

**MINUTES OF THE 1081<sup>st</sup> WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 5 JANUARY 2026  
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs J Carr (Parish Clerk).

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Scambler and Wheale.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs Berry declared an interest in item 340/01/26 cheques to S Berry as she is related to the contractor.

**MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 1 DECEMBER 2025**

**339/01/26** The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair on behalf of the Parish Council.

**POLICE REPORT**

There was no report from the Police.

The Clerk gave an overview of the crime statistics for the Parish as published on the Police website for October 2025.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Councillors noted the Carols around the Tree event run by the Friends of Wheelton Christmas Tree had been very well attended. It was noted that the person collecting money had been confused about who the collection was going to and had stated that it was for a bench in the memorial gardens. Councillors noted that no request had been made to site a bench in the gardens. Councillors agreed that when the funds were received a letter should be sent thanking them for the donation but reminding them that they need to request permission to use the land, which would be given but there needs to be a document trail and the Council would need sight of the insurance certificate.

Councillors reported that it had been mentioned that the County Council would not be recharging the grit bins when they were empty. The Clerk was requested to ask for confirmation of the County Council policy regarding grit bins.

The Clerk reported that she had seen a post stating that the village hall would have a new dance class booking the small room at the village hall on Mondays from 7pm to 8pm. The Clerk had contacted the village hall organisers to remind them that the Parish Council had a long-standing booking for that room from 7.45pm until 10.00pm and needed to set up the room and the dance class would need to clear away after their class ended at 8.00pm. The Clerk was assured that the Parish Council's booking was still valid but that they may need to meet in the Nursery rooms. The Nursery owner would open the room for the Council and adequate signage could be put up to advise the change of room to members of the public.

## **ENHANCING WHEELTON**

### **a) Traffic Matters**

- i) Repairs to the finger post. Councillor Hayes reported that he had been contacted by someone from Chorley Borough Council who has a contractor in Chorley who refurbishes street signs. Councillor Hayes had tried to contact them but had no response. Councillor Hayes had also tried to contact the County Council Officer regarding signs but again had not managed to make any contact.

Councillor Hayes advised that he would continue to try and contact the contractors to move the project forward.

### **b) Recreation Area Enhancement**

The Clerk reported that Chorley Borough Council had still not responded to her emails regarding the replacement of the bark on the Play Area.

### **c) War Memorial**

The Clerk reported that the Tree Surgeon had inspected the tree in the War Memorial Garden that had lost a limb and had advised that the tree was diseased and would require removing. The tree had therefore been removed.

Councillors reported that they were happy with the size of the Christmas tree in the war memorial gardens and felt that the lighting had been very effective.

### **d) Benches**

The Clerk reported that the water board had confirmed that they had removed the bench on Buckholes Lane and would be replacing it as soon as they could arrange it. The Clerk had requested to see details of the new bench before it was installed but had received nothing yet.

## **PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no plans to consider.

## **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS**

**340/01/26** All accounts were authorised for payment:

Richard Ryan Lighting – Replacement Cheque - £1081.08  
Mrs J Carr – Salary January – £537.62  
Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions January - £172.42  
S Berry – War Memorial Maintenance - £240.00  
S Berry – Grounds Maintenance and Bench Repairs - £1345.00  
Richard Ryan Lighting – Christmas Tree Removal - £556.92  
Beardwood Tree Services – War Memorial Tree Removal - £620.00

DD Easy Websites – Web Hosting and Support January – £30.36

## **POLICIES**

**341/01/26** Councillors RESOLVED to adopt the Grant Policy and IT Policy as circulated.

The Clerk left the meeting for this item.

## **CLERK'S PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

On the Clerks return, she was informed that she had had a successful performance review and was doing very well ensuring that the Council was running lawfully and efficiently. The Clerk was thanked for her work during the year.

## **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- Rivington and Brinscall Local Advisory Group – 4 March 2026.
- Mayor of Chorley's Charity Ball – Burns Night and Ceilidh – 23 January 2026.
- Eastern Parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting – Wednesday 25 March 2026

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 2 February 2026 at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Minutes approved and accepted as correct.

..... Chair

Dated .....