

**MINUTES OF THE 967<sup>th</sup> WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 5 JANUARY 2014  
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors Berry, Dickenson, Fowler, Hayes, Scambler and Wheale.

Borough Councillor Mrs M France and County Councillor K Snape.  
15 Members of the public.

**Clerk:** Parish Clerk Joanne Carr.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Wheale declared an interest in item 90/01/15 Cheque to Mrs A Wheale.

**MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 1 DECEMBER 2014**

87/01/15 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record. The following items were noted:  
No reply had been received from Chorley Borough Council regarding the issues relating to bins and dog bins.  
Quotations were outstanding for works to trees on the recreation area.

**POLICE REPORT**

The Clerk advised that there had been no report from the Police. The PACT meeting would take place on the 6 January 2015 and the Chairman advised that he would be attending.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Councillor Dickenson reported that a number of complaints had been received regarding the New Years Day Hunt relating to car and/or trailer parking and that Mr Jones, the official hunt organiser, had attended the meeting to answer any

questions. Councillors were advised that a number of trailers had parked on the A674 grassed areas causing damage and reminded that the race around the villages has legal restrictions relating to insurance, parking and marshalling that the Hunt are not required to comply with. Mr Jones advised that 93 riders had attended the hunt (compared to 60 last year) which meant that the Marshal had been unable to Marshal the parking effectively. The Hunt had learnt lessons from this years event which would be implemented next year including additional parking marshals to control vehicles being left during the hunt. Mr Jones apologised for any damage to the verges and advised that a working party was being set up to undertake a site visit and repair the verges where required. Councillors were disappointed that arrangements hadn't been arranged the following day rather than a week or two after the event. It was agreed that the Parish Council wanted to support local event and felt that the Hunt was part and parcel of being a rural community. It was noted that late comers and unexpected attendees were difficult to plan for and that marshals had limited powers but that the hunt could implement certain measures to control and enforce parking and questioned whether parking could be allocated or additional land sought for parking during the event.

The Clerk was requested to write to the hunt to advise them of the Parish Council's comments.

Members of the public in attendance were advised of the procedure for comments and were given an overview of the Borough Council proposal to install a seating area at the top end of the recreation area. Questions were raised and the following answers given:

- The proposal had initially been for a path from the top end of the recreation ground to the play area suitable for prams and pushchairs but the cost had been too prohibitive and the slope too steep, so a smaller project which would allow parents to oversee their children whilst giving them the independence of not having parents sat right next to them had been proposed.
- The project was a Borough Council funded project that had been proposed by the previous Borough Councillor. The funding was not for Wheelton so could not be spent on any other project within the Parish.
- The Police had been disappointed with the comment raised at the previous meeting that "there was no point reporting anything to the police as they would take no action". If the Police were not aware of any issues then they are unable to take any action.
- The seating area was in the position that the Borough Council Engineers had advised was the most suitable.
- The Borough Council had been advised that the project should only use materials that were sympathetic to the village
- 7 replies had been received in opposition to the proposal, there were 769 people on the register of electors and the newsletter had been delivered to all residents within the parish or made available in local shops/reception areas along with notices previously in the notice boards. Although the cut off had been set at the 24 December any comments received up until 7.30pm this

evening had been brought along to the meeting and would be considered. A number of the Councillors advised that they had received favourable comments for a seating area at the top of the recreation ground.

Discussions were had regarding the fencing off of the Village Hall car park and the members of the public were advised that the car park was managed by the Village Hall Trust and not the Parish Council and apart from a small kick fence designed to stop cars driving too far onto the grass at the top of the recreation ground and possibly sliding down the hill, the proposal did not include the car park area as the Parish Council had no remit in relation to the land.

The issues of rubbish, whether there should be a picnic bench in that position and access were again raised. The public were thanked for their attendance and invited to remain for the remainder of the meeting.

All members of the public left the meeting.

The Clerk advised that a pot hole had been reported outside 1 West View.

Councillor Hayes reported that the road signs on Whins lane were crumbling.

## **ENHANCING WHEELTON**

### **1) PARKING**

Councillor Dickenson advised that a company van had been parking on the grass verge on Millbrook Close and had done considerable damage to the ground. This had been reported to the company and the van had now been replaced by a black Vauxhall vehicle. The Borough Councillor and County Councillor were advised of the vehicle registration number should either wish to claim for repairs to the verge that would be required.

### **2) SPID TRAILER**

The Clerk advised that the batteries had been received and that arrangements would be made with the Chairman regarding the keys to establish whether any other works were needed on the trailer before it could be used. .

### **3) PLAY AREA**

Councillors discussed the matter of the seating area project and the following comments were noted:

- There was no evidence that a seat would provide a draw for local youths
- The seating area would be a provide a pleasant area for families to sit
- The area and seating provided would have to be maintained and may increase the grass cutting cost for the area
- The members of the public attending had no consistent reason against the proposal

- All residents had to be considered including other areas of Wheelton, Higher Wheelton and Heapey.

Councillors voted whether to support the Borough Council's proposal to provide access to the recreation area at the top end of the hill with a seating area and the result was as follows: 1 against, 4 in favour and 1 abstention.

88/01/15

The Clerk was requested to write to the Borough Council to advise that the Parish Council were in favour of the project in principle but that they would want to approve the specification before work was undertaken.

#### **4) ENHANCING WHEELTON**

89/01/15

Councillors Hayes and Fowler advised that they had not had time to look at the notice boards and the Clerk was requested to source some quotations for repairs from other sources.

#### **PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no planning application to consider.

#### **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS**

90/01/15

All accounts were authorised for payment:  
 Mrs J Carr – Clerks Salary January - £400.18  
 Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions - £80.00  
 Mrs J Carr – Expenses - £90.15  
 Royal British Legion – Poppy Wreath - £17.00  
 CPRE – Annual membership - £36.00  
 E-On – War Memorial Electricity – DD £41.22  
 Mrs A Wheele – Christmas Tree lights and refreshments - £94.30

#### **COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION**

Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

#### **BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY**

91/01/15

It was RESOLVED that in recognition of the work that Councillor Berry had done for the Guides and the village that the Clerk should nominate Councillor Berry and her daughter for the LALC Ballot for tickets to the 2015 Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

#### **FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS TO DECEMBER 2014.**

Councillors noted the income and expenditure and Receipts and Payments reports to September 2014.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The following items were noted for information

- The proposed road closure on harbour Lane, Wheelton Monday 9 March 2015 until Friday 13 March 2015 to enable utility works to take place.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 2 February 2015 at 8.00pm  
The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Minutes approved and accepted as correct

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Chairman

Dated .....