To: All Councillors,

As a Member of the Council, please treat this as your summons to attend an extraordinary virtual meeting on Thursday, 03 September 2020 at 6.00pm via the Zoom application. (Joining details will be provided separately).

Under Regulations made under the Coronavirus Act 2020, the meeting will be held virtually. As a member of the public you can view the virtual meeting via the District Council’s website at www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk or via our YouTube channel.

Yours sincerely,

James McLaughlin
Director of Corporate and Customer Services

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

Please advise the Committee Team on 01629 761133 or e-mail: committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk of any apologies for absence.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public Participation, as provided for in the Constitution, is suspended temporarily and is replaced with an alternative mechanism for the public to bring matters to the Council’s attention.

Members of the public will be able to comment, only, on the single item listed in the agenda and will be invited to submit their questions or comments in writing, before 12 noon on the working day prior to the meeting by:

Web-form: Make your submission here
Email: committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
Post: Democratic Services, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Town Hall, Matlock DE4 3NN

The Committee Team will assist any member of the public without access to electronic means by capturing their concerns over the telephone.
The public will not be admitted to the meeting through virtual means. All meeting proceedings open to the public will be streamed live on our YouTube channel when all non-exempt items are being considered. Recordings of the meeting will also be available after the event on the District Council’s website.

3. INTERESTS

Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any interests they may have in subsequent agenda items in accordance with the District Council’s Code of Conduct. Those interests are matters that relate to money or that which can be valued in money, affecting the Member her/his partner, extended family and close friends. Interests that become apparent at a later stage in the proceedings may be declared at that time.

4. PROPOSAL OF A NOTICE OF MOTION (RULE OF PROCEDURE 7)

MOTION

The Council will debate the following Motion, submitted by Councillors: Jacqueline Allison, Neil Buttle, Paul Cruise, Clare Gamble and Peter O’Brien, in accordance with Rule of Procedure 7.

That this Council:

Notes the significant recent increase in the use of disposable barbecues in the open countryside in the District, and the number of wild fires that have had a devastating and long-lasting deleterious impact on the ecology and biodiversity of our precious natural landscapes.

The Council therefore resolves to:

1. Urgently undertake a public consultation exercise to ascertain the level of support for the introduction of a Public Spaces Protection Order, to prohibit the use of portable and disposable barbecues, the lighting of fires, and any other activities which may increase the risk of wild fires; such an Order to extend to those areas of the District which are considered to be most vulnerable to outbreaks of wild fires;

2. Include an Equalities Impact Assessment in the public consultation exercise, to ensure that the effect of any Order on all sections of the community is taken into account;

3. Subject to the outcome of the public consultation exercise, and its consideration by Council, or an appropriate Committee, agree to the principal of the introduction of a Public Spaces Protection Order to prohibit the activities described in para 1 above;

4. Ensure that the drafting of any Order does not disadvantage the local tourism and hospitality industry, such that activities prohibited in the open countryside may be permitted in controlled and supervised locations such as licensed caravan and camping sites, the grounds of public houses, and under the auspices of managed and supervised community events;
5. In view of the ability for wild fires to spread rapidly, invite neighbouring local authorities to consider the introduction of appropriate Public Spaces Protection Orders, as outlined above, to maximise the protection given to vulnerable habitats and landscape areas;

6. To invite the Peak District National Park Authority to actively participate in the public consultation exercise outlined in para 1 above and in the drafting of any subsequent Order; the Authority also be invited to share the financial costs of the introduction of any Order;

7. Agree that, due to the urgency of the situation giving rise to the need to consider the introduction of a Public Spaces Protection Order, and the potential impact of the process on internal staff resources, the use of external resources be approved if deemed appropriate; such resources to be funded from the General Reserve.

5. SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

To authorise that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to those documents, if any, required completing transactions undertaken by Committees or by way of delegated authority to others, since the last meeting of the Council

NOTE

For further information about this Agenda or on “Public Participation” call 01629 761133 or e-mail: committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk