

Matlock Bath Parish Council

Chair: Peter Baranek

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DRAFT MINUTES of a meeting of the Matlock Bath Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th July 2026 at the New Bath Hotel at 7.00 pm

Present: Cllr Peter Baranek (Chairman), Cllr Debbie Hirstwood, Cllr Wray Emma Jones, Cllr Leisha Martin, Cllr Dave Mowle, Julie Baranek (Clerk)

A Public Participation

There was one member of the public in attendance. She raised concerns regarding Pavilion Car Park and the attitude of Derbyshire Dales. A formal letter will be sent to Derbyshire Dales District Council, a copy of which will be sent to the Parish Council.

B Report from Police Representatives

There was no Police Representative present.

C Report from County Council

Cllr Adrian Hunter attended. He reported that the Wapping Footpath was closed for repair.

He further reported that he was trying to arrange a meeting with villages regarding highway problems.

D Report from District Council

Cllr Nick Whitehead attended. Councillors expressed concern over the state of Derwent Gardens and other green areas. Whilst Nick said he was also concerned, he stated that DDDC has no resources.

Nick further reported that he wanted to challenge Cllr Flitter, who was passionate about the armed services etc regarding the state of Memorial Gardens. Memorial Gardens is along the gateway to the village. He further commented that he would like to see the hedgerow removed which will open up whole of Memorial Gardens.

The Chairman reported that DCC were not going to put up "No Parking" signs on the railings to help prevent vehicles from parking on the riverside although if the Parish Council wanted to do this, they would have no objection. Cllr Whitehead suggested that if the Parish Council wished to do this, they apply for grant funding from the Local Projects Fund. He further commented that he could see if DDDC would put the signs up.

Subject to approval at the next meeting

Regarding the problems with parking, speed and noise, Cllr Whitehead felt that traffic calming measures should be introduced.

Clerk's Note: *The matter of the removal of the hedgerow in Memorial Gardens will be discussed at the next meeting. However, Councillor's initial thoughts were that if the hedgerow was removed, it would showcase the appalling state of the Gardens. There is also a step down from the road which would be a trip hazard. A photograph from the 1960s shows a low picket fence parallel to a low hedgerow. Resources would probably be best spent by more maintenance to reduce the height of the hedgerow.*

Council Meeting

01.07.26 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Helen Keay, Cllr Jackie Ligo and Cllr Christopher Vivian.

02.07.26 Declaration of Members Interest

Councillors were asked to consider the need to declare an interest in any matters on the agenda and the register was made available for them to do so. Cllr Baranek completed the register for item 06.07.26 Finance (Clerk's Salary).

03.07.26 Acceptance & Signing of Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th May 2026 be approved and were signed by the Chairman.

04.07.26 Clerk's Report on On-going Matters

Festival of Remembrance – The Clerk reported that a representative of the Parish Council was invited to the Festival of Remembrance to be held at the Pavilion on 4th November. The Clerk agreed to circulate the details to Councillors and if anyone was interested in attending, to let the Clerk know.

Waterloo Road – The Clerk reported that a resident had e-mailed to say he was still encountering difficulties with the Air BnB on Waterloo Road. Guests to the property are parking in the "No Parking" area. This means that vehicles coming up Waterloo Road are unable to use the space to turn round. In addition, the resident is unable to exit his property as visitors are coming up to the property and "abandoning" their vehicles in the middle of the road. Councillors further reported that visitors to the property are also parking on the pavement which means that pedestrians are having to walk in the road.

The Clerk reported that she had contacted DCC who agreed to write to the owner of the BnB.

Clerk's Note: *The resident has contacted the owner to try and sort out this problem but he has advised that he does tell his guests to park in the "No Parking" space as well as in front of the property.*

The Clerk has contacted DCC to see where we are with regards introducing a TRO for Waterloo Road, as well as the proposed ones for Upperwood Road (at the gap), Temple Road and Holme Road. No response has been received to date.

Subject to approval at the next meeting

Duke of Edinburgh – The Clerk reported that the young resident who has been litter picking as part of his volunteering towards his Bronze Award, has now completed his 6 months. All Councillors were extremely appreciative of the hard work he has done in the village.

06.07.26

Committees

- **Activities Committee** – There was nothing to report.
- **Communications Committee** – It was reported that the Summer Newsletter had been printed and would be delivered in the next couple of days.
- **Environment & Conservation Committee**

Ash Tree on Smedley Close – Cllr Mowle agreed to obtain a report and quote for the Ash Tree.

New equipment – It was reported that the new scythe mower for the Nature Reserve had arrived and would be used shortly. The Clerk was asked to ensure that the insurance covered the use of this equipment.

- **Facilities Committee**

Benches – The Clerk reported that she had finally had landlord's permission to site a bench outside the Activity Area (but within the leased area).

The application to site a bench on Temple Road had also finally been approved despite being told that permission was not required. The Clerk reported that she had formally complained to DCC about the length of time it has taken to get any response from this initial enquiry which was made in November 2025.

The Clerk agreed to contact the suppliers to arrange delivery.

Clerk's Note: *DDDC has confirmed that they will carry out the work to install the bench (at a cost) and delivery can be to their Northwood Depot.*

Proposed Transfer of Freehold of Wapping Nature Reserve – The Heads of Terms were agreed.

Clerk's Note: *The Heads of Terms will now be sent to our solicitors for their comments. Following that, all paperwork will be drawn up to transfer the freehold of the Nature Reserve to the Parish Council.*

Bus Stop by Pavilion – Cllrs Peter Baranek and Dave Mowle agreed to look at the bus stop opposite the Pavilion as it was in need of repair.

Activity Area – It was confirmed that the tennis nets and posts were in the locked box in the activity area. A bin has also been provided.

Subject to approval at the next meeting

- **Finance Committee**

Payments – The following payments were **RESOLVED**.

Clerk, Office Expenses	£375.22
Shelter Maintenance	£97.19
C Cresswell (plants)	£62.27
Crow Pie Marketing	£45.00
GHS (repairs to equipment)	£363.42
Shelter Maintenance	£97.19
Clerk, Office Expenses	£60.55
HMRC, June	£267.96
Clerk, Salary, June	£1249.30
NEST, June	£156.54
GM Direct (GHS)	£844.00
HMRC, July	£267.96
Clerk, Salary, July	£1249.30
NEST, July	£156.54
Wish Computers	£108.00
Clerk, new hardrive	£58.99
N Cosgrove	£191.00
Matlock Print	£320.00

Total **£3452.63**

Clerk's Salary – Cllr Peter Baranek signed the book and declared an interest in this item and took no part in any discussion.

It was **RESOLVED** to increase the Clerk's salary by two increments.

- **Planning Committee**

Planning Applications – To note no objection to the following applications:

T 26 00094 TCA - Works to Trees - Sorella, Brunswood Road
T 26 00097 TCA - Works to Trees - Woodside, Upperwood Road
T 26 00113 TCA – Works to Trees – Heights of Abraham

Planning Decisions – To note the following decisions by DDDC:

26 00315 FUL – 2 Primrose Cottage – replacement conservatory – Granted
T 26 00071 TCA – 23 Clifton Road – works to trees – permitted
T 26 00094 TCA - Works to Trees - Sorella, Brunswood Road - Permitted

Notification of Appeal - 228 Dale Road, Matlock Bath - APP/TPO/P1045/10768 - T/25/00060/TPO – It was noted that this application was going to appeal with the Planning Inspectorate.

07.07.26 **Reports from Outside Bodies**

Pavilion – There was nothing to report.

Derwent Valley Rail Partnership – Two residents have signed up to be adopters of Matlock Bath Station.

Subject to approval at the next meeting

Illuminations Working Group – No further meetings have been held. Despite contacting the Events Manager with the thoughts of Councillors regarding the new play equipment, no response has been received.

Town and Parish Council Liaison – There was nothing to report.

08.07.26 **Parking Enforcement/Meeting with MP**

Although problems are being reported, it was felt that the Parish Council was being “fobbed off”.

It was reported that DCC will not install any signage on the railings on Riverside to help prevent illegal parking on the pavement (see District Councillor’s Report above).

Cllr Baranek reported that the meeting with the MP, County Councillor, District Councillor, the Police and other interested parties to discuss measures which could be introduced to help with noise and illegal parking etc will be held on Saturday 11th July. The New Bath Hotel has very kindly agreed to host the meeting after the ‘walk round’.

09.07.26 **Formal Complaint to DCC**

The Clerk reported that the complaint submitted only revealed updates which were not really useful. Others still remain unanswered.

10.07.26 **Urgent Matters/Matters for the Next Agenda Raised in Public Participation, District Council, County Council or Police Report**

There were no urgent matters.

11.07.26 **Correspondence/Publications/Information Received**

To note the following:

E-mail from DCC re closure of Starkholmes Road

E-mail from member of the public re Wapping Snails

E-mail from resident regarding overhanging trees – this relates to overhanging shrubbery from private land onto Green Lane. The matter has been passed to Public Rights of Way Team at DCC.

12.07.26 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 23rd September 2026.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Subject to approval at the next meeting