

**MINUTES OF THE 956th WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 6 JANUARY 2014
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

PRESENT:

Councillors Dickenson, Berry, Scambler, Stewart and Wheale.

Clerk: Parish Clerk Joanne Carr.

The Chairman wished all Councillors a happy New Year and started the meeting by thanking the Councillors who had delivered the Newsletter.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fowler and Hayes, Borough Councillor Hansford and County Councillor Snape.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

934/01/14 Councillor Wheale declared an interest in 940/01/14 Payments – Mrs Wheale.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 2 DECEMBER 2013.

935/01/14 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record with the following amendment:
Councillor Hayes had not been in attendance.

POLICE REPORT

In absence of the Police the Clerk the Chairman advised that he had visited the Police in their current location and reported that there may be a further re-organisation which could see the loss of Sergeants for designated areas. Councillor Dickenson reported that Sgt Appleton was due to start her maternity leave in the future and that that it was not known who would replace her. Councillors discussed police presence in the village.

It was RESOLVED that Councillor Dickenson should write to the Police Commissioner and the Chief Inspector to thank the police for their attendance at recent village events and to raise the concerns that as crime was low in Wheelton and Higher

Wheelton residents would not be receiving value for money from the police should they not continue to attend village community events.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Councillor Dickenson advised that Mr Hodgson and County Councillor Snape had raised concerns regarding matters that were being discussed under item 01/14.

The following matters were also reported:

- Two blocked drains on Bett Lane. A new grid had been installed on Whins Lane of the larger type and it was agreed that this larger grid should be requested for Bett Lane, the Bypass and the Centre of the Village.
- The Dog Waste Bin on the Canal Bank was overflowing
- The street light outside 17/18 Victoria Street was continually flickering on and off
- The street light outside 1 Millbrook close was now obscured by the tree and continually lit.

ENHANCING WHEELTON

1) PARKING ISSUES

936/01/14

Councillors noted that the parking problems had increased over the last month and that there were now a number of dangerous areas in the village – including the corner of Bett Lane and Blackburn new road, white vans parking on Victoria Street and the bottom of Meadow Street/Blackburn Road. Following discussion It was RESOLVED that the Clerk was should write to Parkwise and request that they meet with the Chairman to undertake a site visit to the worse effected areas.

937/01/14

Mr McLaughlin, Lancashire County Council had offered the Parish Council a trailer with a movable traffic control sign. Councillors discussed the issues involved including storage, re-charging and hiring the sign out to other Councils. It was RESOLVED that Councillor Dickenson should investigate the matter.

PLAY AREA PATHWAY

The Clerk reported that Chorley Council had requested the Parish Council's views on breaking through the wall, and installing a path from left to right at the top of the green space. A paved seating area would then be installed on the right hand side of the green space. A low knee rail would

also be installed to provide a barrier between the car park and the pathway. Funding was also not available at present and the Council were advised that other areas of funding were being investigated.

938/01/14 It was RESOLVED that the clerk should write to Chorley Council and advise that:

- The Parish Council approve the new scheme in principle with a seating area at the Victoria Street side of the play area a priority and a seating area at the Meadow Street area a secondary part of the project.
- The parish Council would also want to see the job specification before the work begins.

2) PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT

939/01/14 It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should obtain quotations for repairing the play equipment and bring them back to the February meeting.

PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning applications to consider.

FINANCIAL REPORT

940/01/14 All accounts were authorised for payment:
E-On – War memorial electricity – DD - £40.20
Mrs J Carr – Clerks Salary - £291.66
Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions - £72.80
CPRE – Annual Membership - £29.00
Mrs Wheale – Carols around the tree - £69.19

Councillors noted that there were an estimated 300 people at the Carols around the tree and that the event seems to be going from strength to strength.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CONSULTATION ON SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES

Councillors reviewed the budget proposals from the County Council relating to subsidised bus services. It was noted that the removal of the subsidies would mean that there would be no bus service in the village on a Sunday and that the last buses Monday to Saturday would be 6.40pm.

941/01/14 It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should write to the County Council to advise that the Parish Council are concerned about

the removal of the subsidised bus service as this would mean that there was no bus service on a Sunday or after 6.40pm Monday to Saturday. This would impact on elderly residents and low income families who rely on a bus service as there is no alternative public transport that serves Wheelton during these times. The Parish Council feel that the withdrawal of the service would be contradictory to Chorley Council's strategy of encouraging public transport usage and could also increase the number of vehicles parking in Wheelton, already a problem area, as the need for your own method of transport becomes more necessary.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE CONSULTATION

942/01/14 Councillors noted the information received regarding the Fire and Rescue Services key performance indications and it was RESOLVED to make no comment.

2014 IRON MAN ROUTE

Councillors received the information regarding the 2014 Iron Man route.

943/01/14 It was RESOLVED that Councillor Dickenson should contact the organisers or the 2014 Iron Man to raise the Parish Councils concerns regarding "graffiti" on some of the routes roads that was left following the 2013 event.

2014 BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY

944/01/14 It was RESOLVED that Councillor Wheale and Mrs Wheale should be nominated to be included in the 2014 LALC draw for invitations to the 2014 Buckingham Palace garden party.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- Borough / Parish Council Liaison meeting is scheduled to take place at the Town Hall, Chorley on Wednesday, 15 January 2014 at 6.30pm.
- LALC Chorley Area Committee meeting – 13 February 2014 at 7.00pm
- Environment Bulletin – Flood Risk Management
- LALC Spring Conference – April 2014
- LALC – training programme 2014

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 3 February 2014 at 8.00pm

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Minutes approved and accepted as correct

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Chairman

Dated