

**MINUTES OF THE 1074th WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 12 MAY 2025
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Carr (Parish Clerk).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Wheale.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Scambler declared an interest in 278/05/25 – Application 25/00344/OUT as an owner of the neighbouring field and Councillor Berry as her son keeps sheep on Councillor Scambler's field.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

273/05/25 Following discussion, Councillor Harper was elected Chair for the 2025-26 Year.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

274/05/25 Following a Discussion, Councillor Mrs Berry was elected Vice-Chairman for the 2025-26 Year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2025/2026

275/05/25 Following a Discussion, the representatives for 2025/26 were agreed as follows: -

Chorley Liaison Meetings – Councillors T Dickenson

Chorley Council Easter parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting – Councillor T Dickenson

Chorley Council Equality Forum – Councillor Mrs M France

Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall Committee representative – Councillor Mrs K Berry

Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial Trustee Representative - Councillor R Wheale

Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial Trustees –Mrs D Gorton, Mr T Dickenson, Mr R Wheale, Mr N Hayes and Ms T Farrow.

Heapey and Wheelton Charity Trust Trustees Representative - Councillor R Wheale

Tree Warden – Councillor M Harper
Press Officer - Councillors T Dickenson. Any emergency press release should be a bland statement produced in consultation with Councillors.
Communications (Newsletter) Co-ordinator – Parish Clerk – assisted by Councillor M Harper
Wheelton Website Co-ordinator – Parish Clerk
Rivington and Brinscall Local Advisory Group – Councillor Hayes.
Facebook Co-Ordinator - Vacancy

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 7 APRIL 2025

276/05/25 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Vice-Chair on behalf of the Parish Council.

POLICE REPORT

There was no report from the Police.

The Clerk gave an overview of the reported crimes for January, February and March 2025.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Councillors noted that Whins Lane path to the Canal had been dug up again.

Councillors discussed having a Facebook page and noted that the Borough Council had a Communication Team who could be spoken to regarding setting up a Parish Council website. It was agreed to request that the matter be added to the agenda for the next Liaison Meeting.

ENHANCING WHEELTON

a) Traffic Matters

Councillor Hayes reported that he was investigating a different company for the metal fabrication and had requested that members of the public forward any photographs of the original fingerpost.

b) Recreation Area Enhancement

277/05/25 The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Clerk arrange for the installation of new bark on the meadow street play area.

c) War Memorial

There was nothing to report regarding the War Memorial.

PLANNING MATTERS

278/05/25 The Parish Council make the following comments on planning applications received:

25/00056/FULHH 307 Blackburn Road Higher Wheelton

Part two storey side/front extension, part single storey front extension, two storey side extension including garage, balcony to roof above existing single storey rear projection, access improvements including new gate posts, walls, and gates and associated external works (following demolition of existing two storey side extension to either side, and carport.

Wheelton Parish Council make no objection to this application.

25/00344/OUT Land to the South West of St John's CofE and Methodist Primary School, Harbour Lane, Brinscall

Outline application for the erection of six self-build detached dwellings with details of access, layout and scale (appearance and landscaping matters reserved)

Wheelton Parish Council objected to the amended application on the following grounds:

- This would be green belt development. An over development with an adverse effect on the openness of the green belt.
- Access to the site would be difficult with the access being really close to a junction which is already an issue at school starting/closing times.
- Drainage – this will affect the water fun off. There is already reported problems with the runoff to Harbour Lane, the school grounds and Junior Football pitch.
- Local services including schools, primary and secondary and health care services are already above capacity, increasing the demand for these services will make access to them more difficult.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

279/05/25 All accounts were authorised for payment:

Mrs J Carr – Salary May – £512.00

Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions May - £194.90

LALC – Annual Subscription - £219.12

Clear Councils – Annual Insurance - £928.64

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

Councillor Dickenson left the meeting at 9.20pm.

FUNDING REQUEST

Councillors noted the previously circulated request from The Finnington Lane Action Group for a possible donation of £500 from the Friends of Finnington

Resident's Group to oppose the application to build large scale warehousing at Finnington. Councillors noted that the proposed development was not within the Parish Boundary and discussed the proposed development.

280/05/25 Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk should respond to advise that:

- The Parish Council can not pay funds to a personal bank account – they would need to have a specific bank account set up for the group.
- A member of the group would be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting to explain their request further.

281/05/25 The time being 9.30pm Councillors RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to continue the meeting.

CIL INCOME

282/05/25 Councillors RESOLVED to note the report from Chorley Council showing the CIL income for 2025/25. The Clerk reminded Councillors of the timings for spending the funding received.

YEAR END ACCOUNTS

283/05/25 Councillors RESOLVED to approve the signing of the Audit Exemption Statement 2025 and book and approved the Internal Auditor as Ms J Ainsworth.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- Mayor's Civic Sunday Parade and Service on Sunday 18 May 2025.
- Chorley Liaison 16 July 2025

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 2 June 2025 at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Minutes approved and accepted as correct.

.....
Chair

Dated