

# Planning Service Parishes Bulletin 10

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*February 2015*

## Introduction of Charging for Pre-Planning Application Advice for Householders

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The financial squeeze on the national park budget (reduced by 36 per cent since 2011) means we continue to look for ways of bringing in money towards the cost of providing our services. This is why, from April 1, we are charging for pre-application planning advice to householders.

Set at £100, including VAT, the charge for advice is a relatively small part of the cost of any development. It means that individuals cover some of the planning cost involved rather than it being paid for by all tax payers.

John Scott, director of planning explains: "If you plan to build an extension to your home or make alterations that need planning permission, you will be charged for the advice you receive before submitting a planning application. You will be paying for specialist advice that is tailored to your particular plans. The advice you receive will help you achieve an application that is more likely to be approved. Whilst the planning advice fee will still not cover our costs, it will help us operate a high quality planning service in a time of severe budget cuts." Advice on listed building works remains free of charge.

## Rural housing: new national guide for parish councils launched

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Midlands Rural Housing have joined with their rural housing colleagues across the country to launch a new guide promoting affordable rural homes.

The guide is written by the Rural Housing Alliance and Rural Services Network and is aimed at parish councils. It promotes the benefit of affordable rural housing developments and the role that parish councils can play in their delivery.

Midlands Rural is also really pleased that their development at Youlgrave features as an example of good practice in the guide.

The guide opens with a call to action from HRH The Princess Royal who is Patron of English Rural Housing Association and a longstanding advocate of affordable rural housing. She is encouraging parish councils to take the lead in tackling the affordable housing crisis facing the countryside.

HRH The Princess Royal commented: "Small scale affordable rural housing developments help to rebalance communities, keeping families together whilst providing a boost for local services. Parish and town councils are a driving force for change and a key partner in delivering affordable homes for local people."

Midlands Rural hope this guide will help them with their work and lead to more parish councils taking up the challenge, supporting the research and development of affordable rural homes for local people in their own community.

You can download a copy of the guide here:  
<http://www.midlandsrural.org.uk/media/77165/affordable-rural-housing-a-practical-guide-for-parish-councils.pdf>

## See it and Believe it: Youlgrave Community Land Trust

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On Tuesday 24th March, between 10am & 4pm there is a National CLT Network event in Youlgrave for representatives of established, prospective or emerging Community Land Trusts.: At the event you will get tips on navigating the planning process for schemes located in the National Park, hear about the experience of partnering with a housing association and learn from a neighbouring village about creating a community-owned pub, cafe and post office.

For further booking please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/see-it-and-believe-it-youlgrave-clt-tickets-14893967257> or email [zoe@communitylandtrusts.org.uk](mailto:zoe@communitylandtrusts.org.uk) to find out more.

## PDNPA Planning Twitter Feed @PDNPAPlanning



Twitter is a micro blogging website where you can share any kind of information, but only in 140 characters. You can now follow us on Twitter @PDNPAPlanning; we tweet planning decisions on the day they are made at the Planning Committee and other relevant and useful Planning or PDNPA information. We encourage you to engage with us in this way.

## Invite us to your Parish Council Meeting

The Planning Service of the Peak District National Park Authority has been looking at ways to improve our relationships and communication with various bodies, including Parish Councils. Our Director, John Scott, and other Planning Service team members have been visiting Parishes and talking to them about planning in the National Park and listening to them about their concerns and any local issues. If you would like us to visit one of your meetings, please get in touch.

**If you have any queries about this bulletin please contact the Planning Liaison officer [diane.jackson@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:diane.jackson@peakdistrict.gov.uk) or 01629 816328**