

BAMFORD WITH THORNHILL PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 23 – May 2026

Welcome to our quarterly newsletter.

Government funds a Hope Valley project

The Department for Transport published an integrated transport strategy for England last month. This included £6m given to the East Midlands Mayor to support an integrated transport programme in the Hope Valley, which will explore creating (a) better bus services, timetabled to connect with the existing train service and (b) simpler ticketing and clear information. We await details as to how the Mayor proposes to take this forward.

Community climate change grants

High Peak Borough Council's Community Climate Change Fund welcomes grant applications from organisations, groups and individuals until 31 May (details are at <https://www.highpeak.gov.uk/CommunityClimateChangeFund>) to assist community-based projects aimed at managing the impact of climate change and providing environments in which nature can flourish. Grants of between £400 and £5,000 are available.

New Parish Councillor

We are delighted to welcome Jake Hickinson as a new co-opted councillor. This means that, for the first time for several years, the Council now has its full complement of 11 members. Jake says: "I have lived in the Hope Valley since birth. I've lived in Bamford with my wife for 8 years; my daughter joined us 3 years ago now. I would like to get involved and support the village. My interests are riding, maintaining and fixing motorcycles and mountain bikes. I also enjoy

carrying out maintenance work on our 2 cars, and DIY/building projects."

Elections to the Parish Council are held every 4 years, and will next occur in May 2027. If you're considering standing as a candidate then, there's useful information at <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/campaigns/becoming-a-councillor/how-to-become-a-parish-or-town-councillor.html>.

Parish Council financial results 2025/26

In the year ended 31 March, the Council's expenditure was £21,788, with income of £33,516. However £7,829 of that income was unexpected extraordinary items, and without those our income would have been £25,687. At 31 March, the Council's general reserves (against a future 'rainy day') stood at £20,834.

Parish Council's Chair & Vice-chair

Each May, the Parish Council votes to appoint its Chair and Vice-chair for the next 12 months. Ginny Priestley and Annette Nordhausen Scholes respectively were appointed at this month's Council meeting.



Fires on publicly-accessible land

The importance of wildfire prevention is underpinned by a Public Spaces Protection Order which prohibits lighting a fire, barbecue, firework or naked flame in a public place in most of High Peak borough, including Bamford and Thornhill. If you see someone doing this, please contact the Police on 101 or, if you're concerned that there's an immediate risk, call 999.

Peak Sightseer buses

Stagecoach will be operating their open-top *Peak Sightseer* route between Castleton and Chatsworth (via Bamford station) daily from 23 May until 19 September 2026, then Saturdays only until 10 October. For details, please see <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/yorkshire/peak-sightseer>

Household waste collections

We mentioned in our February newsletter the national initiative *Simpler Recycling*, changing the way in which domestic food-waste is collected from households. We stated that High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) expected this to start here in May, but HPBC now say the target introduction date has slipped to 14 September.

Trees on the Green

The Council has its trees on The Green and Coronation Gardens professionally inspected triennially. This year's inspection showed that, on The Green, the southernmost tree should be felled because of internal decay. With great regret, this tree was therefore felled last month.

The *Tour de France Femmes*

The 154km-long Manchester-Sheffield route of Day 2 of this international cycling race on 31 July 2027 has now been published:



There are no other details yet.

Peak District Local Plan

The updated Local Plan (the document stating all the local policies against which Planning applications here are judged) has

been under development by the Peak District National Park Authority for a couple of years, and is now close to being finalised. There will be a public consultation on the final draft - probably (but not yet confirmed) between 20 July and 11 September. See <https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/planning/policies-and-guides/the-local-plan>

Derbyshire County Council (DCC) plan

In April, DCC launched its new *Council Plan* <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/council-plan/our-council-plan.aspx> which details its priorities from now until the planned abolition of DCC in 2028. We expect more news from central government about those 2028 changes in the next couple of months.

Bamford Clough

During April, the County Council removed some of the build-up of leaves/pine needles from the Clough's tarmac surface, to reduce its slipperiness. But it remains unclear how DCC plans to resolve satisfactorily the 'temporary' (since 2013) closure of the Clough to the public.

Potholes in our roads

In a statement issued on 28 April, the County Council said:

Fixing potholes remains a priority. The Council now has 34 pothole repair teams working across Derbyshire each day as part of a rapid-response service, repairing up to 2,000 potholes every week. Progress can be affected by wet and cold weather, but work is continuing at pace and the Council acknowledges there is more to do.

Local government reorganisation

Central government is saying that it will give us an update by July as to its plans to reduce the number of Councils in Derbyshire from April 2028. Details so far can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/derbyshire-and-derby-local-government-reorganisation>)

Free IT Lessons in Bamford

Local organisation Zink is running IT classes in Bamford for absolute beginners and those

who want to improve their skills. The course is modular, so you learn only what you don't already know. It includes sending emails, using the internet, online safety, online banking & shopping, keeping in touch with friends & family and lots of other topics. You learn at your own pace and can either bring your own laptop/tablet or use one of Zink's.

The course is free, funded by Rural Action Derbyshire. It runs every Wednesday until 10 June from 10am to 12 noon at Bamford Institute. It's drop-in, so it doesn't matter if you miss a week. Contact jane@zink.org.uk or 01298 214926 for more information.

Bamford Carnival

This year's Carnival will be from 12 to 19 July. For details, please see <https://www.facebook.com/thebamfordcarnival>



Former hotel on Hathersage Rd, Bamford

Mental health helpline update

Derbyshire Mental Health Helpline and Support Service is a freephone service available to everyone living in Derbyshire, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

From 1 July, the phone arrangements will change. The only way to contact the helpline will then be by calling 111 and then selecting the 'mental health' option (option 2). The alternative 0800 phone number which can be used at present will be switched off from that date.

Help with cost of heating oil and LPG

In response to higher prices arising from the Middle East conflict, the County Council has launched a fund to support (via payments

made directly to fuel suppliers) vulnerable households who do not have mains gas and rely on heating oil or bottled gas.

To be eligible households must meet both the following criteria:

- households who either receive a means-tested benefit or are assessed as being in-need following a financial assessment.
- households where at least 1 member of the household is considered vulnerable, for example because of age, having a chronic health condition or disability, or where there may be someone with caring responsibilities.

The fund will not make any payments where fuel has already been ordered or delivered.

Information on how to apply is at <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/community/cost-of-living/energy-grants/heat-with-heating-oil-and-ppg-costs/help-with-heating-oil-and-lpg-costs.aspx> - or phone 01629 533399.

Household Waste Recycling Centres

Because of the County Council's financial pressures, residents are invited to respond to a public survey about a range of proposed cost-saving options at Derbyshire's 9 'tips' (Household Waste Recycling Centres). The survey's closing date is 23 July - it is at <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/Interview/f52fc82-4ac6-430f-bb95-4f8aa3b10cc0>

Works on the A57

The current closure of the A57 to all traffic in the Rivelin Dams area for landslip repairs, preventing access towards Sheffield, is expected to continue until 5 June.

Meanwhile, the substantial funding needed to deal with the A57 landslips between here and Glossop has yet to be found, and there is no planned date for these works.

New bakery

In April, Planning consent was granted for Sickleholme Garage to convert a disused area of its building into a new bakery outlet. No date is yet known for this to happen.

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

www.bamfordwiththornhill-pc.gov.uk



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<https://www.facebook.com/bamfordparishcouncil>

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 Jake Hickinson

Cllr Michele Moran

Clerk: Peter Leppard, Sickelholme 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 August.

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