

CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF ORDINARY MEETING: Thursday 29th January 2026 7:00 PM Village Hall, Castleton

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a meeting of Castleton Parish Council to be held at 7.00pm on Thursday 29th January 2026, for the purposes of transacting the business below:

T Dale

Mrs T. Dale 19th January 2026

Clerk to Castleton Parish Council

Email: clerkrfo.cpc@gmail.com

01/01/26	To consider accepting any apologies for absence.																																
02/01/26	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.																																
03/01/26	Reports: A: County Councillor's Report B: Borough Councillor's Report C: Police Report D: Chair's Report																																
04/01/26	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.																																
05/01/26	Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto: A: To consider for approval the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27 th November 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.																																
06/01/26	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.																																
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	 B: To approve and instruct the payment by cheque, of presented invoiced items, including the following: i) T. Dale – Clerk's salary, allowance, expenses (December & January)- £408.27+£497.23 = £905.50 ii) Castleton Village Hall – Room Hire - £30.00 iii) Cllr Adshead – reimbursement for removal of Xmas Tree, Blythe House Hospice - £20.00																																
	C: To note the income and receipts of the Council: i) M. Eyre – Donation for Peveril Post -£50.00																																
07/01/26	Council Matters: A: To receive an update on responses to visitor pressures in Castleton and Hope Valley (Annex A) B: To receive an update on buses and public transport strategies and Active Travel. (Annex B) C: To discuss the Peak Cluster project and its potential impact. D: To receive an update on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)																																

	<p>E: To note the parish council response to the PDNP Local Plan consultation</p> <p>F: To receive an update on repairs of the two notice boards in main car park and bus turnaround</p> <p>G: To review and discuss Events Diary</p> <p>H: To receive an update on Dirty Lane footpath for repair under the 2025-2026 PROW Scheme</p> <p>I: To receive an update on replace dog fouling signage throughout the village</p> <p>J: To receive an update on the Flood Resilience Planning.</p> <p>K: To discuss electrical connection for parish Council Christmas tree</p> <p>L: To discuss and agree grazing licence for the strip of land behind the burial ground</p> <p>M: To receive an update on a local Housing Survey</p> <p>N: To discuss the missing entrance sign in the village.</p> <p>O: To discuss and agree new IT Policy</p> <p>P: To note and if urgently required to discuss and or resolve.</p>
08/01/26	<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) NP/HPK/1125/1168 – Land south of Mam Tor, north of Winnats Head Farm, Mam Tor Road, Castleton. – Development of new permanent footpath across land between Mam Tor Road with Edale Road. ii) NP/HPK/1225/1219 – Castleton Visitor Centre, Buxton Road, Castleton. New entrance porch, change of use of former museum space to Class E, replacement hardstanding and installation of two rooflights <p>B: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority:</p> <p>None this month.</p>
09/01/26	<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 – Parish & Town Laison Forum, Holiday Activities & Food Programme, East Midlands Combined County Authority – Transport Plan Consultation, Community News. ii) DALC – Newsletters, December Forum, January Forum. iii) NALC – Events, Newsletters, Bulletins, Open Letter to Parish Council from the Chair, Voting is now open for 2025 Governance Election. iv) HVCA –Newsletter. v) Staffordshire Moorlands District Council– Agenda, Supplements, Agenda for Develop Control Committee, Agenda for Economy & Growth Select Committee, Minutes. vi) PDNPA – Peak Cluster Phase 1 meetings, Nature Futures Events. vii) PPPF – The Local Plan. viii) HPBC – HP Parish Forum Dates, Possible Funding Opportunities. ix) Peak Cluster – Invite to Phase 1 consultation, Updates, Newsletter. x) Severn Trent – Councillors Newsletter. xi) Derbyshire Police & Crime Commissioner – Report Fraud. xii) Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service – Consultation on Community Risk Management. xiii) Environment Agency – Flood Resilience. xiv) Cllr Collins – Peak District Road Works, Guest Car Blocking Lorries, Councillor Initiative Fund.
10/01/26	<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 26th February 2026.

Visitor pressures

Work to manage visitor pressures continues on several fronts. An EMCCA (East Midlands Combined County Authority) workshop, part of the Peak Partnership Summit initiative was chaired in Bakewell (19 November) by the East Midlands Mayor Claire Ward. Cllrs Simm and Darlington participated. The main topics addressed were visitor management, transport, the rural economy, the visitor economy and housing.

The outcomes of the workshop in terms of identified Challenges and Opportunities around “**Visitor management and Behaviours**” are shown below, directly extracted from the notes.

Challenges

- High visitor volumes, especially cars, with limited contribution to local economy (e.g. free parking, minimal local spend).
- There was a lot of discussion around the statistic that ‘20 million people live within one hour’s travel of the National Park’. It was explained that the intention of the statistic is to highlight the catchment of potential visitors who can easily access the National Park from surrounding cities.
- Concerns about visitor and resident behaviours: littering, uncontrolled dogs, gates left open, inconsiderate parking. Suggestion to clamp vehicles or apply penalty points for those who park incorrectly.
- Limited awareness of the Countryside Code; signage and campaigns needed to encourage responsible behaviours.
- Social media (including TikTok) suggested to reach younger and diverse audiences.

Opportunities

- Balance between encouraging visitors and promoting responsible behaviours.
- Regional campaigns across Peak Partnership areas to promote good visitor behaviours.
- There were some discussions around a Tourism Charter for the Peak. It was explained that this has been developed by the Peak District National Park Authority in partnership with all the relevant Authorities within the National Park Management Plan. The published Tourism Charter can be found here:
<https://reports.peakdistrict.gov.uk/npmp2023/docs/appendices/tourism-charter.html>
- Use of signage and awareness campaigns to reinforce Countryside Code.

Summary

The Peak District faces significant pressures: high visitor numbers with limited local spend, poor behaviours, unreliable transport, low paid seasonal jobs, housing affordability issues, and restrictive planning. Rural communities feel overlooked, with weak connectivity, underfunded infrastructure, and young people leaving for better opportunities.

Opportunities lie in integrated transport systems, campaigns to promote responsible visitor behaviours, investment in skills and enterprise hubs, and diversifying the visitor economy to create better jobs and extend the season. Reforming planning, improving affordable housing, and building collaborations across the Peak Partnership can help balance tourism with community needs, protect the environment, and strengthen resilience for the future.

In the meantime, out of the Tourism Charter mentioned above, and responding to the recent challenges faced in our area supported by data showing changes to visitation patterns the PDNPA has initiated an Area Management Plan to focus on the Castleton and Mam Tor area specifically and are keeping us informed of its progress.

A meeting of Hope Valley Parish Councils will take place on 21 January in Hathersage to discuss a number of matters of mutual interest including potential joint approaches to **visitor pressures**.

Public transport and bus services January update

The key emphasis this month is the **East Midlands Combined Authority (EMCCA) Mayor's Transport Plan**. The Mayor, Clare Ward is seeking feedback on what residents think about travel in the Hope Valley and beyond and what our experiences are of travel in the East Midlands. This plan was launched in November and was highlighted at the November Peak Partnership Summit which was attended by two of our councillors along with other parish, town, borough and county councillors, plus other stakeholders. The Mayor introduced her six fights for a fairer, better connected East Midlands, but the focus on this report is transport. A series of drop-in sessions were run, one of which was in Buxton on November 22nd attended by one of our councillors and representatives from our action group, Better Buses for Castleton (BB4C).

It is worth emphasising that the **closing date is February 8th, 2026**. There are two questionnaires: Individual, and Businesses and Organisations so we need to inform and influence. The Parish Council will send a response as an organisation, but all residents are strongly encouraged to complete the Individual questionnaire. The Mayor is particularly keen to hear from rural communities and acknowledged at the Peak Summit that there were particular challenges for villages such as Castleton.

The questionnaire should take five to ten minutes to complete and there is scope to add free text with no word count. In view of the fact that the Parish Council in partnership with BB4C and Hope Valley Climate Action (HVCA) has conducted the 2024 Castleton Public Transport Survey, it is worth emphasising that our local views have been captured but must now be expressed to the Mayor. Copies of the survey were sent to the Mayor's office, but it is only now that the Transport Plan is considering local views.

Section 1 and 2 = explores ambition, goals and key policies of the Mayor's Transport Plan

Section 3 = seeks views on what the Transport Plan should prioritise and the travel challenges businesses experience across the EMCCA region.

Section 4 = gathers feedback to help improve the region's bus network.

Further details can be found at : <https://www.eastmidlands-cca.gov.uk>

A poster with QR code to also access the consultation can be found on the Parish Council Noticeboard.

The impact for the Hope Valley is profound as this survey is the only way of influencing the Bus Service Improvement Plan. At a recent online meeting organised by Hope Valley Climate Action (HVCA) we agreed the following pointers to help complete the survey but obviously resident's and local businesses will have their own views to express:

1. Try and be as positive as you can and tell the Mayor what you want to see in terms of public transport options. She is focusing on the bus services but will in time work with rail companies.
2. Emphasise what is important to you living in a rural community. This is crucial to make sure the majority of the funding is not directed towards cities such as Derby and Nottingham.
3. Key findings from the 2024 Castleton Public Transport Survey include - Reliable and regular bus and train services; connectivity of bus and train services and an integrated ticketing system; timetabling issues which include congestion at our bus station and on the Winnats; more bus routes to places such as Chapel-en-le Frith, Tideswell etc ; continuation of funding for the Route 62 to Buxton/Chapel;
4. Ask about bus franchising. When asked about taking control of bus services into public ownership the Mayor's response is that this will not be ruled out, and it is in her powers to implement. She has stated that whilst South Yorkshire and Manchester are pursuing this approach, she will not promise to take this approach at present but will work with bus operators to improve efficiency and develop new approaches to encourage more use of public transport. If you want to find out more then ask the Mayor for her views.

A five-year feasibility study considering an integrated transport system with the aim of delivering **Switzerland in the Peak District** has now been presented to the Mayor of East Midlands with neighbouring Mayors having been informed. HVCA are keeping the parish council fully informed.

Active Travel

The EMCCA 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 outlined above. We hope a joined-up thinking approach will be followed as there have been concerns expressed over multiuser routes outlined in the DCC plan.