update on the speeding prevention items currently under review was provided by Cllr. M. Eyre.

Following the response from Highways, advised at the last meeting, the Clerk has contacted the Speedwatch coordinator at Derbyshire Constabulary for advice, whilst Cllr. M. Eyre is pursuing different options. The Speedwatch Group will commence with their sessions again shortly.

**(AP – ME, Clerk)**

*Cllr. J. Collins left the meeting.*

F: The Chair advised that following a meeting with Cllr. J. Simm on the Community Response Plan that the plan had been reviewed with amendments identified. The Plan has been returned to Cllr. N. Spooner to action the amendments. Next steps:

- To circulate to all Councillors for input
- To circulate to Community Resilience Team HPBC
- To approach village organisations, inviting involvement and input
- To discuss with village organisations who will become members of the Castleton Resilience Team

**(AP – AD, JS, NS)**

G: A brief update on the repair of the two noticeboards in main car park and bus turnaround was given by the Chair. The quotation from Networks has been accepted and they have given reassurances that the work on repairs will be completed prior to the March deadline. Moving on to contents, a map of the village will need to be updated/produced. The map will include key locations but not businesses. A subgroup to be formed to discuss the map design and investigate costs involved.

The Parish Council agreed that they will assume responsibility for the noticeboards and any future costs of maintenance.

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

H: A discussion on the 2026 Grounds Maintenance Contract proceeded. The tenders received were each discussed and compared, weighing up the positives, negatives etc. Although there were differences in how the hourly charges were displayed in the tenders the hourly rate for each equated to the same. The tenders were put to vote.

Griffiths Gardening Ltd 3 out of 4 (for AD, JS, NS)

Jo on the Go – 1 out of 4 (for JAS)

The Parish Council wants to thank Jo on the Go for the tender and requested that the Clerk advise the organisations of the outcome. **(AP – Clerk)**

*Note: Cllr. M. Eyre declared a non – pecuniary interest and was therefore excluded from the discussion and vote.*

I: There were no additional updates on the events diary.

J: The Parish Council is waiting to be advised of a date when work will commence on Dirty Lane under the Public Rights of Way (PROW) scheme.

K: Cllr. J. Stannard updated the Parish Council on replacing the existing dog foul signage. The local school, via the Head Mistress and another teacher, met with Cllr. Stannard regarding school children designing the signs. The school are very keen to be involved, and they would also like to consider a banner to be placed at the school. The message on the signage could be extended to cover general litter, but it was felt best to leave this to the children to interpret. The design could also be transferrable onto metal signs at a cost of c£10 each and displayed around the village. The messages are to encourage people to work together on clearing up dog mess. With regards to a prize, this is being left to the school to decide considering their philosophy, it could be that it is a shared prize. Cllr. Stannard will continue to work with the school and provide updates. **(AP – JAS)**

L: An update on activities for VJ/VE Day was provided, Cllr. M. Eyre reported that the Memorial Birch Tree has been purchased and planted at the Burial Ground, and that it fits well and matches the existing Birch Tree. It has been planted with supporting brackets, but these may need replacing as the tree grows. Cllr. Eyre to provide an article for Peveril Post. The Chair thanked Cllr. Eyre for his donation and time planting the tree.

**(AP – ME)**

M: An update on flood resilience activities was given by the Chair. Following obtaining a second flood pump, including housing, from Derbyshire County Council (DCC), the pump has been installed for easy access at the property of a flood warden on Millbridge. In addition, also funded by DCC, the Parish Council were able to purchase a new sandbag container, which is sited at the Methodist Church. The Parish Council were asked to approve the purchase of one bulk bag of yellow building sand at a cost of £56.48 plus VAT, including delivery. The sand will be used to fill sandbags to be housed in the new sandbag container, providing easy access in emergencies.

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

N: A report on the defibrillator/s within the village was provided by Jonnie Collins and read out by the Clerk as follows:

	<p>"I can report that both AEDs remain available for use. They are regularly checked and reported, as required. There have been no deployments since January.</p> <p>Their batteries both show 75% charge although I expect the Phone Box device to drop to 50% shortly.</p> <p>We have had collection tins around village businesses for nearly a year. These have been emptied and £238 has been donated. Each business has received a certificate of thanks. The money is collected in the name of The Community Heartbeat Trust Charity who provide the AEDs and is paid into an account with them. It is available to spend on spares or new equipment. For context, a set of pads costs around £50 (needed when used or after approx. 2 years) and a new battery is around £300 (approx. every 4 years). So, the funds provide the Parish Council with good support. We will put new tins out as soon as we can. I will do an article for the next Peveril Post."</p> <p>The Chair on behalf of the Parish Council wished to send thanks to Jonnie for all his hard work in providing and maintaining this facility and obtaining funds. <b>(AP – Clerk)</b></p> <p>O – An update on the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) draft (Preferred) Local Plan was given.</p> <p>The chair read out a section from the PDNPA website: "The National Park Authority's Policy &amp; Communities team are seeking views on new policy for house building and business development, transport, protecting green spaces and the environment. The new Local Plan will identify where development can and cannot take place in the National Park for the next 20 years, so we're expecting it to be of interest to everyone that lives and works in, visits or does business in the National Park, as well as those that care for it."</p> <p>Link to the website below:  <a href="https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/looking-after/about-us/have-your-say/consultations">https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/looking-after/about-us/have-your-say/consultations</a></p> <p>There is a drop-in event on the Local Plan Preferred Approach on Monday 1st December 9am - 2pm at Bakewell Town Hall to which all are welcome, and which will be advertised on the Parish Council noticeboard. The deadline is 21st December.</p> <p>P: There was no further update on the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) other than that provided by Cllr. J. Collins (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.</p> <p>Q: Following a discussion on the 75th birthday of PDNP in 2026, it was agreed that an article will be provided for Peveril Post, informing the Residents that ideas are welcomed to suggest how the event should be celebrated, with any resident/village group being given the opportunity to become involved.</p> <p>S: There were no items to note or urgently required to discuss and/or resolve. However, Cllr. M. Eyre informed the Parish Council that work had commenced on obtaining donations for advertising via Peveril Post, that he would work with the Clerk on this matter. <b>(AP – ME, Clerk)</b></p> <p>The Clerk advised, following the request at last month's meeting, that contact had been made with Midlands Rural Housing regarding a housing needs survey for Castleton. This was agreed with work expected to commence post-Christmas.</p>
08/11/25	<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/1125/1111- Losehill Farm, Unnamed Road from Squires Lane to White Lea Farm, Castleton - Retention of modified agricultural track. On receipt of the application the Parish Council requested further information/clarification. Whilst this was given, the position of the new track is still unclear as no suitable photographs of the new track in the landscape were supplied by the applicant. The Parish Council understand that the Planning Committee will make a site visit to consider the current and future impact of the new track on the landscape and other than concerns about lack of clarity in the application have no further comments at this time.</li> <li>ii) NP/DDD/1223/1527 – Hope Limestone Quarry, Pindale Road, Hope - Review of Minerals Permissions - First Periodic Review. Noted by the Parish Council</li> </ul> <p><i>Cllr. J. Judge entered the meeting.</i></p> <p>B: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority: None this month.</p>
09/11/25	<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, Parish and Town Liaison meeting.</li> <li>ii) DALC – Newsletters, Citizens Advice 6 monthly Impact Report, November Forum.</li> <li>iii) NALC – Events, Newsletters, Bulletins.</li> <li>iv) HVCA –Newsletter, October AGM.</li> <li>v) HPBC and Staffordshire Moorlands District Council– Proposed Changes to Council Tax</li> </ul>

	<p>Reductions, Links to Information, Code of Conduct Training, Possible Funding Opportunities, High Peak Forum Agenda, Draft Medium Term Financial Plan, Agendas, Minutes, Supplement Questions.</p> <p>vi) PDNPA – Local Plan Consultation</p> <p>vii) HP &amp; HV Community Rail Partnership – Invitation to Performance Celebrating Railway200.</p> <p>viii) PPPF – Parishes Days Notes</p> <p>ix) Peak Cluster – Update on the Peak Park Cluster Project.</p> <p>x) National Trust – Understanding Local Community Perspective on Visit Impact.</p> <p>xi) East Midlands Combined County Authority - Peak Partnership Summit – Autumn Engagement Event.</p> <p>xii) The Mayor – Invitation from Claire Ward to the Peak Partnership Summit.</p>
10/11/25	<p><b>Peveril Post:</b></p> <p>Chair Report, Memorial Birch Tree, 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Peak District National Park.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 8:42pm</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place at 7pm on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at The Village Hall, Castleton.</p>