

ROWSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Victoria Friend

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MINUTES

For the meeting held on Monday 24 November 2025 in the WI Room at Rowsley Village Hall

Present: Councillor V Friend Chair
Councillor K Rowney Vice Chair, Councillor R Hockley, Councillor J Wildgoose

In Attendance: S Stockdale – Locum Clerk

Apologies: Councillor K Potter and Councillor S Hobson – Derbyshire County Council

26/65 Declarations of Interest

None

26/66 Public Speaking

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

26/67 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 27 October 2025

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman

26/68 Matters Arising from the last meetings

None.

26/69 Chatsworth Road

The Platform Housing bin store is still in abeyance. It was noted that there has been an improvement with the number of bins generally being left on the highway.

A meeting has been held with the Landscape Architect regarding the proposed playground and once plans have been received they will be shared with Derbyshire Dales District Council.

26/70 Planning Applications

None.

26/71

Bus stops, Recreation Ground, Car Boots and Playground

The Councils handyman has submitted the following report on work to date:

- The bench at Church Lane has been fixed
- There is moss at the Churchyard still to clean
- **He will look** at the outstanding items in the Recreation Ground from the risk report
- Next month he will re-paint the bus shelters
- Drains have been checked and reported where necessary
- Both defibrillators are now working and they have been registered for online reporting
- A diary note has been made to change the defibrillator pads in 2028 and that this will need to be budgeted for

It was agreed the handyman's duties and litter picking are added as agenda items for the January 2026 meeting.

26/72

Allotments

Starter plot 5 has become vacant and it was agreed that this be offered to the next person on the waiting list.

The Locum Clerk was asked to write to two plot holders to inform them that if their plots have not been suitably prepared before the growing season and any weed suppressant material removed, the Council will not renew their lease.

The orchard has been planted and the trees have been gifted so the Councils S 137 grant will no longer be needed. However, the allotment holders have asked if the Council will cover the cost of stakes and chippings at a cost of £36.00 by way of a S137 grant. This was agreed.

The ownership of the bench by the Peacock Hotel is still disputed and the County Councillor will be asked to follow this up with the Highways department to see if ownership can be ascertained.

26/73

Burial Ground

No matters to report.

26/74

Biodiversity Plans

It was reported that the Chatsworth Estate are looking to rejuvenate the land beyond the wildlife area at the rear of the Peak Village and it was agreed that this would be supported by the Council.

26/75

Road and Footpath issues

It was reported that money has been allocated in the County Council Highways budget in 2026 to repair the Beeley landslip.

A meeting has taken place with the stakeholders regarding the Christmas markets. It was reported that there was no significant congestion around Haddon.

All the pre booked parking available at Haddon and Chatsworth has now sold out. There has been traffic inspections on Chatsworth Road three times a day a weekends and the use of temporary traffic lights has been in place. There were concerns raised by about speeding in Rowsley and Derbyshire County Council highways department have confirmed that the 30mph signs cannot be moved but that the Parish Council can ask for warning signs to be placed on the A6 in the direction from Bakewell to alert drivers that the 30mph speed limit is imminent. The Locum Clerk was asked to contact the Highways department to make this request.

The Council has received an email from a resident regarding the inconvenience caused by the Chatsworth Christmas markets due to the increased time to six weeks and the effect it has had on residents in relation to traffic management and increased traffic.

It was noted that the coning of Chatsworth Road should be limited to weekends but the concerns raised were appreciated.

It was agreed that the Council will look to organise a public meeting in the New Year with the Chatsworth Estate, County Councillor and Highways Officers, Police and local residents.

26/76 Finance, Budget and Audit November payments and accounts

	Net	Vat	Total
C Stone	195.00		195.00
DALC Training	35.00		35.00
Rowsley Village Hall Hire	22.50		22.50
Magazine delivery	25.00		25.00
Poppy Wreath	25.00		25.00
Community Heartbeat	142.95	28.59	171.54
St Katherines Church	70.00		70.00
S Stockdale Locum Clerk	316.20		316.20
Magazine Printing	100.00	20.00	120.00

Bank Balances	
Current Account	50.00
Reserve Account	19,096.90

The 2026/27 budget was agreed and a copy is attached to these minutes.

26/77

Village Hall

Councillor Wildgoose gave a report following the Village Hall AGM:

- Bookings are currently strong
- Fundraising events have been held to supplement running costs
- Committee members have attended a seminar about applying for grants
- The chair and health and safety personnel are to be replaced
- There is a current issue with the roof where leaves need to be removed
- There may be a slight increase in the hiring rates
- The County Councillor has purchased a number of new chairs and the Council is asked if they will do likewise
- It was agreed that sand and sand bags can be stored at the rear of the Village Hall

Councillor Rowney indicated that he would be able to assist with the clearing of leaves from the Village Hall roof.

It was agreed that the Council will purchase 15 chairs for the Village Hall using the S137 grant and place the order.

26/78 Parish Magazine

The following items were agreed for the next issue of the Parish Magazine:-

- Public meeting regarding the impact of the Christmas markets
- Availability of sand bags from the Village Hall
- Repair to the bench on the A6
- Draft flood plan

26/79 Website

There were no issues to discuss.

26/80 Correspondence

Previously circulated by email.

26/81 DALC

The most recent newsletter was circulated by email.

26/82 **Flood Plan**

A draft Flood Plan was presented and agreed. A budget of £200 for Flood Warden equipment is agreed together with £100 for sand bags.

26/83 External Meeting reports

The Chair advised that she had attended the DALC HR Essentials Course which covered new HR legislation regarding employment.

The Chair attended The Peak Partnership summit with the East Midlands Mayor discussing sustainable travel.

A meeting with partners to consider the traffic management while the Christmas Markets are in operation **was held**.

The Chair attended DALC's Finance for Councillors course.

Councillor Rowney advised that he had attended a meeting to discuss a **new beaver reintroduction** initiative. He suggested that it would be useful to arrange a meeting in the Village Hall for interested residents to attend and also a talk to Rowsley School.

Dates of future meetings

26 January 2026 – Full Council Meeting

23 March 2026 – Full Council Meeting

27 April 2026 – Annual Parish Meeting

18 May 2026 – Annual Council Meeting

27 July 2026 – Full Council Meeting

28 September 2026 – Full Council Meeting

23 November 2026 – Full Council Meeting

All meetings held at 7.30pm in the Rowsley Village Hall WI Room. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND:

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.