USEFUL INFORMATION

Village Website

www.hathersage-outseats.org.uk

What’s On

www.hathersage-outseats.org.uk/whats-on

(To advertise events, email whatsoninhathersage@gmail.com)

Member of Parliament

Patrick McLoughlin 020 7219 3511 patrick.mcloughlin.mp@parliament.uk

Derbyshire County Council (DCC)

01629 580000 [www.derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk)

Call Derbyshire 0845 605 8058 (to report pot holes, streetlights)

Your county councillor: Judith Twigg 01629 813292 judith.twigg@derbyshire.gov.uk

Derbyshire Dales District Council

01629 761100 [www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk)

Your district councillors: Jean Monks 01433 650300, Jacque Bevan 01433 650581

Peak District National PARK AUTHORITY (PDNPA)

01629 816200 www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Parish Council Meeting Dates

Usually the 4th Monday in the month (except Dec) at 7.30pm. See village website to confirm exact dates. We welcome attendance by all our residents.

Mobile Library

Thursdays, 10am-1pm, 2-5.30pm. Oddfellows Road carpark

Police & Neighbourhood Watch

Derbyshire Police, tel. 101 bakewell.neighbourhoods@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:

Councillor Jane Marsden 01433 650659

Vice Chairman:

Councillor Pauline Whitney 01433 650261

Councillor Bill Gordon 01433 650704

Councillor Jean Hodgkinson 01433 650746

Councillor Bill Hanley 01433 650316

Councillor David Palmer 01433 650126

plus 1 vacancy

Parish Clerk:

Peter Leppard, Sickleholme Cottage, Saltergate Lane, Bamford, S33 0BE

07860 624453 clerk.outseatspc@gmail.com

OUTSEATS PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 33 – Autumn 2013

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**Councillor Simon Taylor**

The recent death of Simon was a shock to us all. Simon contributed much to the life of the village - as a member of the Environment Group he organised litter picks and helped with planting bulbs, planters, the village Christmas tree and scarecrows, and he was the stalwart treasurer of the Allotment Group. We shall miss him greatly.

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**Snow & Ice clearance this winter**

Winter weather may now not be far away. The Parish Council is very aware that many Outseats residents are dependent on access to the village centre via a steep hill, so keeping that access usable during bad weather is one of our major concerns. The responsibility for highways lies with Derbyshire County Council (DCC), but their gritting and snow-clearing focus is on the county’s most important roads. Neither the District Council nor Parish Council has resources to help with gritting and snow-clearance. Therefore, we depend appreciably on the independent contributions of residents in clearing snow and ice in Outseats. Many residents have done this in the past; we are very grateful for the sterling work which they do. To help this work continue this winter, the Parish Council asks all residents to heed the following advice. (It may be a good idea to retain this newsletter, to enable you to refer to it again when bad weather comes.)

**How to clear safely and effectively**

We want to ensure that anyone deciding to clear snow and ice in the Parish does so safely.

* Do not undertake any clearance activities unless you consider yourself physically fit enough to do so.
* Remember to tell someone where you are going if you intend to clear snow and ice alone.
* Check the weather forecast.
* Take a mobile phone with you.
* DCC have supplied this practical advice:

Step 1 - You’ll need a suitable shovel, and a supply of salt to help melt the ice. The best type to use on roads and pavements is grit-salt; don’t use hot water or a heating device, or you risk creating a new hazard of melted water - which may turn to black ice, which is difficult to see. The next best thing to salt is sprinkling sand/ash to improve grip, although this won’t help melt the snow.

Step 2 - Wear suitable warm clothing, gloves and safe footwear - and consider wearing a high-visibility tabard or jacket. Whilst not essential if clearing a footway, it is a sensible precaution to ensure that you are seen and safe in all circumstances.

Step 3 - Decide in advance where you are going to put the snow you clear – so that it doesn’t cause an access problem for others or prevent melting snow reaching drains later. (Salt will also damage grass and plants, so keep away from these if you can.) Make sure you create a safe walkway for yourself to stand on as you go, perhaps by salting this first before clearing the wider area - if any areas are steep or include steps, you will most likely need to apply more salt.

Step 4 – Newly-fallen loose snow is much easier to clear than compacted snow – so try to do your clearing work sooner rather than later.

Step 5 - For best effect, shake grit-salt onto the cleared area – 40 g/m2 is about right. A good technique is to put the grit-salt on your shovel and use a small trowel or spatula to “flick” it along the newly-cleared area. The action of people walking on it will then begin to help melt ice. If you can, cover the path with salt in the evening to stop it freezing overnight – but if you can only do this once, spread salt straight after your first clearing of snow.

**Risk Assessment & other documents**

The Parish Council has compiled various documents which are required by our insurers. They include a formal risk assessment for snow and ice clearance and the Council’s Snow & Ice clearance policy. We recommend that you read these before undertaking any snow or ice clearance. They can be found on the Village Website or can be obtained from the Parish Clerk.

**Grit-salt in grit bins**

Grit-salt provided in the roadside grit bins is solely for use on public roads and footways and is not to be used by residents to grit their own drives or for other uses. Please use this grit-salt sparingly; we try to ensure, usually through DCC, that the bins are refilled as necessary, but this can become difficult in sustained bad weather, and it cannot be guaranteed that grit-salt will always be available in the bins. We recommend that residents buy their own supply for their drives before the bad weather arrives – it is available in sacks from many local suppliers (Eyres at Brough, Markovitz in Tideswell, High Peak and Calver Sough garden centres, etc) as well as the larger chains (Wickes, B&Q, etc). Thank you for your understanding.

**Empty grit bins – what to do**

If you find a grit bin is empty or vandalised, please tell the Parish Clerk or any of the Councillors (contact details on the back page). Or report it via [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/gritbin](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/gritbin).

**Legal liability**

DCC’s Winter Service Plan gives the following advice: “Provided that members of the public who clear snow and ice from pavements or minor roads near their property take reasonable care and apply a common sense approach in doing so, they are unlikely to find themselves being held liable if someone has an accident and is injured on the area they have cleared.” It would be extremely unusual for a court to uphold such a claim against someone who has acted in good faith.

**Further information on Snow & Ice**

Further information can be found on the Village Website. Also, at [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/snow](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/snow) can be found the latest gritting activity and road closure updates (published at 7am, 2pm & 9pm daily during snow/ice conditions), links to DCC Twitter and Facebook pages, and disruption information such as school closures.

**Village website**

The village website is at www.hathersage-outseats.org.uk. As well as giving information on what’s on in the village, the website has agendas, minutes and other notices posted by the Parish Council.

**Swimming Pool news**

The swimming pool closed on 28 September after a very successful season. Since then, the pool has hosted cold-water swimming events to much acclaim - each Saturday has welcomed up to 50 swimmers and spectators, and the future for all-year-round swimming is looking very promising! All upcoming events information is at [www.hathersageswimmingpool.co.uk](http://www.hathersageswimmingpool.co.uk). In particular, note the New Year’s Day session for hardy souls! - hot & cold food and drinks will be served to encourage allcomers.

Very many thanks go to the staff and volunteer helpers who have made all this possible; the marketing and fund-raising groups are making a real difference to the pool, and many people are working hard to secure its future.

The 2014-15 season will begin with a swimathon weekend from Friday 21 March.

**Community Governance Review**

The reasons for a parish petition to ask Derbyshire Dales District Council to undertake a Community Governance Review - to abolish Hathersage and Outseats civil parishes and instead create one new parish of Hathersage - were described in the Summer edition of this newsletter. Please do sign if you’ve not already done so – any Outseats councillor can give you the necessary form. We believe that having one Parish Council for Hathersage instead of two will be better for all the community of Hathersage.

**Derbyshire Fire & Rescue**

Derbyshire Fire & Rescue are planning a reorganisation, affecting several fire stations across the county. In the Hope Valley, they plan to replace the existing 2 stations (Hathersage and Bradwell) with just one - at Bamford - and to reduce the number of full-size fire appliances in the Valley from 2 to 1. There is appreciable concern about several aspects of these proposals, and the Parish Councils in the Hope Valley are currently engaging with DF&R to ensure those concerns are heard. Details of the proposals, plus an opportunity for you to comment on them, are at [www.derbys-fire.gov.uk/have-your-say/transforming-service-delivery-for-2022-and-beyond-fit-to-respond-consultation](http://www.derbys-fire.gov.uk/have-your-say/transforming-service-delivery-for-2022-and-beyond-fit-to-respond-consultation).

**Long Causeway**

The recent Peak Park Authority decision to apply a permanent Traffic Restriction Order to motorised vehicles on Long Causeway has been warmly welcomed; an implementation date is awaited. Meanwhile, the Parish Council has expressed concern to DCC about how slow their repairs to the vandalised road-vehicle barriers at both ends of Long Causeway have been.

**Roads**

A recent further site meeting with DCC regarding the ‘pinch point’ on Main Rd (near the chemists) considered possible minor improvement works – it having previously been established that no major-works money will be available for the foreseeable future. Several possible ideas were discussed but were, in the end, felt to be either impractical or likely to have minimal impact on the problem. Some minor enhancement of the road markings was however agreed.

**Parking**

DCC is about to start the statutory consultation process for proposed additional double-yellow lines near the Station Rd/Station Approach junction - giving residents the opportunity to comment.

It is felt that some extra parking spaces could be obtained in Oddfellows Rd carpark through permanently closing 1 of the 2 entrances, and this idea is being pursued with the District Council.

**Finding a personal assistant**

If you are looking to employ someone to meet your support needs, finding a personal assistant (PA) who is right for you is important. You can now access a list of approved PAs looking for work in your area. The Derbyshire Approved PA Register has been developed jointly by Penderels Trust and Derbyshire County Council. All PAs on the register have been vetted and checked and meet the Trust’s standards of training and aptitude. Penderels Trust is a charity which supports people with disabilities to live independently in their own home.

The register is free to use for all Derbyshire residents, whether you are receiving community care funding or paying for your own support. Go to www.derbyshire.gov.uk/approvedpa and use the selection criteria there to find the right PA for you. (If you don’t have access to the internet, phone 0845 6000 683 and Penderels Trust will run the search on your behalf.) You will be able to choose which person you employ – and you will be recruiting a PA who has signed up to Penderels’ code of conduct.

You will still need to interview potential PAs to make sure they are right for you (or to choose between a few). Because they will work for you, not Penderels Trust or DCC, you will be their employer, so you will need to meet all legal obligations of being an employer; help in understanding these obligations is available.

Penderels Trust is also recruiting for PAs – if you are interested in joining the Register, contact derbyshireapprovedpa@penderelstrust.org.uk.

**Finances**

Outseats Council expenditure since the last newsletter has been (other than the Clerk’s salary and expenses): Grass cutting/footpath clearing/strimming £859, training £200, external audit £120 and stationery £108.

**Environment Agency oil tank campaign**

Leaks from failures of heating-oil tanks and pipework occur most often during cold weather. As the pollution consequences for groundwater, and thus rivers, can be severe, the Environment Agency is currently running a campaign to encourage us all to check our tanks and pipes before winter sets in.

**Vacancy for Councillor**

We have a vacancy for a councillor. The Local Government Act 1972 allows vacancies to be filled by co-option. Please do get in touch with the Council Chairman or Parish Clerk if you feel you might like to be an Outseats parish councillor – we’d make you welcome! The core commitment is to 1 council meeting per month.