

Wheelton Parish Council

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**17 Higher Meadow
Clayton-le-Woods
Leyland PR25 5RJ**

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Joanne Carr

NOTICE OF MEETING

A Meeting of WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL will be held in the Small Hall, Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall, West View, Meadow Street, Wheelton at **8.00pm** on Monday 2 March 2026 for the transaction of the following business.

DATED this 23 February 2026

PARISH CLERK: Joanne Carr

A G E N D A

1. Apologies.
2. Declarations of Members' interests on any matters to be placed before the Council.
3. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 2 February 2026.
4. To consider the War Memorial Trust and Lease.
5. To consider the Police Report.
6. Public Forum.
7. Enhancing Wheelton.
 - (a) Traffic Issues – Finger Post
 - (b) Recreation Area
 - (c) War Memorial

- (d) Benches – Buckholes Lane
- Notice Boards

8. To Consider the Parish Council's response to Planning Applications received from the Borough Council.

26/00091/PIP Land 50M South-West Of 1 Whins Lane Wheelton
Permission in principle application for the erection of up to 4no. dwellings

9. To approve the schedule of payments.

10. To agree the Parish Council response to the Government Consultation on the five proposals for the new unitary councils.

11. To consider the Parish Council's response to the Lancashire County Council's proposed temporary road closure on Millbrook Close, Wheelton on 16/04/26 until 28/05/26 to enable Surface Dressing Carriageway Works to be carried out.

12. To note the information from Lancashire County Council regarding the internal Staff Volunteer Scheme.

13. To note the response from Lancashire County Council regarding grit bin refilling.

14. To receive any Items for Information only.

- Rivington and Brinscall Local Advisory Group meeting - Wednesday 4 March 6.30pm
- Chorley Liaison will be held on Wednesday, 18 March at 6.30pm at Chorley Town Hall
- Eastern Parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting – Wednesday 25 March 2026.
- Chorley Area Committee Meeting - LALC - Thursday, 11 June 2026, at 7pm – Chorley Town Hall.

15. Date of Next Meeting
Monday 13 April 2026 at 8.00pm.

Members of the Public

Welcome to Wheelton Parish Councils meeting if there is a specific item on the agenda you wish us to consider we will endeavour to deal with it as soon as possible.

Please note that we will allow a spokesperson to outline your views but we will have to impose a time limit on the discussion which will be a maximum of 15 minutes.

If there is a personal "verbal" attack or otherwise on any member of the council or public, the Clerk will issue a warning that the meeting will be suspended until order is restored.

If the disturbance continues the offender/offenders will be asked to leave and the meeting will reconvene at another time.

**MINUTES OF THE 1082nd 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, Hayes, Scambler and Wheale.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Carr (Parish Clerk).
One Member of the Public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Member of Public in attendance advised that they were in attendance to inform the Council that they were not in favour of the County Council proposal to install additional double yellow lines at the top of Victoria Street and extend the Bus stop markings on the road because a lot of the residents of Albert Street and Victoria Terrace park on this area. The residents also felt that the bus stop should be moved below the entrance to Millbrook Close.

The Member of the Public was thanked for her information and left the meeting.

Councillor Mrs Berry reported that there were a lot of potholes alongside the path on Meadow Street causing vehicles to drive on the path which was now breaking up and sinking. Contractors had attended last month but drove up the street and did not do anything. It was agreed that an article should be put in the summer newsletter to encourage residents to report potholes on Love Clean Streets to ensure that the County Council take responsibility for the condition of the road.

Councillor Hayes reported that Contractors had attended Victoria Street regarding the water leak off Victoria Terrace, had dug a hole and then filled it in but this has still not repaired the leak.

Councillors reported that the brambles growing over the wall on Whins Lane had now been cleared.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Hayes declared an interest in item 353/02/26 consultation on County Council traffic measures because he lives at the top of Victoria Street.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 5 JANUARY 2026

342/01/26 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair on behalf of the Parish Council.

Councillors were advised that the Friends of Wheelton Christmas Tree had passed on some of the funds raised to the War Memorial Trust.

343/02/26 It was RESOLVED that the Clerk write to thank them for the donation, confirm that the Parish Council was happy for them to continue to run the Carols around the Tree event and advise that guidelines for using Parish Council areas needed to be followed for future years.

Councillors discussed the ownership of the War Memorial and the Gardens and the Clerk was requested to investigate the deeds for the tower and gardens and clarify who was responsible for the whole garden and structures.

POLICE REPORT

There was no report from the Police.

ENHANCING WHEELTON

a) Traffic Matters

i) **Repairs to the finger post.** Councillor Hayes reported that he had contacted the suggested Contractor regarding refurbishing the street sign but they could not do the work required and had suggested a fabricating company in Adlington. Unfortunately, they also could not help. Councillor Hayes reported that he would continue to try and identify a contractor who could 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 Survey 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 the Christmas tree was still in situ in the war memorial gardens. The Clerk agreed to chase up removal of the tree.

d) Benches

The Clerk reported that the water board had advised that they were unable to find a new bench but requested that the Parish Council supply a new bench on Buckholes Lane and United Utilities would reimburse the cost.

344/02/26 It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should request quotations for a standards wooden bench and a reconstituted plastic bench and forward to United Utilities.

PLANNING MATTERS

345/02/26 The Parish Council RESOLVED to make the following comments on planning applications received:

26/00073/FUL Little Harbour Farm, Harbour Lane, Wheelton.
Section 73 application to vary condition 5 (self-build condition) of planning permission ref: 25/00593/FUL (Erection of 1 no. self-build dwelling (following demolition of existing buildings) and access alterations) in order to alter the individual named within the self-build condition.

Wheelton Parish Council made no objections to this application.

Q. What is Chorley allowing to be built on green belt?

A. If an application is within the same as the original footprint, it would be allowed but if new or over the original size it would not be allowed.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

346/02/26 All accounts were authorised for payment:

Mrs J Carr – Salary February – £537.42
Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions February - £172.62

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

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW

347/02/26 Councillors RESOLVED to note the information circulated regarding the preferred options of the 12 District Councils, LCC, Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool in regard to the Governments Local Government Review.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL SERVICE

348/02/26 Councillors RESOLVED to note the invitation to the Blackburn Cathedral Service to commemorate the 35th Anniversary of the Gulf War's Liberation of Kuwait.

CHORLEY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE FOR UKRAINE

349/02/26 Councillors RESOLVED to note the invitation to the Chorley and District Remembrance Service for Ukraine. Councillor Mrs France advised that she would be attending.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY

350/02/26 Councillors RESOLVED that the Chair should be the Parish Council's nomination for the draw for tickets for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party 2026.

351/02/26 CHORLEY COUNCIL TRAINING SESSION

The Parish Council RESOLVED to note Chorley Council's training session on Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs). Councillor Mrs France advised that she would be attending.

352/02/26 It being 9.30pm, The Parish Council RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to continue the meeting until 10.00pm.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

353/02/26 Governors noted the Traffic Regulation Orders received from Lancashire County Council and discussed the impact on residents, parking issues, problems with the buses not being able to access the village, sitings of bus stops and road safety.

LSG4/894.21630/AFR

LSG4/894.21629/AFR

LSG4/894.21631/AFR

LSG4/894.21633/AFR

LSG4/894.21632/AFR

Wheelton Parish Council RESOLVED to make no observations to these proposals.

LSG4/894.21635/AFR

Wheelton Parish Council RESOLVED to make the following observations to this proposal:

- This will contribute to road safety for all.
- This will remove the issue of cars parking on the A674 end of Victoria Street and obscuring the sightline.
- This will solve the problem of bus access but will cause another problem with vehicles parking somewhere else with a loss of public amenity.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- Rivington and Brinscall Local Advisory Group – 4 March 2026.
- Eastern Parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting – Wednesday 25 March 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 2 March 2026 at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.



You'll already know that last year, Government set out plans to replace Lancashire's existing councils with new unitary councils, each responsible for delivering all local services. To support this, councils across Lancashire were asked to put forward ideas for how reorganisation could work.

In November, five different proposals were submitted:

- One proposal for two unitary councils
- One proposal for three unitary councils
- Two proposals for four unitary councils
- One proposal for five unitary councils

You can view all proposals on the joint Lancashire LGR website:
<https://lancashirelgr.co.uk/proposals>

Government is now reviewing these proposals against the criteria it published earlier in 2025. Statutory consultation As part of the decision-making process, Government is running a statutory consultation on all five proposals to gather views from residents and stakeholders. The consultation will open tomorrow, Thursday 5 February and will run for 7 weeks, closing at 11:59pm on Thursday 26 March.

Please take part and share your views.

The consultation will mainly take place online. Once Government activates the consultation link on Thursday, it will be available on the joint Lancashire LGR website:
<https://lancashirelgr.co.uk/>

Next steps

After the consultation closes, Government's current timeline is:

- Summer 2026: Decision on the preferred option
- May 2027: Shadow elections for new unitary councils
- April 2028: New unitary councils go live

Local government Review

Preferred options of 12 districts, LCC , Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen

LCC	2 unitary councils
Blackpool	4 unitary councils (alternative four)
Blackburn with Darwen	3 unitary councils
Lancaster	4 unitary councils
Preston	4 unitary councils
Ribble Valley	4 unitary councils
South Ribble	4 unitary councils
Fylde	3 unitary councils
Wyre	3 unitary councils
Chorley	4 unitary councils
Pendle	5 unitary councils
Burnley	5 unitary councils
Rossendale	3 unitary councils
Hynburn	3 unitary councils
West Lancs	4 unitary councils

The proposals

One proposal is to have just two unitary authorities, which has the support of Lancashire County Council.

Under this plan, the county would be split into North and South, broadly divided by the river Ribble.

Lancashire County Council calls it "the most balanced and forward-looking solution."

Three unitary councils

This plan has the support of Wyre, Hyndburn, Blackburn with Darwen, Fylde and Rossendale borough councils.

Under these proposals there would be a coastal authority, covering Blackpool, Fylde, Lancaster and Wyre.

A central authority covering, Chorley, Preston, South Ribble and West Lancashire.

And a Pennine authority, with Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle, Ribble Valley and Rossendale.

Four unitary councils

This has support of Chorley, South Ribble, Ribble Valley, Preston, West Lancashire and Lancaster. It would see the county made up of North, South, East and West.

North containing Lancaster, Preston and Ribble Valley.

South would be, Chorley, South Ribble, and West Lancashire.

While East would cover Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle and Rossendale.

West would be Blackpool, Fylde, and Wyre.

So far only South Ribble has formally proposed this, with meetings set to take place at the other authorities shortly.

The leader of South Ribble Council, Matthew Tomlinson, said: "I think the financial modelling done shows that it's just as sustainable as going bigger."



Image

source, South Ribble Borough Council

Image caption,

There are five different proposals to the council structure

Alternative four

This option has the support of Blackpool council.

It would also like to see four unitary authorities, but would like to see Wyre and Ribble Valley divided up.

So, a council containing Lancaster, Ribble Valley (north), Wyre (east).

Another with Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn, Burnley, Pendle, Rossendale, Ribble Valley (south).

A third with South Ribble, Chorley and West Lancashire.

And the fourth being Blackpool, Fylde, Wyre (west), Preston.

Five unitary authorities

This is the favoured option for Burnley and Pendle borough councils, with a petition being launched to try and stop them being merged with Blackburn.

It would see a Northern council made up of Lancaster and Wyre.

An Eastern, made up of Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale, with a Mid-Eastern made up of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley.

A Southern, with South Ribble, Chorley and West Lancashire.

And a Western, made up of Blackpool, Fylde and Preston.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(MILLBROOK CLOSE, WHEELTON, CHORLEY BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Millbrook Close, Wheelton from its junction with Victoria Street, Wheelton for its entire length.

1. Nothing in this order shall apply to persons engaged in the carrying out of the works.

1. The prohibition will be operative from 0600 hours on Thursday 16th April 2026 until 1800 hours on Thursday 28th May 2026 or until completion of the works within this period. **The prohibitions will only be operative when indicated on site by the presence of the appropriate traffic signs in accordance with The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016. Access for emergency services will be maintained whenever and wherever possible.**

1. Vehicular access for residents will be maintained whenever and wherever possible. Pedestrian access to properties will always be maintained.

1. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is not applicable.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow Surface Dressing Carriageway Works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:



Lancashire County Council is developing an internal Staff Volunteer Scheme and are looking to identify a small number of one-off projects that would benefit local communities, ideally outdoors or in community centres (e.g., emulsions walls, painting doors, skirting boards, light DIY). We typically field teams of around 50 staff per project and would like to spread opportunities across different districts in Lancashire.

To give a flavour, we've recently delivered a few 'DIY SOS-style' gardening projects at LCC Care Home community gardens on a smaller scale with local businesses to meet their Corporate Social Responsibility.

If this sounds like something your town or parish council might benefit from, please email parishcouncils@lancashire.gov.uk with the subject LVP - community projects, for the attention of Laura Worden and we will explore the possibilities together.

Many Thanks

Town and Parish Council Team