

# **OVER HADDON PARISH**

Council Chairman: Dick Foxon

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**The Annual Parish Meeting was held at 7:30pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at the Village Hall, School Lane, Over Haddon, DE45 1JE**

## **Minutes**

**Attendance:** 10 electors and 2 non-electors (see attendance sheet)

### **1. Appointment of the Clerk to the meeting**

The meeting appointed the Parish Clerk to take the minutes

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from PCSO Grundy, our 3 District Councillors who all serve on Bakewell Town Council and have a meeting clash, PDNPA Member Patrick Brady and Councillor Roger Truscott

### **3. Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were approved.

### **4. Matters Arising from previous minutes**

none

### **5. Financial Statement**

The clerk reported that the year had seen all items within budget but that as this was the last year of the current grant from Natural England towards the toilet block, the precept needed to be incrementally raised to ensure we can cover our cleaning commitments without assistance. The accounts are being presented to the next Council meeting and are being internally audited on 9<sup>th</sup> May. Under the new transparency rules the draft accounts will be available shortly on the new website prior to them being sent for external audit.

Comment from the floor noted the use of honesty boxes at other locations where parishes have taken on their toilet blocks though this building is owned by DDDC who also take the car park monies but it was agreed this should be investigated.

### **6. Chair's Report**

Prior to the General and local Elections in May 2015 it became apparent that only two people, Roger Truscott and myself (Dick Foxon) had put themselves forward for election to Over Haddon Parish Council.

As a result no Parish Council election was held and a further election date was called to allow any other candidates to come forward for election. Again no one put themselves up for a post on Over Haddon Parish Council.

This resulted in Over Haddon Parish Council being inquorate. The first meeting held was only made possible by the nomination of Steve Capes by DDDC, thus making a quorum to enable some business to be actioned.

In June 2015 the Parish Clerk, Helen Foreman, gave notice of her resignation, due to changing work patterns which would take effect in September 2015.

I would like to put on record Over Haddon Parish Council's thanks for her work during her time as clerk.

Having placed the necessary job vacancy advertisements two candidates applied for the post of clerk.

Following interview Matthew Lovell was appointed clerk to Over Haddon Parish Council and took up his duties just prior to the December 2015 council meeting. Matthew has a Certificate in Local Council Administration and is clerk to a number of other local parish councils giving him a wealth of experience.

I am pleased to report that your Parish Council now has a full complement of councillors with Penny Aitken joining in August 2015, Kay Staniforth in November 2015 and finally Zena Hawley in January 2016.

Your new councillors have attended induction courses run by the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils and are eager to serve the community.

During the past year your councillors have been coming to terms with The Transparency Code, which requires parish council to have its own website to fulfil the need to allow wider public access to its actions and financial transactions.

Over Haddon Parish council website is available at [www.overhaddonparish.org.uk](http://www.overhaddonparish.org.uk). Any comments or suggestions about content will be gratefully received.

Installation of the village defibrillator is imminent. Donations from various individuals and organisations in the village now total £925.76. I would like to thank all those who have contributed for their generosity.

Council has awarded two grants: £250 to the Village Hall Management Committee towards village events and £75 to Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport (BECT) whose service directly benefits a number of residents. My thanks to the Village Hall Chair for the work that OHVHMC do in administering and managing the village hall on behalf of the community.

Despite the initial disjointed start to this parish council I am now looking forward to being part of a group of energetic and committed councillors backed up by a knowledgeable and experienced clerk.

**7. Report from representatives of County, District, Police, PDNPA attending**  
County Councillor Judith Twigg noted recent County Funding to local needs: Lady Manners School £6250 to replace fire doors; road safety from Castleton to Longshaw and A619 Chesterfield Baslow road and the receipt of £1.7million from the EU to assist business communities across Derbyshire some of which is allocated to Derbyshire Dales. From her Community Fund she has been able to assist the Eyam Chronicle project, Bakewell Players, a curved seat for Hathersage Village group, BECT training in disabled equipment use, Bakewell Mannerians 6-12s Junior Rugby – team shirts, 2 new tents for 1<sup>st</sup> Bakewell Scouts, Textile Design Equipment at Lady Manners for use by the school and further education classes and Age UK for travel assistance.

## **8. To consider items already requested for discussion:**

### **a) County Council proposed cuts to funding for local buses and community transport**

The County Councillor was able to confirm that direct Government Funding of £900000 to DCC has ensured that funding will continue this financial year for all the Community Transport and the overwhelming petition response of 21000 signatures had forced the issue to be debated by the Council for only the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in its history. BECT has had to put prices up from £2 to £3 and adopt a more commercial outlook for the future as funds now will run out in September 2017 if the grants are axed next April. All present were urged to

answer the online questionnaire that closes on 24<sup>th</sup> April and a letter from our MP passed to the Parish Council to circulate.

**b) Use of the village bus shelter**

Ideas centred on use as an information point for visitors. A request for a map naming all houses needs careful consideration for consent but displays of historic information and where to find with perhaps a walking tour were warmly greeted. The idea to give visitors who have got off the bus or are already here information rather than attracting more was thought a fitting purpose for the shelter but further consultation will take place and grants sought for the creation of boards once the content is agreed. Walk leaflets might be sold to raise funds towards the toilet block cleaning.

**c) Parking issues**

The ongoing problems in the Manor Court area and irresponsible parking along the bus route causing access problems (which would also affect ambulances and fire engines) are not going away. Unfortunately this is an increasing problem especially with those not willing to pay the car park fees or walk any distance to their properties or holiday lets, but all outside the Parish Council's control with the District receiving car park monies, County Council unwilling to put in lines as they are the enforcement body and the Peak Park being against a proliferation of signs. It was generally agreed that planning permissions for holiday properties need to be checked to ensure the parking agreed is being used and the Enforcement Officers contacted to pursue and to ask others to be more considerate. Highways needs to be pursued for practical solutions.

**d) Issue of registering land at junction with Wellgate Lane & Main St**

It was agreed that this area ought to be secured – there is a connection to the Crimean War hinted at?, but whether some form of Trust would be needed to ensure the land isn't ever sold for building was raised – a covenant to protect in perpetuity and this needs investigating before any decision is made.

**e) Development of website content**

It was reported that the new Parish Council site will be viewable by the end of the week and that comments are welcomed especially for the community information content. The main purpose of the site is to meet the Council's statutory Transparency legislation commitments but council is happy to expand its pages to promote the community.

**9. To consider any other Parish matter that may be brought forward by the Council or local government electors**

The Christmas tree has grown too big for the annual lights and the meeting considered it should be felled by DDDC and another one planted.

Recent suspicious active was raised having been seen on the police twitter feed and it was confirmed that the village Neighbourhood Watch had also circulated the information quickly.

The BOAT – whilst rejected will be coming to appeal this Autumn. 4x4s are still using the route currently.