

# Matlock Bath Parish Council

**Chair: Peter Baranek**

Website: [www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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Parish Clerk: Julie Baranek, Coppice End, Woodland Terrace, Derby Road, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire DE4 3PU telephone 07914 420545 (Mobile)



Cllr Simon Spencer  
Deputy Leader of Council  
Derbyshire County Council  
County Hall  
Matlock  
DE4 3AG

8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Cllr Spencer

On behalf of Matlock Bath Parish Council and its residents, we would like to extend our thanks to you and Derbyshire County Council for including Matlock Bath in the Government Funding for High Street Investment. I understand that Cllr Irene Ratcliffe has highlighted to you the problems that our village has had to endure since some restrictions on the lockdown were lifted.

We believe that there are certain measures which could work well in Matlock Bath to aid social distancing and businesses to re-open. These include:

- **Extension of Pavements** – The pavements in Matlock Bath do not, in the main, lend themselves for social distancing. We believe that this could be alleviated by an extension of the pavement. By suspending the parking bays (which are non chargeable) would at least double the width of the pavement and make social distancing achievable and allow for safe queuing outside businesses.
- **Removal of Pavement Clutter** – The siting of A boards and other advertising material, including tables and chairs, on the pavements of the Parades makes it extremely difficult for pedestrians to socially distance. We would like to see all pavement clutter removed during the pandemic.
- **Signage** – We would like to see more signage referencing social distancing with posters or pavement drawings marking out 2 metre distances as are being used in many areas already.
- **Rigorous Enforcement** – We would like to see some further funding put into enforcement. We regularly find that motorcyclists and more recently, cars, park on the pavement. This is, not only, infringement on the law, but also makes it difficult for people to socially distance when walking through the village.
- **Reduction in Speed** – In Government guidance, there is reference to a 20mph speed limit being adopted and we feel this could be beneficial to Matlock Bath during the pandemic.
- **Access to the Village** – The path from Temple Road car park to South Parade (via Fishpond Hill, Footpath 1), has a safety barrier down the middle. If this path was changed to a 'one way up and one way down' system, this would assist with social distancing on this busy route.

With social distancing being virtually impossible currently, residents and other visitors do regularly have to walk in the A6 to pass. This, I am sure, you can appreciate, is extremely dangerous. With the re-opening of non essential businesses from 15<sup>th</sup> June, walking past premises will be even more difficult without an extension to the pavement.

As you can appreciate our residents have been extremely tolerant during this crisis but would expect to see DCC implement some measures to help social distancing to be achieved, as far as possible. We believe social distancing will be with us for the foreseeable future and certainly through the very busy summer months.

The Parish Council would be happy to work with your Officers on the improvements, applying our local knowledge and assistance and to listen to any further ideas Officers may have.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Julie Baranek'.

Julie Baranek  
Clerk to Matlock Bath Parish Council