

CASTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING: 30th April 2026, 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. Eyre, Cllr. Spooner.

Also present: T. Dale (Clerk), PCSO W. Brockett, PCSO M. Edwards, 3 Resident.

01/04/26	Apologies received from Cllr. Adshead, Cllr. J. Judge, Cllr. Stannard, Cllr. Farrell, Cllr. Collins.
02/04/26	No Pecuniary Interest was noted.
03/04/26	<p>Reports:</p> <p>A: County Councillor's Report None this month.</p> <p>B: Borough Councillor's Report The Clerk, on behalf of Cllr J. Collins, advised the Parish Council of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The main updates from High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) were communicated at the recent parishes meeting, which Cllr Darlington and Cllr Simm attended.• Number 62 Bus: Edale Parish Council will be meeting this week. Assurances were given that they will also send a letter regarding the Number 62 bus.• Peak Cluster: There is no update from HPBC. Residents have been pressing the Council to adopt a position. If Castleton residents wish to raise concerns, they are encouraged to contact either Cllr Collins or Cllr Farrell, who will convey these concerns. <p>C: Police Report PCSO M. Edwards introduced himself. The area he will be covering includes Buxton Rural East, Buxton Rural West, and the Hope Valley neighbourhoods. PCSO W. Brockett advised the Parish Council of the following incidents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A motor vehicle was broken into at Peak Cavern Car Park, with climbing equipment valued at £2,000 stolen.2. A burglary resulting in the theft of two mountain bikes.3. An altercation occurred after an individual was challenged for dropping litter. The offending individual seriously assaulted the challenger. The assailant was taken in for questioning.4. Walkers were victims of theft by an assailant on a motorbike. <p>Fires: Following numerous concerns, High Peak has invested in 150 good-quality metal signs, some of which have been distributed throughout the village to help prevent visitors from lighting fires or using barbecues. Others have been provided to the National Trust, Park Rangers, and Speedwell Cavern. A media release is expected following installation to reinforce the message. Cllr Eyre advised that he has also been liaising with the Derbyshire Fire Service, who have provided additional signs. He will establish where the police-issued signs have been placed and will position the Fire Service signs at alternative sites to increase visitor awareness of the risks. Cllr Simm thanked PCSO Edwards for the property-marking session, noting a good turnout and positive feedback. Cllr Darlington asked whether there would be any follow-up notices to put up in the village under the current scheme, as this was lacking in the previous "SmartWater" initiative. PCSO Brockett responded that this was not yet known but he would seek clarification.</p> <p>Standing Orders Suspended</p> <p>Resident 1: Asked the Police for clarification regarding cars parking on roads signposted "Access Only". A recent incident involved a non-resident's vehicle being hit while attempting to park. The resident asked how "Access Only" can be enforced.</p> <p>Police Response: The police are aware of the issue but do not have the resources to provide continuous enforcement. Patrols have taken place, and vehicles have been turned away. It was noted that the issue worsens when temporary</p>

	<p>car parks are closed.</p> <p>While no promises can be made, officers will try to monitor the situation subject to available resources. Cllr Darlington queried whether the signage is enforceable; confirmation was given that it is.</p> <p>Standing Orders Reinstated</p> <p>D: Chair Report: The Chair advised the Parish Council that a significant amount of activity is currently underway, most of which is covered under Council Matters. In addition, the Chair and Cllr Simm attended the Hope Valley Parish Forum held at Buxton Town Hall. The forum provided useful updates on matters relating to High Peak Borough Council.</p> <p>The Chair informed Councillors that she will be stepping down from the role of Chair at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May due to other commitments, though she will continue to serve as a Parish Councillor. In accordance with protocol, Councillors will be asked at that meeting to nominate and vote for a new Chair and Vice Chair.</p>
04/04/26	<p>Public Participation:</p> <p>Resident 1: Prior to the meeting, a resident shared concerns regarding the Peak Cluster Project. The Peak Cluster Project is a cement decarbonisation initiative aiming to significantly reduce carbon emissions from the cement and lime industries. The resident provided a detailed and technical overview outlining several areas of concern, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The construction of an additional stack at Breedon, including its dimensions, visibility, and impact on the landscape. • Above-Ground Installations (AGI), including the number of installations, the equipment to be used, and the anticipated increase in noise from pumps, compressors, and other machinery. • The fact that AGIs will operate 24 hours a day, with additional consumables required, resulting in increased traffic and associated pollution. • The proximity of installations to existing residential properties • The environmental impact of trenching through the Peak District National Park • Breedon’s current planning application to extend the quarry and the associated implications. • A perceived lack of risk assessments carried out to date. <p>(The above list is not exhaustive.)</p> <p>A question-and-answer session then took place:</p> <p>Q: Whilst it is understood that the Parish Council has raised a number of questions, what are the Parish Council’s views?</p> <p>R: At present, the Parish Council remains neutral until further information and clarification can be provided. A meeting was held with Breedon to discuss the questions raised, and Breedon expressed willingness to answer further questions as they arise. There are still many unknowns, and decisions are yet to be made; until these decisions are taken, the full impact cannot be assessed. Breedon has agreed to run a session for residents once more information becomes available.</p> <p>The Parish Council is also meeting with other Hope Valley parish councils to provide collaborative responses on shared issues. At the last meeting, it was noted that the final decision will be made by central government, and therefore Parish Councils should begin considering potential mitigation strategies.</p> <p>Q: Was the Parish Council aware that Bradwell Parish Council had formally objected to the project?</p> <p>R: Yes. The Parish Council was aware and has seen the objection.</p> <p>Q: What is the Parish Council’s view on the Breedon quarry extension?</p> <p>R: It is understood from Breedon that the planning application has been in development for a long time and predates the Peak Cluster project. The quarry extension plan is expected to continue independently, regardless of the Peak Cluster Project.</p> <p>Q: Why was Castleton Parish Council not included in the planning consultation, given that the impact on Castleton may be greater than on Bradwell or Hope?</p> <p>R: Castleton Parish Council was included in the quarry extension consultation and did submit a response.</p> <p>Q: Has the Parish Council spoken with High Peak Borough Council on this matter?</p> <p>R: Not at this stage, as it is still early in the process. However, as noted in the Borough Council report above, Cllr Collins has invited residents to raise any concerns with her.</p> <p>The Resident informed the Parish Council that a meeting has been arranged for the 14th June on this matter and will forward the information to the Clerk to circulate to all Councillors.</p> <p>Resident 2: Further issues were raised regarding pressures and potential hazardous leaks associated with the pipeline, and it was noted that the Peak Cluster project team is pushing for a faster resolution to outstanding matters.</p> <p>The Chair advised that this question had been raised at the meeting with Breedon. Breedon’s response was that responsibility for the pipeline lies with the Peak Cluster Project team, not with Breedon directly. Breedon’s responsibility will be for the choice and installation of the carbon capture facility, which they aim</p>

to fit within the footprint of the existing plant. We understood that they are assessing technology options such as amine scrubbing. Cllr Spooner asked what the actual impact on Castleton village itself might be. The Chair advised that the overall impact remains unknown at this stage, but potential effects of the construction phase for the Peak Cluster carbon capture infrastructure may include:

- Increased traffic and congestion
- Impact on tourism
- Impact on the landscape
- Noise and air pollution

However, it was also noted that there may be benefits if appropriate mitigation measures are secured. The Chair thanked the residents for attending the meeting to discuss the matter.

Resident 3: Asked whether the Parish Council had been contacted regarding the Tour de France. Concerns were raised about potential disruption to the village, similar to that experienced during the Tour of Britain— not only on the day of the event but also due to the likely increase in cyclists before and after the event. Questions were also raised about who is funding the event and the potential impact on Police resources. The Chair advised that the Parish Council had not been notified or consulted. It is understood that the event is being managed through a multi-agency approach. The Chair noted that opinions on the event are divided: some believe there will be no benefit to Castleton, while others feel that increased tourism could support local businesses, with all potentially benefitting from road improvements associated with the event. The Parish Council will contact Derbyshire County Council Highways to establish a point of contact for further information. **(AP – AD)**

It is expected that the cost of the event will ultimately be funded by taxpayers.

PCSO Brockett advised that, as this is a national event, external police officers would be brought in to support policing on the day.

3 Residents left the meeting.

05/04/26

Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto:

A: The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 26th March 2026 were then considered, the minutes were approved. (Prop AD, 2nd ME, unan).

06/04/26

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 30th April 2026	Current Account 31st March 2026 Adjusted	NS&I
Balance brought forward 01/04/25 - 2026	£11,369.18	£14,567.79	£19,047.76
Total Income	£0.00	£18,563.41	£0.00
Total Expenditure	£0.00	£21,762.02	£0.00
Balance	£11,369.18	£11,369.18	£19,047.76
Last Statement Balance 15/04/26	£11,918.83	£13,199.81	£19,047.76
Less un-presented cheques	£549.65	£1,830.63	£0.00
Add uncleared deposits	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Available Balance 30/04/26	£11,369.18	£11,369.18	£19,047.76

Financial Year 2025/26 adjustments

B: To approve and instruct the payment by cheque, of presented invoiced items, including the following:
No additional

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

- i) Castleton History Society – Donation to Peveril Post - £25.00
- ii) Rental – Poor Piece - £500.00
- iii) Rental – Three Roofs - £360.00
- iv) C. Eyre – Donation to Peveril Post - £50.00

Additional

Unrepresented cheques now expired.

- i) Gates Films Company - £1,250.00
- ii) Rural Services - £12.00

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

D: It was considered and signed Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 2 – Annual Governance Statement 2025/26. (Prop AD, 2nd ME, unan).

E: It was considered and signed Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 2 – Accounting Statements 2025/26. (Prop AD, 2nd JS, unan).

F: It was considered and signed Certificate of Exemption of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return - form 2. Financial year 2025/26. (Prop ME, 2nd NS, unan).

G: Payments and instruct the payment by cheque, of presented invoiced items, including the following:

- i) T. Dale – Clerk’s salary, allowances plus expenses = £628.65
- ii) Castleton Village Hall – Room Hire - £84.00
- iii) Griffiths Gardening Ltd – Grounds Maintenance - £480.00
- iv) DCC – Waste Collection, Burial Ground - £252.69
- v) Peveril Centre - Hire of Walker Room 29th October 2026 - £50.00
- vi) Hiscox Insurance Company Limited – Annual Insurance - £542.38
- vii) S. Haynes – Reimbursement Peveril Post - £282.96

H: To note the income and receipts of the Council:
None this month

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

07/04/26

Council Matters:

The Chair brought item E, discuss issue of HGVs in the Market Place forward on the agenda.

E: Following the recent incident involving an HGV attempting to travel via Market Place—which resulted in damage to an overhead power line, a power cut across much of the village, and Back Street being cordoned off for several hours—the Chair contacted PC Simpson regarding the situation. The incident occurred on a busy day, impacted local businesses, and caused significant inconvenience for Castleton residents.

PCSO Brockett advised the Parish Council that PC Simpson has been investigating the matter. He has obtained the vehicle’s registration number and has issued a Notice of Intended Prosecution to the haulage company. The company now has 28 days to provide the driver’s details. Once these details have been received, and following confirmation from Electricity Northwest that the incident was not reported to them, the police intend to prosecute the driver for failing to exchange details after a collision.

During their enquiries, the police established that there are currently no weight or height restrictions on Castle Street or Back Street. As a result, they will be unable to prosecute the driver for those offences and would also struggle to pursue a charge of driving without due care and attention.

With regard to width and weight restrictions, it was noted—particularly in light of the recent incident on Back Street where a house was extensively damaged, as well as other “near misses”—that signage relating to the Winnats Pass restrictions should be reassessed. There is now further evidence suggesting that the current signage is inadequate. The Police will need to liaise with, and obtain agreement from, Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Highways.

The Chair advised that some residents have enquired about the installation of metal bollards to protect their properties. It was noted that residents would also require formal authority from DCC Highways before any bollards could be installed.

A: The Chair provided a brief update on responses to visitor pressures in Castleton and the wider Hope Valley. A second meeting of the Hope Valley parish councils took place on 23rd April. It was felt that the meeting was constructive and of real value. A number of topics were discussed, including the Peak Cluster Project, which had already been considered earlier in this meeting under Public Participation.

With regard to Visitor Pressures, the meeting reviewed the response received from the Mayor. While the response was considered somewhat lukewarm and non-committal, it did address several key areas:

- Improvements to the integration of bus and rail services
- Exploring how the transport network could be used to share Countryside Code messaging and balanced visitor information.
- Introduction of an overnight visitor levy
- Embedding natural flood management into future plans
- Establishing a dedicated Rural Affairs portfolio to guide work on local housing, essential services, connectivity, and economic opportunities across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire

However, it was felt that some priorities—such as wider promotion of the Countryside Code—appeared to have been deprioritised.

Regarding the proposed overnight visitor levy, the Councillors present at the Hope Valley Parish councils meeting agreed to also press for a vehicle levy.

Outside of this meeting, the Parish Council has written to High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) and Cllr Gourlay regarding the ongoing issue of fires and barbeques. A “how to report” guide, including relevant contact details, has been compiled and shared via the village email group. For fires and BBQs call 999 and ask for the Fire Service.

The Parish Council was also informed that a waste-bin audit is to be undertaken by HPBC/Alliance, which will include Castleton. This was welcomed, particularly with the visitor season now underway.

On parking issues, MP Jon Pearce has raised the matter of increasing fines with central government. The Parish Council wishes this to be pursued further, along with improved enforcement measures, including the towing of illegally parked vehicles. A letter will be sent to the MP to ascertain the current position and to reiterate the Parish Council’s expectations. **(AP – AD)**

The Chair and Cllr Simm are currently finalising the letter to holiday-let owners regarding parking within Castleton. **(AP – AD, JS)**

A multi-agency meeting has been organised by Brian Taylor (Peak District National Park Authority) to discuss next steps on the Castleton Area Management Plan. This will take place in Bakewell on 21st May, and the Chair has been invited to attend. An update will be provided at the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council.

The Chair brought item C, an update on buses and public transport strategies and Active Travel forward on the agenda.

C: Cllr. Simm provided an update on **Buses, Public Transport and Active Travel**, included with the agenda at Annex A.

Cllr Simm informed the Parish Council that matters were changing rapidly and provided several further updates.

The bus shelter is still awaiting the installation of real-time information and solar panels.

The Mayor, Claire Ward, has a budget of £14 million for the Mini Switzerland project—now renamed the Rural Accessibility Project. This includes £6 million secured from central government, £6 million from EMCCA, and a further £2 million allocated specifically for improving access to Hope Station.

The main concern at present is the Number 62 bus service, which is under threat due to under-use. Cllr Simm and Cllr Spooner met with High Peak Borough Councillor Collins to raise these concerns, and it was agreed that a letter will be sent to the Mayor and the bus operators regarding the future of the service. It is also unclear how the Number 62 fits within the Rural Accessibility Project. There has been mention of the Number 64 and 65 buses travelling through all villages, but details remain unclear and these routes are not thought to cover the service currently provided by the Number 62.

Cllr Simm and Cllr Spooner have also been liaising with Better Buses for Castleton, who will be campaigning against any cuts to this service.

B: Work on the painted road markings at various sites has now commenced. Some of the recent communications regarding the TRO were unclear, and clarification has been sought.

A number of residents have expressed concerns about the changes being introduced through the TRO. Some have become worried that their ability to park will be removed and that the TRO has not taken into account the need for resident parking. The Parish Council has liaised with Highways regarding potential options for a residents’ parking scheme for Buxton Road.

Free van parking on far end of the Lower Mam Tor Road will remain in place. DCC rationale is that it is a relatively safe road from a Highways point of view and not introducing restrictions reduces the risk of displacement.

The Parish Council has worked hard to communicate the details of the TRO, including setting up residents’ consultations and providing opportunities for residents to challenge aspects of the proposals prior to Highways formalising the TRO.

D: The item on Peak Cluster project in relation to Castleton and Hope Valley was discussed earlier under Public Participation.

F: A brief update on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). A decision on which LGR Plan to adopt is expected from Government soon. Until the decision is made, there is little further information to report.

G: The Parish Council was made aware, via High Peak Borough Councillor Farrell, of plans for the Hathersage to Worksop Strategic Water Pipeline proposed by Severn Trent. This project will have an impact on residents and visitors to Castleton, as the current proposal indicates that the A6187 may need to be closed during a period of 18 months or longer.

The Parish Council has written to Severn Trent to raise its concerns. Severn Trent has provided reassurance

	<p>that traffic-management arrangements have not yet been agreed. The project team is currently in high-level discussions with both Sheffield City Council and Derbyshire County Council Highways officers. While it is likely that some road closures will be required to ensure the work can be carried out safely, the extent and duration of any closures remain under consideration.</p> <p>Severn Trent has confirmed that the potential impact on Peak District communities and visitors is a key consideration for both the project team and the highways authorities involved. They have committed to keeping the Parish Council informed and updated as plans progress.</p> <p><i>PCSO W. Brockett, PCSO M. Edwards left the meeting.</i></p> <p>H: The Parish Council noted the dates and timescales for the next consultation on the PDNP Local Plan, following receipt of recent communications. It was also noted that there is a scheduling conflict between the July and September consultation dates and the Parish Council’s meeting cycle, as no meeting is held in August.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 July PDNPA Authority Committee Meeting – seek approval for draft plan and supporting documents for Regulation 19 consultation and submission to Secretary of State • 20 July – start of Regulation 19 consultation. • 11 September – end of Regulation 19 consultation • October – submit to Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for pre-examination check. (This is a new requirement additional to Regulations. The Authority must allow 2 weeks for a response and sufficient time to undertake any recommended actions.) • December – submit plan to Secretary of State. <p>I: The Chair provided an update on the repairs to the two noticeboards located in the main car park and at the bus turnaround. The Parish Council has accepted a quote from Networks to produce a new village plan at a cost of £1,000. A meeting will be arranged to agree the content and design of the new village plan. (AP – AD, JS, NS).</p> <p>As of today, no update has been received regarding the replacement noticeboard promised by Highways following the removal of the previous one.</p> <p>The Parish Council noticeboard has now been varnished and sealed. The next step will be to replace the strapline, and Networks will be contacted to progress this. (AP – AD).</p> <p>J: There were no additions or updates to the events diary at this time. As noted under Public Participation, a discussion was held regarding the Tour de France.</p> <p>K: An update on the replacement dog-fouling signage was deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>L: Cllr Eyre provided a brief update on the speeding-prevention measures. The Derbyshire Police liaison for Speedwatch has asked the Parish Council to hold off installing the Speedwatch signs while negotiations with Derbyshire County Council Highways continue. This remains ongoing.</p> <p>M: Cllr Eyre provided an update on the replacement of the missing “Welcome to Castleton” entrance sign. The signage has now been purchased and received, with installation expected within the next few weeks.</p> <p>N: Cllr Spooner update the Parish Council as follows: The Community Resilience Plan was circulated to all Councillors, but only limited feedback was received. It was felt that the time is now right to progress forming a steering group to take this initiative forward. Councillors were asked to consider which village groups should be invited to participate. After discussion, the following (provisional) groups were identified: Village Hall, Chapel, First Aiders, Flood Wardens, Church, WI, Parish Council, Village School, Neighbourhood Watch. The Clerk will liaise with Councillors to identify the relevant contacts for each group and will forward these to Cllr Spooner. Cllr Spooner will prepare and send a covering email explaining the rationale and requirements of the steering group, along with a copy of the plan. (AP, Clerk, NS)</p> <p>O: There was nothing of urgency that required discussion and or resolution.</p> <p>N: update on Community Resilience plan</p>
08/04/26	<p>Planning:</p> <p>A: The following applications were discussed, and the Clerk instructed to report the Council’s views to PDNPA: None this month.</p> <p>B: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority: i) NP/HPK/1225/1249 - Treaks Pringle Farm, Buxton Road, Castleton, Lawful Development – REFUSAL</p>
09/04/26	<p>Correspondence and DALC Circulars:</p> <p>A: The following correspondence, received and pre-circulated to Members by email, were noted and discussed: i) DCC – Loan Shark Awareness, New Healthy Beginnings, Community News. ii) DALC – Newsletter, April Forum.</p>

	<p>iii) NALC – Events, Newsletters, Bulletins, New Toolkit.</p> <p>iv) HVCA – AGM Invite, Celebrate Local Climate Action, Newsletter.</p> <p>v) Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – Agendas and supplements for Development and Control Committee, Economy and Growth Select Committee, Corporate Select Committee, The Executive, Development Enterprise Space in Glossopdale Committee.</p> <p>vi) HPBC – Possible Funding, High Peak Parish Forum PDNPA – Local Plan</p>
10/04/26	<p>Peveril Post: None this month</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 8:58pm The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will take place at 7pm on Thursday 28th May 2026 at The Village Hall, Castleton.</p>

UNADOPTED