

Old Glossop Residents Association



Annual General Meeting of OGRA – Wednesday 22 July 2026 – Scout Hut

Present: Andrea Heathcote (Vice Chair), Stella Jones (Treasurer), Janet Bingham (Secretary), Tony Bingham, Martin Creasey, Sue Welch + approx. 40 residents
Also present: High Peak Borough Council (HPBC) Councillors [Paul Hardy](#) and [Adie Hopkinson](#); and Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Councillor [Jean Wharmby](#).
Apologies from the other committee members and several residents.

Andrea welcomed all attendees and thanked them for coming along.

Updates from our local councillors Paul Hardy and Adie Hopkinson (High Peak Borough Council) and Jean Wharmby (Derbyshire County Council)

[Glossop Tip consultation](#) was closing on 23rd July. More than 5,000 responses and the DCC cabinet are due to make a decision in late 2026.

Average speed cameras for the A57 Snake Pass are being considered by DCC. Adie said that the biggest source of complaints he receives is about noise from motorbikes on the Snake Pass and Sheffield Road and that cameras are needed. They have been effective in other areas of High Peak but have resulted in bikers coming over to the Snake where there are no cameras. There are plans to narrow the junction of Manor Park Road with the A57 to make it safer.

The sink hole in Sheffield Road has been filled temporarily but is cracking already.

Glossopdale School site – the planning appeal against refusal of up to 110 homes will be in August – details to be confirmed.

[Mental Health support consultation](#) by DCC could impact the enablement team and local services. Consultation ends 23rd August.

[Glossop to be part of North Derbyshire Council from April 2028](#). High Peak Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council will no longer exist. A shadow unitary council will be elected in 2027 and the new council will come into effect in April 2028. Whilst existing services will continue as normal, Paul thought that the new Local Plan and the Locality Action Plans would be put on hold.

Carelink – Jean, Paul and Adie have all fought against plans to close this vital service. Paul said that negotiations with other providers were happening and he was optimistic of a positive solution.

Shire Hill Hospital (40 homes): Adie advised that Cube Homes have yet to submit a fresh application. Work was halted in October after most of the admin block was demolished, contravening the planning permission.

Land east of Bute Street (up to 56 homes) Adie advised that a reserved matters application would need to be submitted before this progressed. Janet told the meeting that the land, and the adjoining piece where planning permission was refused, are [for sale](#).

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Seven houses to be built on Bute Street: There's no date yet for building work to start at the site. Details are on the High Peak Council website, planning application reference [HPK/2022/0259](https://www.highpeakcouncil.gov.uk/HPK/2022/0259).

Planning committee: Paul told the meeting that the planning committee powers now seem limited with less opportunity to refuse large developments and could find themselves in special measures with a planning inspector then deciding. Linda Rundle advised that the National Planning Policy Framework was now the key consideration for councils which would override local plans.

Adie said he was seriously concerned about areas this side of Woodhead Road being released for housing.

Janet advised that the flood authority still had an important role to play and they had objected to the current plans by Barratt Homes to build 85 homes off Cemetery Road. She added that it's important to log any wildlife sightings at <https://www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/record-sighting> as Derbyshire Wildlife Trust are consulted on any major planning applications in our area.

Manor Park café – Twig have been appointed. Both Paul and Adie had been pushing for Twig and others to be given the chance to tender since August 2025.

Trees in Manor Park. Adie heard what he thought were fireworks – it was a tree coming down expectedly. Take care.

Residents asked about Japanese Knotweed on the lane towards Tanyard Farm on the river bank and also at the top of Swineshaw Reservoir. Adie said he would contact the relevant authorities.

Andrea thanked Jean, Paul and Adie for their updates and for their support for the local community.

Review of the past year

The Christmas Market was a great success, raising funds for OGRA, Glossop Mountain Rescue and Old Glossop Scouts. This year's Market is due to take place on **Sunday 6 December**.

The Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch was enjoyed by 50 at the Queen's. This year's is planned for 15 December. We prioritise pensioners living on their own or those who find it difficult to get out. Email ograplanning@gmail.com if you know (or are) someone you think should get an invite.

Finances (full report attached)

OGRA started with a very healthy balance of £8963.80. Now £11,068.50 but there are some payments to make and part of the balance is ring-fenced for the Swift project. OGRA has spent funds on skips for the village stream clean and Wellgate car park clean up, a continuous flow of wonderful plants (thank you to Louise Hughes), swift boxes, Christmas tree lights and the bee box workshop. We have contributed funding to enable us to hold the Senior Citizens Christmas Meal and the Carols Round the Christmas Tree.

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We have received donations from local businesses Shepley's and Howmet Aerospace; from the voluntary entrance money contributions to the Christmas Market, that we share with the Scouts; from our Old Glossop Councillors (Paul Hardy, Adrian Hopkinson) and from our Derbyshire County Councillor (Jean Wharmby). We are grateful for all their support and donations.

OGRA donated £500 to Glossop Mountain Rescue and £200 to Glossopdale Foodbank from the Christmas Eve Carols Round the Christmas Tree event.



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Environment & Biodiversity review and plans for the year

Wellgate car park: Residents cleared and cleaned up the car park, creating more parking space, built a bug hotel and planted bulbs.

Stream Clean: Heavy rain meant the stream clean had to be put back a day but it was still a great community event. Clearing overgrown vegetation has ensured the brook on Wesley Street flows freely. A great side effect has been the abundance of wildflowers this spring. This year's stream clean will be on **Saturday 7th November**.

Mowing Regimes: HPBC agreed 'A New Approach to Mowing regimes across the High Peak' as part of their Parks Strategy – and, thanks to efforts from Carole Hallam, three 'No Mow' sites in Old Glossop have been piloted.

Swifts & Wildlife Project: Rebecca Bridges reported that more swifts have been sighted this year. Using swift callers has attracted them to the swift boxes put up around the village and one pair have nested in a box on Bute Street. Rebecca's WhatsApp group were able to follow their progress on videos from the nest box camera. Sadly the two chicks that hatched died in the heatwave. Becca plans to buy two more swift callers, and a **coffee morning at Shepley's on Sunday 27 September** will raise funds for the project. Rebecca has been helping some residents to start nature-friendly gardening. Using plants for pollinators, creating ponds, giving access for hedgehogs and simply putting water out in hot weather has helped our local wildlife. For more information, email ograplanning@gmail.com

Rebecca Bridges told the meeting about a **Potential Local Wildlife Site** (PLWS) designation via Deryshire Wildlife Trust (DWT) covering Swineshaw Reservoir and Cote Lodge. The new owners of the fishing licence for Cote Lodge want to maintain and improve biodiversity and, with support from the local community and permission from landowner United Utilities, the area could be assessed, surveyed and potentially identified as a Local Wildlife Site. DWT would then provide advice on how to manage the area. Local Wildlife Sites have to be considered when any planning development is proposed nearby. Residents at the meeting were in support of this. If you have any comments on this, or any concerns, please email ograplanning@gmail.com

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Planters: The planters at the bottom of Church Street South fell apart and the two on Shepley Street also need replacing. Residents at the meeting were in favour of sourcing sustainable planters with a long shelf life.

Bee Box Workshop: Ten residents attended the Bee Nesting Boxes workshop and enjoyed making the boxes which are now in their gardens, attracting solitary bees.

Planned visit to Higher Plainsteads Farm on Monks Road, a farm under Higher Level Stewardship, to learn more about biodiversity. Visits can take place on evenings (6pm) or daytime, weekday or weekends. The visits last around 2.5 hours and end in Sally Hodgson's new educational space with tea and biscuits. Children welcome. The minimum number of attendees is 6 and the maximum is 20. Please email ograplanning@gmail.com to register your interest with your session time/day preference and number of adults and children wishing to join in. We'll then fix a date.

The Parish Church Eco Garden is looking great and increasing biodiversity. Anyone is welcome to go along on a Saturday morning to help Barbara Fearnley and other volunteers.

Your suggestions: We welcome any suggestions you have for improving the local environment. Please email us with any plans you have that you're prepared to lead on and do any necessary risk assessments. Some activities need to be checked if they are still covered by our insurance.

Plans for this year's Christmas Market – Sunday 6th December

- Event planning has changed. There's more health and safety requirements with more detailed risk assessments and we will need to hire St John's Ambulance to provide first aid cover
- We will need more volunteers, particularly marshalls and at least 2 trained fire wardens. We'll pay for the training but we need volunteers who can commit to attending the market.
- Marshalls will need to be assertive and be responsible for evacuating visitors if necessary
- We will have a Christmas Market meeting in September and decide whether we can go ahead
- In the meantime, if you're willing to get involved, please email ograplanning@gmail.com

Officers

The following officers were re-elected: Andrea Heathcote (Vice Chair); Janet Bingham (Secretary); Stella Jones (Treasurer); and the current committee members. We welcome new members. We have 7-8 meetings a year and you can take on as little or as much as you want. There's no pressure.

If you're not on our mailing list and want to receive our regular updates, please email ograplanning@gmail.com. We also post updates on our [Old Glossop Matters Facebook page](#) and our website oldglossop.org

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Any Other Business

Coffee mornings: Given the success of the Christmas lunch for our senior citizens, it was suggested that we should have regular coffee mornings, particularly in the winter months, for people to get together. What do you think? Let us know at ograplanning@gmail.com

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.