

**MINUTES OF THE 1052nd WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 15 MAY 2023
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

PRESENT: Councillors, Harper, Mrs Berry (Chair), Dickenson, Mrs France, Hayes and Wheale.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Carr (Parish Clerk) and one resident.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Scambler. Mrs Monaghan was welcomed to the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Harper declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 99/05/23 Planning Application 23/00368/FULHH as the application is a distant relative. Councillor Harper took no part in the discussion on this item.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

93/05/23 Following discussion, Councillor Harper was elected Chairman for the 2023-24 Year.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

94/05/23 Following a Discussion, Councillor Mrs Berry was elected Vice-Chairman for the 2023-24 Year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2023/2024

95/05/23 Following a Discussion, the representatives were agreed as follows: -

Chorley Liaison Meetings – Councillors M Harper / T Dickenson
LAPTC Chorley Area Committee representatives – Councillor R Wheale
(Substitute – Councillor Mrs K Berry)
Chorley Council Easter parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting – Councillor M Harper
Chorley Council Equality Forum – Councillor Mrs M France
Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall Committee representative – Councillor Mrs K Berry
Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial Trustee Representative - Councillor R Wheale
Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial Trustees – Mr B Mason, Mrs D Gorton, Mr T Dickenson and Mr R Wheale

Heapey and Wheelton Charity Trust Trustees Representative - Councillors R Wheale
Tree Warden – Councillor M Harper
Press Officer - Councillors T Dickenson. Any emergency press release should be a bland statement produced in consultation with Councillors.
Communications (Newsletter) Co-ordinator – Parish Clerk – assisted by Councillor M Harper
Wheelton Website Co-ordinator – Parish Clerk
Rivington and Brinscall Local Advisory Group – Councillor Hayes.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 3 APRIL 2023

96/05/23 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council.

POLICE REPORT

The Clerk reported that there was no report from the Police this month.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs Monaghan advised that she was requesting that a public bench be placed approximately a third of the way up Whins Lane to provide a resting place for walkers, particularly those with compromised mobility who may find difficulty with the long, steady climb up the hill.

Councillors were happy to investigate further and the Clerk was requested to obtain further information and costings.

Councillors questioned the issue of running water along the path from Whins Lane to the Canal and were advised that the path had been repaired and two of the pumping station pipes were repaired and the running water had been removed. There was still an issue with field drainage, but the Farmer was discussing this matter.

Councillor Mrs Berry advised that there was a drain on Meadow Street that was blocked with gravel from the crumbling road surface. The Clerk was requested to report this to the County Council.

ENHANCING WHEELTON

a) Traffic Matters

Councillors Harper and Haynes advised that they would be dismantling the finger post at the Memorial Gardens to allow for repairs to be undertaken.

Councillors noted the closure of Harbour Lane, Higher Wheelton on Monday 19 June 2023 to undertaken work to the overhead communication cables.

b) Recreation Area Enhancement

Councillors noted the circulated quotation for additional playground equipment.

97/05/23

Following discussion of the amended quotation, it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should question whether there was any discount to be had but to also accept the quotation as circulated if not.

c) War Memorial

Councillor Wheale advised that the War Memorial Clock would need some repairs next year when it was serviced and advised that the cost would be approximately £500.

98/05/23

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should write to the War Memorial Trust and Heapey Parish Council to advise that this work would be necessary to be undertaken.

PLANNING MATTERS

99/05/23

The Parish Council considered the following planning applications and RESOLVED to make the following observations:

23/00271/FUL Logwood Stables, Brinscall Mill Road, Wheelton
New detached house following partial demolition of existing stables building.

The Parish Council objected strongly on the grounds of:

- This is a new build on a green belt field.
- The partial demolition of the existing stables building is not in the same area and not relevant to the planning application for a new large house.

23/00337/FULHH Fairway, Blackburn Road, Higher Wheelton
Single storey side extension (following demolition of a rear bay window and utility room)

The Parish Council made no objection to this application.

23/00368/FULHH Bancroft Farm, Higher Simpson Fold, Higher Wheelton
Single Storey extension to southwest elevation (following demolition of existing conservatory and single storey projection to northwest elevation).

The Parish Council make no objection to this application.

23/00410/FUL The Croft, Lower Simpson Fold, Blackburn Road, Higher Wheelton
Section 73 application to vary conditions 3 (approved plans) and 6 (Landscaping) attached to planning permission ref: 21/01166/FUL (Demolition of an existing dwelling with detached garage, and construction of 1no. self-build eco-home) to change the design of the approved dwelling.

The Parish Council objection to this application on the following grounds:

- The ownership of the lane is not confirmed as stated in the application. Highways have stated they want changes to the access which the landowner would need to do.
- There are several trees on the property that are significant and should be protected.
- Protected Wildlife – there is a bat roost in the roof of the existing buildings.
- The balcony overlooks neighbouring properties and is intrusive.
- The size of the building is excessive for the plot and is a substantial volume increase.
- Size, scale, and design are not in keeping with the surrounding area.

Councillor Dickenson left the meeting at 9.00pm.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

100/05/23 All accounts were authorised for payment:

Mrs J Carr – Salary May – £400.00
Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions May - £100.00
BHIB – Annual Insurance - £919.30
LALC – Annual Subscription - £181.49

DD Easy Websites – Web Hosting and Support May – £27.60

Councillor Dickenson left the meeting at 9.00pm.

ACCOUNTS

101/05/23 Councillors APPROVED the Audit Statement for signature and APPROVED Mrs Joanne Ainsworth as the Internal Auditor for the 2022/23 Financial Year.

CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL'S HOUSING ASSISTANCE POLICY CONSULTATION

102/05/23 The Parish Council discussed the previously circulated consultation on the proposed changes to Chorley Borough Council's Housing Assistance Policy.

The Parish Council RESOLVED to support the proposed changes to Chorley Borough Council's Housing Assistance Policy

CHORLEY MAYOR'S CIVIC SUNDAY PARADE AND SERVICE

103/05/23 Councillors RESOLVED to note the invitation to Chorley's Mayor's Civic Sunday Parade and Service.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- There were no items for information.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 5 June 2023 at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Minutes approved and accepted as correct.

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Chair

Dated