

**Minutes of Outseats Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 30 April 2012 in the Hathersage
Methodist Church Lounge at 7.30pm**

Present:	Councillor Jane Marsden – Chairman	<u>In attendance</u>
	Councillor Anne Claxton	District Councillor Jean Monks
	Councillor Jean Hodgkinson	Councillor Chris Cartledge (Hathersage PC)
	Councillor Bill Gordon	Chris Winfield (Hathersage Village Centre Group)
	Councillor Pauline Whitney	PC Ian Richardson
		Clerk: David Palmer

No members of the public were present.

The Annual Parish Meeting had been held immediately before this meeting and did not close until 8pm. Therefore, this meeting commenced as soon as the other meeting had concluded.

43/12 Apologies

There were apologies for absence from Councillors Simon Taylor and Bill Hanley (both work commitments).

44/12 Variations in Order of Business

There were no variations in the Order of Business.

45/12 Declaration of Members' Interests

Declarations of interest were received from the Chairman, all the other Councillors and the Clerk for minute 49/12, because the planning application for Thorpe Farm had been submitted by the Chairman of the Council.

46/12 Public Speaking

1. PC Ian Richardson gave a short report. There had been 25 incidents and 2 crimes in the village in the past month. The crimes were the theft of a bike from a car roof rack while parked in School Lane and the damage of a car park pay machine.
2. Chris Winfield gave an update on the plans for the village centre and showed diagrams and pictures from the architect. The designs had been on display in the bus shelter on Sunday 29 April and had generally been well received by the public. There was a discussion of a number of design points and most attendees signed a petition supporting the plans.
3. District Councillor Jean Monks gave a report on a number of matters. In particular, she was working on a number of fronts to try to secure a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for Long Causeway. The Council thanked her for all her work in this regard.

47/12 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

It was resolved to confirm as a correct record minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2012.

48/12 Highways/Transport

1. The Council thanked Councillors Bill Gordon and Chris Cartledge for all the work they had done to try to safeguard Callow Bank. Councillor Gordon reported that there was now a strong case with lots of evidence that Callow Bank should be designated as a bridleway; it was understood that Derbyshire County Council (DCC) were now planning to make an application for this change. It was resolved that the Clerk should write to the Chief Executive and relevant elected members of DCC, the District Councillors and senior staff at the Peak District National Park (PDNPA), giving the Council's strong support for this bridleway application.
2. Over the weekend before the meeting, there had been a collapse of the major sough on Long Causeway, making it sufficiently dangerous that the Police had decided to close the track. Given the urgency of the issues caused by this collapse, the matter was discussed as an emergency item. It was resolved that the Clerk should write to the appropriate senior staff at DCC, PDNPA and the local MP, explaining how serious the situation now was and the waste of money in constantly repairing the track, just so that 4x4s and trail bikes could destroy it again. The Clerk was also asked to report that the revetment wall was being undermined by the strong flow of water created by the collapse of the sough and that this was now in danger too – repairs of this wall, if it were to collapse, would probably be impractically expensive and mean the death of the track.
3. The Council resolved to note an Order received from Derbyshire County Council regarding the modification of Long Causeway to be a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT). It was also resolved that the Clerk should include in his letter from part 2 above that the designation of BOAT should now be immediately followed with a TRO, given the state of the track.

4. The Council resolved to note an Order received from Derbyshire County Council regarding the modification of Hurstclough Lane and Gatehouse Lane to be a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT). Again, this was felt to be inappropriate, but it was resolved to not send a letter at present, given that the issues on Callow Bank and Long Causeway were regarded as more urgent.

49/12 Planning

1. The following planning application was considered: NP/DDD/0312/0256 – Thorpe Farm, Hathersage – Covered feed area and construction of 3 feed silos. The Chairman, Councillor Jane Marsden, left the room before this discussion started and the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Pauline Whitney, took the Chair. After some debate it was resolved that the Council supported this application and the Clerk was asked to send a response to Peak District National Park Authority.
2. Councillor Jane Marsden returned to the room and re-took the Chair. The following planning application was considered: NP/DDD/0312/0295 – Land off Hurstclough Lane, Hathersage – Proposed installation of an agricultural building on land off Hurstclough Lane. After some debate it was resolved that the Council supported this application and the Clerk was asked to send a response to Peak District National Park Authority.
3. The following planning application was considered: NP/DDD/0312/0301 – Cow Close Farm, Hathersage – Demolition and clearance of existing dilapidated farm buildings, relocation of existing farm cottage and formation of new barn and farmyard to replace existing buildings. Refurbishment and extension of main farmhouse and associated traditional structures to form a private residence. Repositioning of existing vehicle access to westerly sides of Cow Close to service both main farmhouse and farm cottage. Reinstatement of natural landscape surrounding the farm and formation of nature pond for the purposes of both water collection and enhanced ecological diversity. After considerable debate of this application, including consideration of correspondence received from local residents and other parties, it was resolved that the Clerk should send a response to Peak District National Park Authority as follows:

Outseats Parish Council would like to highlight that Cow Close Farm occupies a historic site in a sensitive location. It fills an open vista on the hillside underneath the historically significant North Lees Hall and Stanage Edge and is visible for miles around. It is also visible from the main footpaths that lead from the village of Hathersage to North Lees Hall and Stanage Edge and so will be visible to the many visitors to this area of outstanding beauty.

Whilst mentioning footpaths, the Council would like to note that it is unclear whether the new building works will affect an existing footpath that runs close to Cow Close Farm. If they do affect the footpath, any diversion required should be looked at very carefully - the path is a very popular one, used by many visitors and locals every year.

The proposed plans for Cow Close Farm will change the use of a very significant proportion of the agricultural buildings to domestic accommodation. Cow Close Farm is currently a traditional Derbyshire hill farm and it will largely become just a residential property if the proposed changes take place. Outseats Parish Council does not think that this is an appropriate change to an agricultural site in the National Park and are concerned that this will set a precedent for further infilling, changes of use and development.

Furthermore, the Council would like to question whether the farm will remain functionally and financially viable as an agricultural unit - most of the land that remains is on very steep gradients and much of it is bracken, scrub and woodland. Furthermore, most of the land cannot be reached by modern farm vehicles. The net result is that there are probably only about 15 acres of productive land and so the question of why an additional farm worker's cottage is required has to be raised.

The Council are also aware that there may be a historic National Trust covenant on the appearance of the land at this site. The proposed changes, including the new driveway, which will have a significant and detrimental impact on the landscape, must surely affect this appearance. Therefore, Outseats Parish Council recommend that no decision be made on this planning application until the full terms of this covenant have been reviewed.

The Council would also like to highlight that the "wildlife pond" should not be viewed as a traditional Derbyshire dew pond, but as an ornamental garden pond, since the former would not be planted with marginal vegetation.

*Based on all of the above, **Outseats Parish Council recommend that the application should be refused in its current form.** Furthermore, it requests that the Peak District National Park Authority Planning Department fully consult it again should any amendments be proposed to this scheme in such a sensitive site. It also recommends that members of the Planning Committee should visit the site before making any decision.*

50/12 Finance

1. It was resolved to note the Statement of Accounts as at 30 March 2012.
2. It was resolved to authorise the following accounts for payment (total sum £529.72):

Clerk	salary, office allowance and expenses for April	£191.35
Came & Co	parish council insurance premium	£310.37
Peak Park Parishes Forum	annual subscription	£16.00
Hathersage Meth Church	room hire (for Jubilee Celebrations)	£12.00

51/12 Audit Commission Return

The Council reviewed and approved the accounting statements provided in Section 1 of the Audit Commission Return and reviewed and approved that each of the governance statements in Section 2 could be responded to as "Yes". It was resolved that the completed Audit Commission Return reflected a true record of the Council for the year to 31 March 2012.

52/12 Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA)

1. The Council reviewed PDNPA's recent changes of policy regarding Action on Green Lanes and Impacts of Off-Roaders, particularly with regard to Long Causeway. It was noted that, when the "Route Action Plan" and "Route Management Plan" were examined in detail, they provided very little additional comfort and really just reused pre-existing plans, such as those made a number of years ago by the Stanage Forum. The Council noted its displeasure with this, but resolved that the recent developments at Long Causeway (see minute 48/12) meant that any plans were now superseded. It was resolved that the Clerk should mention this in his letter requested in minute 48/12.
2. Councillor Gordon updated the Council regarding PDNPA's recent changes regarding the future of North Lees Estate and Stanage. PDNPA would now take longer than originally planned to take any decisions regarding the future of the estate.
3. It was resolved that the Council would like to vote for Mark Everard as the new Parish Member appointed to PDNPA.

53/12 Hathersage Youth Club

Since Councillor Hanley was unable to attend the meeting, this item was postponed until the next meeting.

54/12 Correspondence for Decision

1. It was resolved that no Councillor wished to represent the Council at the Hope Valley College "Open College" Evening at 6.30pm on 3 May.

55/12 Items for Information

It was resolved that the following items for information should be received:

Sent by email:

Derbys Assoc Local Cncls	Circulars 16.12 – 19.12
Hathersage PC	Agenda 3/4/12, Minutes 3/4/12
Recreation Committee	Minutes 10/4/12
Village Centre Group	Minutes 2/4/12, 23/4/12; latest plans for village centre; Papers from AGM 23/4/12
Allotments Group	Emails re diversion of footpaths at site of allotments, Papers from AGM 17/4/12
Memorial Hall	Agenda 30/4/12, Minutes 5/3/12
Peak Horsepower	Letters to DCC re Callow Bank
Callow Bank	Minutes of Meeting held between local residents, parish councils and DCC on 11/4/12 and further DCC comments and emails
Long Causeway	Letter from DDDC Councillor Jean Monks to DCC
Came & Co	Parish Matters Spring 2012
PDNPA	Email from John Herbert regarding improvements to Planning website
Bill Newton Dunn MEP	Update from local MEP
Peak Park Parishes Forum	Response to Defra Consultation on National Park Governance
Rural Services Network	Weekly information emails

In the Correspondence File:

PDNPA	Letter re Planning Liaison Officer changes
Hope Valley College	Newsletter March 2012

56/12 Committee Reports

1. Hathersage Parish Council (HPC) – Councillor Claxton gave a report on the last meeting of HPC (the minutes had already been circulated). It was resolved that Councillor Gordon would attend HPC's next meeting on 8/5/12.
2. Recreation Committee – Councillor Whitney gave a report on the last meeting of the Recreation Committee (the minutes had already been circulated). Councillor Whitney reported the meeting between the members of the Recreation Committee and the pool staff had gone well. Future meetings were planned.
3. Website Committee – Councillor Marsden agreed to send the Clerk full details of the Diamond Jubilee events, so that they could be advertised on the "What's On" area of the website.
4. Memorial Hall – Councillor Hodgkinson reported that planning permission for the new windows was to be applied for.
5. Village Celebrations for Queen's Diamond Jubilee – Councillor Marsden reported that the overall plan was to have a church service on the Sunday, followed by the Big Jubilee Picnic Lunch. On the Monday, there would be a "Diamond Oldies Jubilee Coffee Morning" followed by the opportunity for individual roads to have their own street party in the afternoon. In the evening there would be a hog roast, the beacon lighting and fireworks. The Council approved these plans. Councillor Marsden also asked whether the Council supported her idea to have a Torchlight Procession back into the village, after the beacon had been lit on the Monday? It was resolved to support this suggestion. It was also resolved that Councillor Hodgkinson would work with Councillor Marsden regarding a grant application for the Jubilee.
6. DCC Parish Liaison Forum - Councillor Whitney reported that there had been a presentation by "Village Games", who were a group funded by DCC that helped with the organisation of physical activities in the county. She thought they may be able to offer benefit to the Recreation Committee or the pool and suggested that a representative of Village Games be asked to attend a Recreation Committee meeting. Councillor Marsden also asked if they could help with activities on the hard play area (skateboarding, etc) for the Diamond Jubilee and Councillor Whitney agreed to investigate this.
7. Hathersage and Outseats Allotments Group – Councillor Claxton reported that she had attended the AGM (the minutes had already been circulated). The Allotments Group had asked if the Council could provide any funding towards the increased costs of fencing in the allotments (the cost had increased now the footpaths across the allotment site could not be diverted). It was resolved that this should be added to the agenda of the May Parish Council Meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is on 28 May at 7.30pm in Sampson Room, Hathersage Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.45pm.