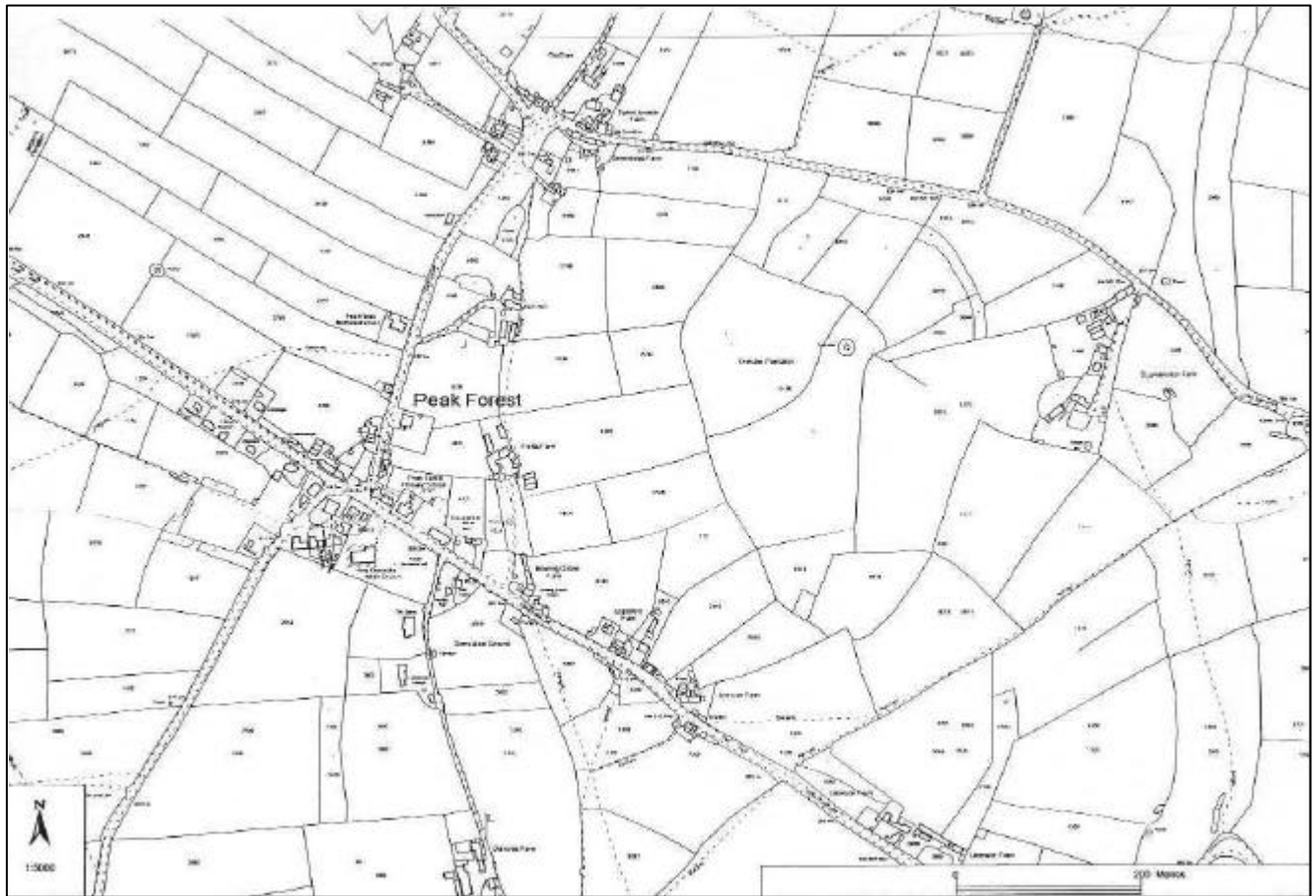


Peak Forest

Peak Forest sits on the A623, which bisects the village, and lies five miles from the large market town of Buxton in Derbyshire. It is a small rural village with a population of approximately 120 dwellings, which house around 250 residents who live in the main part of the village adjacent to the A623, and in Old Dam approximately a quarter of a mile to the north, or on outlying farms. The village has several businesses, including a concrete batching plant. There are approximately 12 working farms within the village of Peak Forest and many more within the wider boundary of the parish that make an important contribution towards the economy and vibrancy of the village. Peak Forest lies near the edge of the Peak District National Park but is not one of the 'honey-pot' villages that attract tourists. During 2001/02 both tourism and farming within the village have suffered from the effects of Foot and Mouth, poor weather and the economic climate.

There is a public house in the village which offers residential accommodation and has a restaurant. There is also a general store and Post Office, and a petrol station with a gift shop. There is a daily milk delivery service and a mobile library visits every two weeks. There is a church and a village hall, known as the Reading Room, which serves the village's needs. The village primary school currently has around 45 pupils and serves the surrounding villages as well as Peak Forest. The nearest nursery school provision is in Buxton, five miles away and for secondary school provision the children travel to Buxton or Hope Valley nearly eight miles away. Outdoor recreational facilities are limited in the village. A recreation ground serves both the school and the community. Most other facilities such as banks, swimming pool, leisure facilities and medical centre are located in Buxton, although there is some limited provision in the nearby village of Tideswell, five miles to the east, or at Chapel-en-le-Frith, five miles to the west.

There are several community groups in existence in Peak Forest, for example: darts, dominoes, craft group, playgroup and a flourishing art group. There are also committees that represent a wide variety of interests such as the Parish Council, the Reading Room, the Parochial Church Council and the Village Management Committee.



Peak Forest