

**MINUTES OF THE 1048<sup>th</sup> WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 9 JANUARY 2023  
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mrs Berry (Chair), Dickenson, Mrs M France, Hayes and Scambler

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

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Wheale.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Berry and Scambler declared a non-pecuniary interest in 67/01/23 Cheque to S Berry as the payee is known to them.

**MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 5 DECEMBER 2022**

**65/01/23** The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council.

Councillor Hayes reported that there had been approximately 1,500 people in attendance so suggested that next year the PA system needed to be larger to allow people at the back of the crown to hear. It was very encouraging but the Council may need to consider setting a budget for future years.

**POLICE REPORT**

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

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Councillor Mrs Berry reported that there was a drain on Bett Lane where the road surface was breaking up around the drain. The Clerk was requested to report it to the County Council.

**ENHANCING WHEELTON**

**a) Traffic Matters**

Councillors noted that the repairs to the finger post at the Memorial Gardens were still ongoing.

Councillors noted the email from Mrs Walsh regarding the number of advertising signs and the condition of them along the A674 which had been circulated. Councillors noted that the Borough Council had previously been contacted regarding the signs.

**66/01/23** It was RESOLVED that Councillor Hayes provides the details of each sign to the Clerk who would write to each business to confirm if the signs were still current and if the business was aware of the regulations they must comply with.

Councillor Mrs France joined the meeting.

Councillors noted the email regarding road safety on the A674 from Mr James which had been circulated. County Councillor Cullen advised that he was meeting with Phil Durnell next week and would be discussing speeds on the A674. County Councillor Cullen gave an overview of issues to be discussed at the meeting. Following requests from the Parish Council, County Councillor Cullens will investigate whether the camera was working and if it was a forward and backwards facing camera. County Councillor would also investigate the issue of SPID's.

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

The Clerk reported that the new equipment had been installed on the Meadow Street Play area but that the ground levelling and new bark had not been able to be undertaken and installed due to the level of ground frost but that the Contractor had agreed to leave the fencing in place until after Christmas.

The Clerk advised that a grant had been applied for from the Play and Open Spaces Fund which would be used towards the second part of the Play Equipment refurbishment.

#### **c) War Memorial**

The war memorial re-pointing would be done in the spring when the weather had improved.

### **PLANNING MATTERS**

Councillors noted the discussions previously around the work at Botany Bay. Councillor Mrs France Dickenson reported there had been a change of use from housing to employment. It was noted that the high-end outlet area will not be for distribution and industrial use. It was also noted that this was not in the Parish of Wheelton.

Councillor Dickenson highlighted that funding had been put aside for road changes in the area but no changes had been identified.

### **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS**

**67/01/23** All accounts were authorised for payment:

Mrs J Carr – Salary January – £397.34  
Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions January - £99.20  
S Berry – Grounds Maintenance - £920.00

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

### **PRECEPT 2022/23**

**68/01/23** The Parish Council RESOLVED to set the precept at £15,425 which would be a 3% increase on last year.

### **PRIVATISATION OF WITHNELL HEALTH CENTRE**

Councillor Mrs France gave an overview of the history around the lead up to the tendering process for the contract to run Withnell Health Centre and it was noted that there had been no public consultation of the users of the service. There had been a number of local meetings and Councillors advised that they had already put in objections to the privatisation of surgery.

The Councillors were concerned about the new providers would not be local and were part of a very large group and it was felt that the residents would not getting continuity of care. The Parish Council was not criticising the new organisation but did not know about the proposed changes before hand and were celebrating the current providers which were working very well and looked after the community.

**69/01/23** The Parish Council RESOLVED the Clerk should write to the Integrated Care Board, MP, Health Watch Lancashire and any other interested parties to advise of the Parish Council's concerns about the lack of consultation and the need to make this change when things were working well.

Councillor Dickenson left the meeting at this point.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITY PROJECT IDEAS**

**70/01/23** Following discussion; the Parish Council RESOLVED that the Clerk should inform the Borough Council that they would like the cleaning and repair of the local road signs to be included in the Neighbourhood Priority Project Areas.

### **CENTRAL LANCASHIRE LOCAL PLAN PREFERRED OPTIONS**

Councillors noted the report circulated and noted that there would be a drop in

meeting at the Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall on Thursday 2 February 2023.

Councillor Mrs France highlighted that there were two areas in the Parish included in the report; the Black Lion Field and the area opposite Victoria Terrace.

Councillors were advised to visit the village hall to see the plans.

**71/01/23**

The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Clerk should put a paragraph on the Parish Council website highlighting the drop in session in the Village Hall and on the Notice Boards.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- Village Hall AGM – Tuesday 10 January 2023
- Rivington and Brinscall Local Advisor Group meeting – 8 March 2023 at 6.30pm at Chorley Town Hall.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 6 February 2023 at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Minutes approved and accepted as correct.

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Chair

Dated .....