

BAMFORD WITH THORNHILL PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 22 – February 2026

Welcome to our quarterly newsletter.

Annual Parish Meetings 2026

Each spring, we hold an Annual Parish Meeting for each of Bamford and Thornhill - an open forum for all residents to air any current local issues they wish. This year's meetings are on Monday 23 March, at:

- (for the Thornhill meeting) 6.30pm
- (for the Bamford meeting) 7.30pm

at the Moore Hall, Brentwood Rd. Everyone is very welcome, so do please save the date now. We're keen to discuss, and get your input to, what the Parish Council plans to do over the coming year.

Your council tax and the Parish Council

The Parish Council has set an expenditure budget for the financial year commencing 1 April of £23,853, to be supported by a precept (i.e. the Parish portion of your overall council tax) of £19,410, spread over the 600-odd homes in the Parish – a 4.9% increase per household over the current year.

Parish Council vacancy

The Council has one vacant seat. So we'd be very pleased to hear from anyone (age 18+) who'd like to have a chat about being co-opted to join the Council, to help represent the community's needs and aspirations - our meetings are usually in the evening of the first Monday in the month.

The Green

We've received some interesting design ideas from a class of Sheffield College students for improving the appearance of

The Green, in response to a brief which the Parish Council gave them. After discussing these, we have decided to investigate (i) installing a more suitable surface, (ii) buying new planters for the perimeter and (iii) creating a fixed canopy around the central tree, to give some shelter for those using the seats there. We shall also get the stone stoops cleaned.

Refills on the Road farewell to Bamford

Darcie, who ran the *Refills on the Road* mobile shop, has sent us this thankyou.

"I first brought *Refills on the Road* to Bamford in January 2020, setting up at the Institute once a month. Two months later the world shut down - and somehow, instead of disappearing, Bamford became one of the places that kept me going. With markets closed everywhere else, I ended up coming twice a month, and you kept turning up.

"When I later moved to the *Anglers Rest* it made a world of difference - more people, more chats, and (crucially) access to a toilet! But what never changed was the warmth, loyalty and good humour of my Bamford customers. You made long days lighter and hard weeks easier.

"As I wind things down now, I just want to say thank you. Thank you for shopping small, for sticking with me through strange times, and for making Bamford one of the highlights of my working life. I'll miss seeing you all more than I can properly put into words."



Overhanging hedges & trees

Please may we remind residents that it's your responsibility to cut back hedges and trees on your property so that they don't

overhang roads, pavements or footpaths – every year we receive complaints about people not doing this! Vegetation can hinder visibility for traffic, and also make it difficult for pedestrians to use the path. Thank you for your help.

However, please do note that you shouldn't cut back during the bird-nesting season, as it's an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to harm nesting birds or their eggs. The nesting season is typically between March and August.

Some extra allotments

This month we plan to add 2 new plots to the existing allotments off Joan Lane, giving a total of 10 plots there instead of 8. This will almost extinguish our allotments waiting-list.

Responsibility for our bus services

From 1 February, most of the functions previously undertaken by Derbyshire County Council (DCC) to support the planning, provision and support of bus services transferred to the East Midlands Combined County Authority (*i.e.* the East Midlands Mayor). This change will not affect school transport, SEND and adult-care transport, all of which will remain with DCC.

Home-to-school travel proposals

Derbyshire County Council is seeking residents' views on their proposals to update home-to-school travel policies for

- children aged 5-16,
- post-16 learners, and
- students with special educational needs or disabilities.

The proposed changes, to make policies more inclusive and promote independence, follow updated legal guidance from the Government on the role of councils in helping to transport children to school.

The consultation survey (details of it are at <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/Interview/77679cef-4758-4be5-a162-ed011ef1dfd0>) closes on Sunday 22 February.

Travelling to Manchester?

Between 14 and 22 February, Manchester Piccadilly station will be completely shut to all trains to/from the Hope Valley (and other places) due to major engineering work, so our local trains will be temporarily altered (details at www.nationalrail.co.uk), thus:

They will use the normal route from Sheffield via the Hope Valley as far as Romiley, then diverting to terminate at Guide Bridge (5 miles from Manchester city centre), and vice versa. There will be rail-replacement buses between Guide Bridge and Manchester Victoria (not Piccadilly). The journey-time between Bamford and Manchester will be nearly 2 hours.

An exception to the above will be the 0642 from Bamford, which will enable you to reach Stockport by train, with a bus thence to Manchester Piccadilly.

Bamford station approach-road

For what appears to be the first time since the station opened in 1894, its approach-road now has adequate drains installed, as a result of Network Rail's upgrade works in November/December – so we anticipate that there will be no more huge puddles there!



Glenbrook activity centre, Hope Rd

The new owners of Glenbrook, which has been closed for 2 years, have indicated that they intend to re-open it as a campsite from 20 March.

The Peak Cluster pipeline project

This project aims to build an underground pipeline, to be brought into use in 2032, from Hope to the Wirral peninsula, enabling carbon dioxide emissions from Breedon's

works to be sent to under-seabed storage using Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS) technology rather than, as currently, released into the Hope Valley's atmosphere. Public consultation on this project has recently started, see <https://peakcluster-consultation.co.uk> – and it appears that, although there may be extensive works in Hope, the project to build the pipeline will not affect Bamford or Thornhill.

Peak Partnership summit

East Midlands Mayor, Claire Ward, hosted a *Peak Partnership* summit in Bakewell on 19 November, at which several Hope Valley parish councils, including Bamford with Thornhill, were represented. Opportunities and challenges were debated, based around a question posed by the Mayor: “We know the Peak District brings challenges on transport and congestion, so how do we protect our environment and this beautiful place in which residents want to live and to work?” Topics covered included visitor numbers, transport, jobs and the rural economy, as well as housing affordability.

We shall be pressing the Mayor during 2026 to generate tangible outcomes from these discussions.

International cycling

It has been announced that the *Tour de France Femmes* cycle race will, on 31 July 2027, have a Manchester-Sheffield leg via the A57. We await information as to how the arrangements for this may affect us....

Replacement bus-shelters

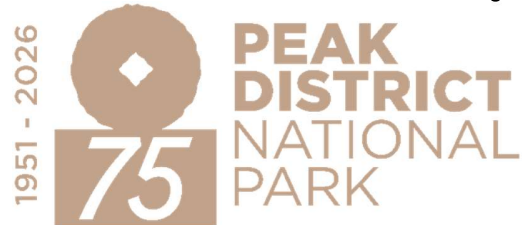
Bamford has had 2 bus-shelters demolished by traffic accidents – at Greenhead Park in November 2024 and at Yorkshire Bridge in October 2025. The shelters were Parish Council property, but in each case the new shelter which we will provide to replace them cannot be installed until the County Council (the landowner) does some preparatory ground works. We find that the County Council is very often not an organisation

which progresses things quickly, and this is an example of that - unfortunately they don't treat us as a customer. We continue to press them for progress re these ground works.

Household waste collections

A national initiative called *Simpler Recycling* (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/simpler-recycling-household-recycling-in-england>) was expected, from 31 March 2026, to introduce separate collections for food and garden waste but, owing to a nationwide shortage of suitable vehicles, this will now start later in High Peak, possibly in May. The Borough Council will let us know....

Peak National Park 75th anniversary



2026 marks 75 years since much of the Peak District became the world's first national park. Details of the special events celebrating this milestone are at:

<https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/learning-about/news/mediacentre>

New water pipeline

Severn Trent Water intend to soon be building a new water-supply pipeline between Hathersage and Worksop – it will be a branch off the longstanding Derwent Valley Aqueduct which runs underground from Bamford water-treatment works to near Leicester. Teams are currently carrying out early preparatory work to check ground conditions and to identify any archaeological or environmental factors that may affect the new pipeline's route.

Community Speedwatch

Our Community Speedwatch group, who monitor traffic speeds locally (each session lasts an hour). is looking for more volunteers - so, if interested, please do contact clerk@bamfordwiththornhill-pc.gov.uk

USEFUL INFORMATION

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Jon Pearce 01298 918189
jon.pearce.mp@parliament.uk

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

01629 533190 derbyshire.gov.uk Your county councillor: Nigel Gourlay
nigel.gourlay@derbyshire.gov.uk

HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL

01298 28400 highpeak.gov.uk Your borough councillors: Charlotte Farrell
charlotte.farrell@highpeak.gov.uk 07976 980639 & Joanna Collins 01433 670392
joanna.collins@highpeak.gov.uk

PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

01629 816200 peakdistrict.gov.uk

MOBILE LIBRARY

Every 4th Thursday 01629 533464
derbyshire.gov.uk/mobilelibraries

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

0300 456 8390 (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm)

EVELYN MEDICAL CENTRE, Hope

01433 621557 <https://evelynmedicalcentre.co.uk>

DERBYSHIRE POLICE

tel. 101
<https://www.derbyshire.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us-beta/contact-us>

TRAIN & BUS TIMES

traveline.info



BAMFORD WITH THORNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

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Chair: Cllr Ginny Priestley

Vice-chair: Cllr Annette Nordhausen Scholes

Bamford Ward

Thornhill Ward

Cllr Olivia Bateson

Cllr Andy Furley

Cllr Michael Bell

Cllr Dorothea Kleine

Cllr Bryan Davies

Cllr Senara Foster

Cllr Suzanne Gillott

Cllr Michele Moran

plus 1 vacancy

Clerk: Peter Leppard, Sicklesholme Cottage, Saltergate La, Bamford, S33 0BE
clerk@bamfordwiththornhill-pc.gov.uk
Phone: 07860 624453

Parish Council meeting dates

Usually the 1st Monday in the month at 7.30pm in the Bamford Institute – see our website to confirm exact dates. We welcome attendance by all our residents; you can make a short statement at the start of the meeting about any item of relevance to the Council.

Signing-up for this newsletter online

Quite a number of households are on our emailing list for this newsletter, instead of receiving it on paper. We encourage you to do the same; it's more ecologically friendly! Do register – our thanks in advance! - via clerk@bamfordwiththornhill-pc.gov.uk The next edition will be in May.

Feedback on any item in this newsletter is very welcome; we look forward to receiving it - at clerk@bamfordwiththornhill-pc.gov.uk