BAMFORD WITH THORNHILL PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 25 – November 2026

Welcome to our quarterly newsletter

Bamford Christmas lights switch-on
This year's annual Christmas lights switch-on event will be on Sunday 29 November on the Green at 5pm, with Father Christmas and refreshments (for a small cash donation). Everyone is welcome!

A big thankyou
Our grateful thanks to Breedon Cement for funding the purchase and delivery of our two attractive stone roadside Welcome signs – one for each end of Bamford. (The photo is of one being cleaned during manufacture.)



Local government reorganisation
Central government's previously announced plan to abolish High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) and Derbyshire County Council in 2028, with both their roles here instead being carried out by one body - a new Derbyshire North Council - was withdrawn by Government on 29 October, claiming that further time is required to consider the way forward. They committed to announce a final outcome by "early next year".

Whatever that final outcome is, the original implementation date is now expected to slip back to 2029. Therefore the 4-yearly election due in May 2027 to decide the membership of HPBC (for its remaining years) will now go ahead - contradicting government's previous announcement that it would not.

Parish Council election
Elections to the Parish Council are held every 4 years, and will next occur in May 2027. We'll have 11 seats to fill – so please do consider standing as a candidate (nominations must be submitted by April) – see further information at https://www.nalc.gov.uk/campaigns/becoming-a-councillor/how-to-become-a-parish-or-town-councillor.html

If anyone would like to contribute to the work of the Parish Council by being co-opted to membership for the short period between now and May, do please tell us – you'd be very welcome.

Experimental usage of Bamford Clough
In our August newsletter, we said that the County Council (DCC) had yet to set a date for the Clough (a 'Byway Open to All Traffic') to become, in effect, a one-way street (uphill) for motorised traffic. Later, DCC stated that this new arrangement would start on 1 October, under an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) – viewable at https://apps.derbyshire.gov.uk/applications-documents/rights_of_way/noticeboard/Orders/PRoW_Notice_X04898_Order_made.pdf where you can also see the address to which you can send comments to DCC on how you feel this experiment is going.

Becoming a foster-parent
Across the country, the number of foster-carers has fallen in recent years, while the number of looked-after children has been rising. So Derbyshire County Council is keen to encourage more potential foster-parents to come forward. If perhaps that might

include you, do look at the useful information at https://fosterforeastmidlands.org.uk

Roadside grit-bins

The grit-salt in roadside grit-bins is solely for winter use on public roads and footways. You're very welcome to apply grit from the bins in those public places, but it's not for use on residents' own land (sorry, but you need to buy your own grit for that!). Thank you for your understanding.

We and the County Council try jointly to ensure that grit-bins are refilled when necessary, but this can become difficult to achieve promptly in sustained bad weather. If you find an empty grit-bin, please tell us at clerk@bamfordwiththornhill-pc.gov.uk or tell DCC at http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/gritbin

Apple-pressing

The Parish Council now owns some apple-pressing equipment; which can be lent to other bodies on request, for which we seek a minimum donation of £25 (£50 for a commercial organisation) per occasion.

Bus shelters

After the East Midlands Mayor's office, based in Chesterfield, took over overall responsibility (from the County Council) earlier this year for public transport, it is now reviewing whether it should take ownership of all bus shelters. As part of this, the Parish Council has been asked for its view.

Bamford's bus shelters are currently owned by the Parish Council - except for the one adjacent to the dental practice, which is Borough Council-owned. We have replied that we have no objection to relinquishing ownership, provided adequate maintenance and cleaning are still provided. We await to hear what the Mayor's office decides.

'Mini-Switzerland' bus services project

This project to improve bus services in the Hope Valley is being developed by the East Midlands Mayor. Following the first meeting of the project's steering group in late September, they issued this update: https://www.eastmidlands-cca.gov.uk/mini-switzerland-project-faqs . It is not expected that any changes to existing services will happen before summer 2027.



Where to report faults & problems

Quite a few of the types of problem we often experience can be reported online by any resident. For example, you can:

1. Go to High Peak Borough Council's website www.highpeak.gov.uk to report:
   - a bin-collection problem
   - a street-cleaning problem (including pavements)
   - a food hygiene issue
   - a pest-control issue
   - pollution or excessive noise.
2. Go to Derbyshire County Council's website www.derbyshire.gov.uk to report:
   - a fault with a road surface, road sign or street light
   - a road-drainage issue
   - dangerous trees next to a road
   - an empty roadside gritbin
   - a need for parking-tickets to be issued on a road
   - an issue with a public footpath or bridleway

***Peak Cluster* pipeline (from Hope to Morecambe Bay) consultation**

The *Peak Cluster* project will be seeking feedback from communities and stakeholders on updates to the area within which it proposes to build permanent infrastructure, both below and above

ground, during a consultation running from 12 November to 18 December. For more details, please go to https://peakcluster-consultation.co.uk/index.php?contentid=6

On The Green….
The new raised-bed planters on the Green, which we promised in our last newsletter, are being installed as this newsletter goes to press. We hope they'll appreciably enhance the Green's appearance once the flowers become established.

What about Shatton…?
People sometimes assume that Shatton falls under Bamford with Thornhill parish council. That's not so, as "Brough and Shatton" is a separate parish. High Peak Borough Council has the legal power to review parish boundaries, but informal approaches to them re Shatton have shown a clear unwillingness to change the current position.

Thornhill's roads
Our thanks to our County councillor, Nigel Gourlay, for coming to Thornhill recently to discuss the roads issues there with Thornhill's two Parish councillors. This may help make our voice heard with County Highways – though they do have many demands upon their limited budget.

Digital telephone switchover, Jan 2027
The UK's digital telephone switchover is progressing, with traditional landlines and other devices which rely on the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) being scheduled to be replaced by a digital equivalent on 31 January – which means that your existing equipment may need to be upgraded by then.
Find out more about the switchover at https://www.openreach.com/big-switch-off

Calling 999
Our local police tell us how frustrating it is when something happening 'right now' is reported by a member of the public via their non-urgent 101 number, rather than by a 999 call. The police stress that any incident where the miscreant may be more easily caught if the police are told immediately should be advised to them via 999 please.

ANPR cameras
In June 2025, the Parish Council made a contribution of £1,467 to Derbyshire Police (other Parishes nearby contributed too) towards installing additional Automatic Numberplate Recognition cameras locally. It has been evident in recent crime reports to the Council from the police how often these cameras are helping to identify miscreants – so we are pleased that this is proving to have been money well spent.

Winnats Pass, Castleton
Some weeks ago it was publicised that Winnats Pass would be closing for several weeks this autumn, to allow a new electricity supply to Castleton to be installed. We're now told that this work has been deferred to a date (as yet undecided) in 2027**.**

Volunteering locally
Quite a few of Bamford's voluntary organisations find it a struggle to attract local people to take on roles which lead or organise those groups. But there surely must be folk in the parish who would be able candidates – we just need to find them!

Do please consider coming along to a meeting at the Anglers Rest on 15 January (look out for posters showing the start time) which we hope will be a fruitful meet-up between the organisations who need people and some individuals who just might be willing to help them. We promise you won't be press-ganged, but you might find yourself wanting to get involved!

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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Chair: Cllr Ginny Priestley
Vice-chair: Cllr Annette Nordhausen Scholes

Bamford Ward	Thornhill Ward
Cllr Michael Bell	Cllr Andy Furley
Cllr Bryan Davies	Cllr Dorothea Kleine
Cllr Suzanne Gillott	
Cllr Michele Moran	
plus 3 vacancies	

Clerk: Peter Leppard, Sickleholme 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 February.

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