

**MINUTES OF THE 1070th WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 6th JANUARY 2025
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Carr (Parish Clerk).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs France, and Scambler. Apologies were also received from County Councillor Cullens

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Berry declared an interest in 249/01/25 Grounds Maintenance Contract and took no part in the discussion.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 4 NOVEMBER 2024

244/01/25 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair on behalf of the Parish Council.

Councillor Hayes reported that the missing Millbrook Close sign reported at the last meeting had been knocked over by a Lostock Skip Hire lorry who had taken it back to the depot for repairs. The Clerk was requested to pass the information on to Chorley Council.

POLICE REPORT

The Clerk reported that there had been no reported crimes for October. November and December data has not been recorded yet.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Councillors reported the following:

- The Green area on the Layby at Whins Lane is waterlogged. The water is now standing on the roadway and running between the kerbstones and down the footpath. The majority of the drains are full, so they are not taking any additional water.
- Sewage is running from the drain below Whins Kitchen and into the river. This has been reported to the Environment Agency.
- The drain at the bottom of the steps from Victoria Street to West View is full

and not draining.

- Water is running off the land near the Dressers arms and flowing across the A674 because it cannot get to the culvert. The Grids are full and not taking any more water. The Clerk was requested to advise County Councillor Cullens about the problems.

ENHANCING WHEELTON

a) Traffic Matters

Councillor Hayes had reported that work on the finger post was still ongoing.

b) Recreation Area Enhancement

The Clerk advised that the Gate Closure gas strut on the playground pedestrian gate had failed. The strut was only guaranteed for 12 months, and the current one had been purchased 24 months ago so was out of warranty. A new strut had been quoted at £119.18.

245/01/25

The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Clerk should purchase a new gas strut for the gate fitting.

c) War Memorial

Councillors noted that the Carols Around the Tree event had taken place with about 150 less people attending which should have helped the traffic situation although there had been at least one vehicle having to drive through the people and struggling to get them to move.

Councillor Dickenson reported that the road closures would cost approximately £1800 each for the three, marshals training cost £175 each ten years ago and the event should have approximately 10. The event would also require insurance. It was noted that should the group want to continue to organise the event, they should fund it themselves. It was noted that the group would need to request permission to use the War Memorial Garden if they run the event again next year in the same way that anyone using the gardens or the Recreation Grounds would have to. Councillors noted that the event will go on the May Agenda for review.

PLANNING MATTERS

246/01/25

The Parish Council make the following comments on planning applications received:

24/01019/FULHH 6 Lawton Close Higher Wheelton
Detached garage and change of material on dwellinghouse from brick to stone.

Wheelton Parish Council RESOLVED to make no object to this application.

24/01060/FUL Overlook Barn South Miry Fold Farm Briers Brow Wheelton
Siting of a static caravan to facilitate the provision of agricultural storage and staff canteen facilities.

Wheelton Parish Council RESOLVED to make no objections to this application but raise the concern that this moves towards future development of greenbelt. It was also noted that the access to the building to bring supplies etc and take waste away is not close to the current pathway.

24/01058/FUL Hillview Stables, Buckholes Lane, Wheelton.
Section 73 application to vary conditions 2 (business use) and 7 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 16/00268/FUL (Replacement of stable block and temporary storage buildings with new timber stable and equestrian storage building) to enable the stables to be used for livery purposes.

Wheelton Parish Council RESOLVED to raise the concern that this is turning the site into a business, which means that the land could then be developed. The increase in traffic was also a concern.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

247/01/25 All accounts were authorised for payment:

Mrs J Carr – Salary January – £449.31
Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions January - £112.40
Mr M Harper – Christmas Lights - £50.48

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

PRECEPT

Councillors noted the previously circulated draft precept and discussed the proposals.

248/01/25 Councillors RESOLVED to The Parish Council RESOLVED to set the precept at £16,521 which would be a 2% increase on last year.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

249/01/25 The Clerk advised that the current three year Grounds Maintenance Contract finishes on 31 March 2025. Councillors discussed whether to go out to re-tender or whether to offer an extension to the current contract. Councillors felt that the

current contractor was doing an excellent job which was value for money.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should offer the current Grounds Maintenance Contractor an extension of a further three year contract.

250/01/25 It being 9.30pm, Councillors RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders for half an hour.

CLERK'S SALARY GRADING

Councillors noted the SLCC spreadsheet showing the roles for the Clerk and the relevant grading. It was noted that there were a large number of areas that fell into LC2 and a number in LC1.

251/01/25 The Parish Council RESOLVED to raise the Clerks salary to the LC2 below substantive range starting at point 20 with an annual review from January 2025.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S ROAD CLOSURES

252/01/25 Councillors RESOLVED to note the information regarding Lancashire County Council's proposed road closure on Buckholes Lane, Wheelton.

CHORLEY LIAISON MEETING

253/01/25 Councillors RESOLVED to note the Chorley Liaison meeting on 22 January 2025 and had not suggested items for the agenda.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- Chorley Liaison meetings – 22 January 2025 and 19 March 2025.
- Rivington & Brinscall Local Advisory Group – 5 March 2025.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 3 February 2025 at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Minutes approved and accepted as correct.

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Chair

Dated