

## **Hope with Aston Parish Council:**

### **Chair's Annual Report, May 2026**

Throughout 2025-2026 the Parish Council has continued to focus on improving the village environment and facilities, involving residents as much as possible in decision making, and representing community interests to outside bodies. Our Clerk has been in post for the whole year and there have been no changes to the nine Councillors.

To that end we have:

- Continued to revise Council standing orders and policies delivering statutory responsibilities
- Continued to instigate village and community projects, using grant support from Breedon and High Peak Borough Council

In the last year we have improved communications by:

- Enhancing our web site and Facebook page and improving the accessibility of our hard copy and electronic communications to comply with new government guidance
- Hand delivering three newsletters to every residential property in the Parish
- Supporting the annual Aston residents' meeting
- Conveying residents' concerns to relevant statutory bodies such as The Peak Park, Derbyshire County Council, and High Peak District Council
- Liaising with other local organizations such as the Sports Club, the National Trust, St Peter's church and other parish councils in the valley
- Asking residents about their views on the issue of vehicle speeding through the village
- Encouraging regular attendance at Parish Council meetings by local police officers, District and County Councillors and local residents.

We have delivered the following outcomes:

- Purchasing road signs to try to mitigate issues with long vehicles reversing along Edale Rd
- Organising Remembrance Day
- Supporting residents organising a Christmas lights village event and funding a Christmas tree
- Replacing two new benches
- Improving Jubilee Corner by planting two new apple trees and repairing the wall
- Maintaining the improved Castleton Road flower troughs
- Paying for the installation of ANPR cameras

We have advocated on behalf of parish residents as follows:

- Successfully lobbying High Peak to install new litter bins and repair Hope cemetery gates

- Considering and responding to 25 planning applications and giving a detailed initial response to the consultation from Peak Cluster about their carbon capture project
- Participating in discussions about public transport, visitor parking and active travel with other interested parties in the valley
- Continuing to press Derbyshire County Council to address long vehicles issues on Edale Road and to encourage local people to collect information when incidents occur
- Liaising with Derbyshire County Highways on highway and footpath issues
- Regularly meeting with Breedon and with Heavy Haulage regarding Hope Works and railway operations at Earles Sidings
- Meeting with other parish councils in the Hope Valley and High Peak focusing in particular on shared responses to increased visitor pressure
- Responding to consultations about local government reorganisation

Chris Perkins, Chair, Hope with Aston Parish Council 12th May 2025