

## DERWENT AND HOPE WOODLANDS PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 AT ST HENRY'S HALL

Present: R Cottrill (Chair), G Woodhead (Vice Chair), A Robinson (RFO), J Gascoigne (Clerk), W Middleton.

55/19 No apologies

56/19 No declarations

57/19 Minutes of the previous meeting approved and signed

58/19 Matters arising. Smart water packs given out to Councillors to distribute to residents. Fencing for Fairholmes roundabout delivered to Cllr Middleton and he has painted it ready for installation.

59/19 There is a pot hole on the A57 near the Forestry gate. Report to Highways. Drain at The Snake Inn carpark is blocked. Drain blocked near bottom of Crookhill Lane before first cattle grid. Footpath at Hollins Clough and others on the National Fell Running Relays route are badly damaged and may not recover; similarly, the mown pathway near Derwent Dam wall. Area in front of dam wall also very muddy from this event and has had to be fenced off. Report to Peak Park, STW & Nat Trust. Fell run organisers are using short steel rods as way markers which could easily get missed when clearing up after a race. Report to Paul Wetton.

60/19 Recent updates circulated by DALC noted. It was agreed that the Parish Council will not accept confidential information/reports where they affect the whole parish; such information will be shared with parishioners. This decision made following a report sent to us by STW mediator regarding Fairholmes which we were asked not to share beyond the Parish Councillors.

61/19 Adam Marsden STW was emailed regarding the 3 Ton weight limit sign which was put on Mill Bridge after repairs were completed. There are many heavier vehicles using the bridge on a regular basis including the bin lorry, fuel delivery vehicles, septic tank and agricultural vehicles. It should also be able to carry a fire engine. Clerk to chase up.

62/19 Parish Councillors met STW staff Gareth Jones, Laura Ward and mediator Rob Garnham prior to this Parish Council meeting. They did not bring any documents or plans but had requested the meeting in order to listen to the concerns of the Parish Council and residents regarding this development and better understand them. Councillors reiterated their

opposition to both a new building and an indoor café giving many relevant reasons as to why such a development would be detrimental to the local rural economy and the wild environment and would have a negative impact on residents. Councillors cited evidence of damage already being caused by the sheer number of visitors and events and the impacts of the negative behaviour of a significant minority of people. STW was asked why the promised transport and visitor management plans could not be implemented first in order to find out how the visitor centre is used, but no details of such plans were forthcoming although STW promised to involve Councillors at an early stage in their design. Councillors asked why an indoor café was even needed since recent surveys (including one conducted on behalf of STW in September 2019 found 98% of visitors satisfied with the Visitor Centre as it is), have confirmed that visitors are overwhelmingly satisfied with the current level of facilities already in place. The PC now awaits further correspondence from STW.

63/19 Cllrs Gascoigne and Robinson attended the annual Peak Park Parishes Day where discussions were around the theme of visitor and events management. Two issues were clear – an ever increasing number of visitors and events are having deeper negative impacts on residents and farmers and their ability to go about their day to day business and damage to the rural environment is becoming more extensive. These are caused by car parking, high numbers of visitors and behaviour. The Peak Park, along with partners are looking at ways of mitigating both these impacts and damage to wildlife habitats.

Cllrs Cottrill and Gascoigne attended a meeting giving the results of the 2018 moorland bird survey. Numbers of predators and corvids have increased dramatically, numbers of waders such as Curlew and Lapwing have increased but song bird numbers were down compared to previous surveys. It was also clear that managed moorlands had a greater diversity of species than non-managed areas.

62/19 Finance.

Receipts	HPBC Precept	£399.50
	Balance at 4/11/19	£7190.85

It was agreed to increase Mrs Jolley's payment to £150.00 p/quarter to take into account cleaning, gardening, laundry, purchasing supplies. Prop Cllr Gascoigne, Sec Cllr Woodhead.

Cllr Gascoigne proposed the purchase of a new heater for the Hall. Sec Cllr Robinson.

63/19 Finance meeting 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at Ladybower Inn.

64/19 Date of next meeting 15/01/20 at 19.30 pm St Henry's.