

**EDALE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**DRAFT MINUTES for the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

Held at Edale Parish Hall, 8pm.

**Present:** Parish Councillors: Joanna Collins (Chair), Cedric Gilbert, Morgan Jackson.  
Parish Clerk: Tracy Whitley  
Edale Residents: Simon Cocksedge, Andrew Critchlow

**The meeting was chaired by the Parish Council Chair Councillor Joanna Collins**

**Apologies for absence:** Cllrs. Julie Morten & John Gould.

**Minutes of previous Annual Parish meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Minutes from the meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were proposed for adoption as a true representation of the meeting by Cllr. Jackson; Seconded by Cllr. Gilbert. Adopted. Signed by Cllr. Morten (Chair).

**Matters arising:**

At the previous year's meeting the problem of storm water rushing down Peat Lane causing flooding down the main street of Grindsbrook was raised. In the past year 'leaky dams' have been installed to slow the water down. This seems to be helping. Some re-surfacing has also been done on Peat Lane. It was agreed that a maintenance plan needs to be in place to protect the work that has been done. The Clerk is to write to the Peak Park to enquire about this. **ACTION: CLERK**

Following a discussion at the previous year's meeting, Network Rail were asked to tidy up the Station Yard to free up more car parking spaces. This has recently been done.

**Chair's Announcements**

The Chair explained that as the Council was currently in the 'Pre-Election Period', the Chair's report would be given by the Clerk. This is to comply with legislation on Council activities during this period of 'heightened sensitivity'.

**Clerks report and Financial Report:**

A combined Clerks report and financial report was given by Tracy Whitley, as follows:

"In the year to March 2023, there have been 11 regular meetings of Edale Parish Council. The September meeting was cancelled and re-scheduled due to the sad death of HM Queen Elizabeth II. The November meeting had to be cancelled and re-scheduled due to unforeseen circumstances which would have prevented the meeting from being quorate. There have been no extra-ordinary meetings. There have been 10 apologies for absence from Councillors throughout the year. DCC Cllr. Nigel Gourlay attended one meeting, and has assisted in a number of agenda items involving the County Council. High Peak Borough Council has continued to provide regular, up-to-date information on relevant items. PC Carl Davies attended one meeting to introduce himself and has sent regular reports to the Parish Council on behalf of the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

During the year a total of 12 Edale residents attended 4 meetings to speak on planning issues and other Parish business.

I have now completed my second full year as Clerk, and in that role I have attended all 11 of the Parish Council meetings plus the Annual Parish Meeting. For those meetings I have distributed agendas, taken and distributed minutes, provided summaries for Ringing Roger, maintained the Parish Council website and provided Councillors with pre- and post-meeting information. On behalf of the Council I have also corresponded with various authorities, agencies, residents, members of the public and contractors. I have also arranged the archiving of Parish Council minutes for the years 1990 to 2012 at the Records Office in Matlock.

The Council's web site [edaleparishcouncil.org.uk](http://edaleparishcouncil.org.uk) has been kept up to date with published documents according to their Publication Scheme and the Transparency Code.

I continue to research a variety of topics for the Council as required, including monitoring new legislation to ensure the Council is fully compliant.

2023 is an election year for the Parish Council so I have published election notices, assured compliance with regulations, and provided information for potential candidates.

As the Parish Council's Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) I am pleased to report that the previous year's Parish Council Accounts for 2021/22 were audited internally with no adverse comments, and the External Audit Exemption Form was submitted on time to the external auditors PKF Littlejohn.

I am also pleased to report that the end of year accounts for this year 2022/23 have been completed and were put to the Council for preliminary approval at the meeting earlier tonight. Excluding the Edale Charities Car Park receipts, the Council had an income of £8,366 (which included Jubilee grants of £1250) and an expenditure of £7658, giving a surplus of £708.

£218 of that is unspent funds from the Jubilee grant, to be carried forward to 2023/24. The rest is attributable to underspends on Asset Repairs and Training, plus the un-spent provision for Waste Management Costs which did not materialise because the trial of a recycling bin was unsuccessful.

The Council's books and accounts will be submitted to Mr John Mariott for internal audit later this month. The "Annual Governance and Accountability Return" and details of Public Rights will be published in due course as required. This year, in line with guidance from the National Association of Local Councils, the internal audit procedure will be monitored by two of the Council members to review its effectiveness. The recommendation is that this review is carried out every three years.

For the coming 2023/24 financial year, a 4% increase in the precept amount has been requested from the Borough Council. With the tax base at 140 (3 down on last year), the Parish Council charge per 'band D' equivalent household will be £43.16 (an increase of £2.53). The increase was requested with a view to balancing the budget next year, and also to maintain a cash reserve for future village projects. However, due to the current cost of living crisis the increase was kept as low as possible.

The Council continues to administer Edale Charities Car Park at Station Yard on behalf of participating charities. The total income for 2022/23 was £10,218.00. This will be equally distributed, with each of the 5 charities involved receiving £2,043.

That concludes my combined report. I would like to thank all the council members for the assistance I have received in carrying out my role as Clerk and RFO during these past 12 months, and their help in making my job a pleasant one".

#### **Chair's report:**

The Chair's report was given by the Clerk, Tracy Whitley, as follows:

"The Council undertook a couple of small projects last year. The Council bought a recycling bin for plastic bottles, placed at Grindsbrook, to see if this would encourage recycling by visitors and could be extended. Unfortunately, it filled up too quickly and with too much mix of waste for John Gould, who led on this pilot, to manage. The Council also planned to plant two trees, a hawthorn and a crab apple, partnering with the Horticultural society as part of the 'Queen's Green Canopy' on the parish ground at Barber Booth, funded through Derbyshire County Council. The trees are being planted in the next week.

The Council received a grant via HPBC and DCC to celebrate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Parish Councillors helped organise the celebrations, including buying commemoration mugs for all young people in the village aged 16 and under. The weather wasn't great so this was held in the village hall, with a village photo on the playing field. The celebrations were very well attended and successful.

In September, the Council expressed sadness and gave condolences on behalf of the village following the death of the Queen. We applied for a further grant of £550 to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles.

The Christmas tree outside the church was again paid for by the Parish Council. The Council laid a wreath at the war memorial on Remembrance Sunday, as usual.

The Edale charities car park again did well, and the funds will be distributed between the 5 beneficiaries. This was less than some previous years due to the use of the land to store materials for work on the railway. John Gould, who has organised the car park for several years, is leaving Edale in 2023 so the Parish Council is looking at other arrangements.

The footpaths grant from DCC was used to repair the surface of footpath 18, part of the Pennine Way, which is much used and was badly in need of repair.

Residents have raised various issues, with the most common being around roads and planning applications. Where possible we follow these up by contacting other authorities since the Council is not responsible for issues such as roads or for behavioural issues. We also signposted residents to further information and organisations that can help.

The Parish Council has been active in informing individuals and local groups of news which may be of interest, taken from the several newsletters we receive. This has mainly been grants information, but also issues which may affect them such as the proposed changes to the Derwent reservoirs.

Finally, the Council would like to thank Cllr. John Gould (who is not re-standing as a candidate in the upcoming elections) for all the work he has done for the Council, especially organising the charities car park”.

The Chair then thanked the Clerk as follows:

“Huge thanks go to Tracy, who has been meticulous in performing her duties as clerk. She has often been proactive in keeping the Council on track and dealing with correspondence and finances with great discretion and good sense”

### **Public Speaking and Any Other Business:**

Andrew Critchlow raised the issue of parking in Edale. He asked if the current arrangement with the Station Yard could be formalised to increase the number of days it could be used. Cllr. Jackson commented that a couple of years ago talks were being held with DCC about the idea of making it a permanent DCC pay and display car park, with some contribution each year to Edale Charities. The idea seemed to be progressing but he has heard nothing about this recently. He will get back in touch with DCC to enquire if there has been any progress.

**ACTION: Cllr. JACKSON**

Simon Cocksedge said that, from the Church’s point of view, the trial of parking spaces outside the church is working well in conjunction with the yellow lines through Grindsbrook. The Council were happy to report that this trial has now been made permanent.

Simon Cocksedge asked if the Parish Council could give some consideration to a 30 mile per hour zone on Hope Road from Barber Booth to Nether Booth. He said that cars speed along the narrow lanes and it is amazing that a serious accident has not already occurred here. The Council agreed that they will attempt to progress this suggestion. The Clerk will add it to the May agenda. **ACTION: CLERK**

Both residents expressed their thanks to the Parish Council for all their work on behalf of the Edale community.

**With no further business, the meeting was closed**

Clerk: Tracy Thorpe, Middle Ollerbrook Cottage, Ollerbrook, Edale, Derbyshire. S33 7ZG  
Email: [edaleparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:edaleparishcouncil@gmail.com) Web site: [www.edaleparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.edaleparishcouncil.org.uk)