

HOPE WITH ASTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9th June 2025 at 7.30 pm at Old School, Hope.

Present: Cllrs C. Perkins (Chair), R. Henson L. Vincent, S. Barr, J. Lenton, M. Harriss

In attendance: A. Wheeler (Clerk), E. Gait (Move More Hope Valley) (part), L. Jackson (part)

024/25 **Apologies for absence** – Cllr G. Hopewell, M. Chapman, Cllr C. Farrell (HPBC), PCSO Will Brockett, Cllr N. Gourley (DCC)

025/25 **Variation of Order of Business** – item 12.3 moved to item 5.

026/25 **Declarations of Interests** None

027/25 **Agenda items to be taken with the public excluded** - None

028/25 **Public participation**

- .1 Emily Gait outlined her role as the lead on the Move More Hope Valley Project, working for Hope Valley Climate Action. The project is funded by HPBC (though working within High Peak and Derbyshire Dales) and is looking at ways to encourage and inspire residents to be more active by exploring what is happening at the moment and what the barriers are. The project is about facilitating and signposting but not delivering projects.

Introduction events were held at the Heart of Hathersage on 7/6/25 and Edale Country Show on 8/6/25. These were an opportunity to begin getting ideas. Suggestions received were family friendly cycle groups, park runs (at present there are no park runs in the Hope Valley) and footpath repairs. Emily was interested to hear what is happening at the moment in Hope, what challenges there are and what existing groups are in the village that could be approached. She is also looking at making connections with the local schools and older generation.

Councillors passed on some ideas of activities including mountain biking skills workshops, and current challenges (lack of a joined up approach between buses and trains).

Emily stated that the next step is a workshop where residents can put forward ideas. Councillors directed her to the possibility of a stall at Hope Wakes Week and Hope Show.

Emily was thanked for attending the meeting and providing information about the project.

- .2 Lorna Jackson raised concerns about the number of hedgehog deaths on Castleton Road in the Hope Valley College area and requested support from the Parish Council in asking DCC for hedgehog road signs that would hopefully raise awareness.

Lorna has been in contact with the Hope Wildlife Group who provided information from a 2018 survey. In 2023 legislation was changed to make it easier for County Councils to install wildlife signs. Councillors unanimously supported the request and felt that this was an opportunity for a community engagement project to raise awareness of hedgehog habitats and reporting sightings to the national database.

It was **agreed** that Hope Wildlife Group would be asked to draft a letter to DCC outlining why signs are needed in Hope, and the Clerk would forward this to DCC.

Action – HWG and Clerk.

029/25 **Safer Neighbourhood Team report**

The main concerns of residents are speeding and noisy motorbikes. The motorbike operation is continuing, and a recent knife amnesty was productive.

There was no crime in Hope in May 2025 though there was a sudden death in a public place off Edale Road.

030/25 .1 **District Councillor report**

High Peak are posting information about the local government reorganisation on its website as and when it is known.

Cllr Perkins stated that this information is clear and useful, though concerns were raised that once

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there are north and south Derbyshire authorities, councillors might become less accessible, and communications will need to be improved.

.2 **County Councillor report**

DCC is now led by the Reform Party, but at the moment this hasn't affected policy. The first full council meeting in May appointed the council's cabinet, but no policy changes were made.

At the moment, it looks like a new combined authority will be elected in May 2027. This new authority will replace both the borough council and county council. As borough council elections are due in 2027, it will cease to exist naturally at that point. He understands that the idea of a combined authority that follows the current DCC boundaries has been dropped, and the most likely outcome is a North Derbyshire/South Derbyshire split. At the moment, there are no changes proposed to the responsibilities of PDNPA.

Action – Cllr Perkins to write to Cllr Gourley to thank him for the report.

031/25 The minutes of the meetings held on 12th May 2025 were **confirmed** and **approved**.

032/25 **Matters arising**

No matters arising from previous minutes.

033/25 **Parish Council Assets**

.1 **Grit Bins** – it was **noted** that DCC will restock the grit pile near The Dimmings, Aston in the autumn.

.2 **Beacon and gas bottles** – it was **noted** that Hope Garage will take the gas bottles. Retrieval of items to be arranged. **Action – Clerk**

.3 **War Memorial** – Following a site survey a schedule of works has been produced, and three possible contractors have been identified that will be asked to quote. **Action – Clerk**

.4 **Jubilee Corner** – It was **agreed** to request strimming and raking of the paths and the areas that do not have wildflowers. More information is required before work can be agreed on the elm tree.

It was suggested that Jubilee Corner could become a feature of the village if investment is made, such as planting a commemorative tree, and that councillors should take time in the coming month to look at the area. **Action – All Councillors**

034/25 **Planning**

.1 NP/TCA/0625/0550 SEVERN TRENT ENDALE END S33 6RF - Tree Species: Hawthorn Work Required: Crown reduction Extent of Works: Reduce canopy height by approximately 3 metres **No objections**

035/25 **Village Initiatives**

.1 **Castleton Road planters**. 63 residents voted on their favourite designs. The winning entries are to be painted by HVC and installed (hopefully) in time for Wakes Week.

Volunteers are going to prepare the boards for painting and once painted they will be varnished to extend their lifespan. The cost of the paint is approximately £500 - this will be invoiced with the materials that Eyres have provided at a discount. NB Eyres have also provided the materials free of charge to carry out repairs of the bench at the Brough lights.

It was **agreed** that it should be clarified with Shallcross Nurseries what aftercare they provide for the planters. **Action – Clerk**

.2 **Bunting** It was **noted** that Hope Sports Club will be removing the bunting on the 6th and 7th July. Councillors will assist where possible. **Action – All Councillors**

.3 **Hedgehog Signs** – agenda item 028/25.2

036/25 **Highways and Rights of Way**

.1 DCC have changed their road verge management policy and district councils will now take responsibility. The management of the area around Melody's Corner is of concern and it was suggested that the Hope Wildlife Group raise this with HPBC. **Action – HWG and Clerk**

.2 **Carbolite Right of Way application** – it was **noted** that consultation signs have been put up and it is hoped that a full legal order will be made in the autumn. Residents strongly support the application.

.3 **B6049, Brough** road closure was **noted** on 7th, 14th and 21st September 2025 for gas works.

This information to be shared on Facebook and the website **Action – Clerk and Cllr Barr**

.4 **A6187, Sickleholme to Hathersage** nighttime road closures were noted for 5 nights between 21st July and 8th August 2025, 7pm to 5am. This information to be shared on Facebook and the website **Action – Clerk and Cllr Barr**

- .5 **Edale Road Large Vehicles** – It was **noted that** Cllr Barr had written to DCC following an incident on 19th May.
- .6 **Morrisons Vans in Aston** – It is understood that the drivers are told to follow satnavs, and this is routing them via the back lanes. Morrisons to be contacted. **Action – Clerk.**
- .7 **Footpath, Losehill Farm** - concerns raised by a resident about a new track from FP15 were **noted**. The path is within Castleton Parish but Hope with Aston will assist if needed.
- .8 **RoWMMA** – It was **agreed** that HwAPC would apply for funding for works on FP7 and FP1. **Action – Clerk.**
- .9 It was **agreed** that the mowing on **Parsons Lane** would be put on hold at present and re-evaluated. **Action – Clerk.**

037/25

Meetings

- .1 **Earls Sidings Liaison Meeting** – it was **noted** that the meeting scheduled for 10th June 2025 is to be rescheduled.
- .2 **Breedon Liaison Meeting** – it was **noted** that this meeting will take place on 10th June 2025.
- .3 **St Peter's Church** – a meeting will take place on 15th July at the Old School to discuss links between the community and the church. Innovative ideas are sought for future development.

038/25

Communications

- .1 **Neighbourhood Watch Whatsapp Group** QR code has been shared on Facebook and noticeboards.
- .2 **Newsletter**. The next newsletter is planned for September

039/25

Parish Council Policies and Procedures

- .1 **Terms of Reference for Human Resources Advisory Committee – Reviewed and adopted**
- .2 **Terms of Reference for Communications Advisory Committee – Reviewed and adopted**
- .3 **Terms of Reference for Finance Advisory Committee – Reviewed and adopted**
- .4 **Code of Conduct – Reviewed and adopted**

040/25

Finance

- .1 A summary of the Parish Council financial position was received.
Balance on 31/5/25 £12,807.36
VAT return of £477.45 received (2023-25)
- .2 Payment of £1467 to Derbyshire Constabulary as contribution to the ANPR scheme was **not approved**. It was **agreed** that an approach should be made to PCSO Brockett for financial assistance. **Action – Clerk**
- .3 Payments were **approved**:
£530.46 Clerk wages – future dated BACS 30/6/25 (includes back pay of increased hours from 1/1/25)
£47.65 Clerk Homeworking – future dated BACS 30/6/25 (includes back pay of £21.65 increased hours from 1/1/25)
£165 City Print Services – newsletter
£1620, Peak Park – FP3
£96 Gill Glen – War Memorial Plants
£23 – Old School Room Rent
Cllr Perkins and Chapman to approve

041/25

Human Resources

The clerk's contract was **reviewed** and **agreed**.

042/25

Clerk's report and correspondence

High Peak is currently offering a grant to improve digital skills amongst residents and is particularly looking for projects in Hope Valley. The funding application window is 1st to 30th June.

043/25

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 14th July at 7.30pm at Old School**, School Lane, Hope.

Items for July 2025 agenda:

Newsletter

Jubilee Corner

Meeting closed at 9. 22pm.

Signed _____
Hope with Aston Parish Council

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