ILAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 6thth October 2026 – 7pm Ilam School

Present: C. Andrews (Clerk, Vice Chair), C. Wilderspin (Cllr), I. Frith (Chairman), A. Chillingworth (NT), E Wain (Cllr), A. Andrews.

1. Apologies

K. Warrington (Cllr, Sec), Charlotte Kelly (Cllr) V. Nottage (Cllr) H. Allen (Cllr)

1a. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 07th July 2026 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman, I. Frith.

2. National Trust

Dipping Platform replacement project: following a successful planning submission we have now have external funding to build a replacement dipping platform within Ilam parkland. The pond will support education activities and opportunities to promote nature connectedness. Works to begin in November this year.

Hinkley Bridge replacement: the planning application is still being progressed, we are currently preparing an application to Natural England for their discretionary advice service prior to a formal planning submission.

Hall Cottage: we now have planning and listed building consent for the change of use for Hall Cottage. Building Control approval has also been secured. We are aiming to have the new welcome hub up and running early next year.

Community Litter Picks: Whilst rangers, welcome staff and volunteers continue to litter pick at Dovedale on a daily basis, our next monthly community litter picks takes place on Friday 30th October. These enable us to cover a wider area, including the roads in and around Dovedale and Ilam. After a review of how these have worked over the course of the year, we have agreed that we will aim to run a group litter pick each Monday during next year's peak season, alongside the ongoing daily picks. We hope this will help to keep Dovedale and the surrounding areas looking clean and litter free, for the benefit of all.

Dovedale Stakeholder Group: We look forward to the first PDNPA-chaired Dovedale Stakeholder Group meeting on 20th October and are grateful to them for their support in arranging this and inviting all key stakeholders to attend. Over the summer period we have had support from local fire and rescue teams, police, and antisocial behavior officers from both counties to engage visitors and enforce the PSPO. We hope to see this continue and expand next year and are exploring whether camping and dogs off lead can be added into the existing PSPO to support our team with conversations they have with visitors around these issues.

3. Finance

- The balance of the accounts was noted as £1,872.56.
- It was noted that bank statements had not been received since July 2026. The Clerk will contact the bank to investigate.

4. Richard Wain

- The Chairman provided an update on the forthcoming Dovedale stakeholders' meeting, which he will attend alongside a representative from Thorpe Parish Council.

6. Clerk's Report

- Concerns were raised regarding delays in Staffordshire Highways addressing reported issues. The Clerk will contact Councillor Charlotte Kelly to seek assistance in resolving the matters.

7. Chairman's Report

- The Chairman advised on the forthcoming Dovedale stakeholders' meeting. Which he and a member from Thorpe Parish council will be attending.

8. Ilam Parish Councillor Vacancy

- The vacancy will be advertised shortly for approximately three weeks on the Ilam Parish Council noticeboard and through the local WhatsApp community group.

9. Public Participation / Open Forum

- No comments were received.

10. Any Other Business

- A drone was reported flying over Ilam, with the operator(s) possibly located on Bunster Hill. The National Trust advised that drones are not permitted on its sites.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

- The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 12 January 2027, at 7.00 pm at Ilam School.