

**MINUTES OF THE 1085th WHEELTON ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2026
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J Carr (Parish Clerk).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Hayes.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Wheale declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Co-option of Councillor Harper because he is related Councillor Harper's Wife.

CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

The Parish Council has two vacancies for Parish Councillors. Mr Matthew Harper had advised that he would like to be considered for one of the vacancies.

01/05/26 Councillors RESOLVED to co-opt Mr Harper to the Parish Council.

DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

To decide when any declarations of acceptance of office, which have not been received as provided by law, shall be received.

02/05/26 Members signed their Declarations, Councillors not in attendance will sign on their return, before the next meeting.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

03/05/26 Following a Discussion on succession, Councillor Harper was elected Chairman for the 2026-27 Year.

The Chair made his declaration of office

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

04/05/26 Following a Discussion, Councillor Berry was elected Vice-Chairman for the 2026-27 Year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2026/2027

04/05/26 Following a Discussion, the representatives were agreed as follows: -

Chorley Liaison Meetings – Councillor Mrs M France

LAPTC Chorley Area Committee representatives – Councillor R Wheale

(Substitute – Councillor Mrs K Berry)

Chorley Council Eastern Parishes Neighbourhood Area Meeting – Councillor M Harper

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

Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial Trustee Representative - Councillors R Wheale and N Hayes. Mr G Davies.

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

Heapey and Wheelton Charity Trust Trustees Representative - Councillor R Wheale.

Tree Warden – Councillor M Harper.

Press Officer - 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.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 13 APRIL 2026

05/05/26 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair on behalf of the Parish Council.

POLICE REPORT

There was no report from the Police.

The Clerk gave an overview of the crime statistics for the Parish as published on the Police website for March 2026.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Councillor Berry reported that a cabin had been installed in the field beyond Stichcroft Lane Farm. Councillor Mrs France agreed to investigate this with Chorley Borough Council Planning Team.

The Clerk advised that she had received an anonymous letter regarding the grass area on Millbrook Close. As the letter was anonymous it could not be responded to but Councillors noted that the area in question was Borough Council land.

ENHANCING WHEELTON

a) Traffic Matters

Repairs to the finger post. Councillor Hayes had sent the prototype sign to the meeting for Councillors to see.

Councillor Mrs Berry advised that the footpath from West View to Victoria Street was slippery and needed cleaning. Councillors discussed the ownership/responsibility of the path and it was thought that this was not the Village Halls land. Councillor Mrs France agreed to speak to Chorley Borough Council regarding getting the street team to clean the cobbles.

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 both Chorley Borough Council and South Ribble Council had advised that they would not be able to support the Council with drawing up a new lease for the War Memorial Trust. Councillor Wheale advised that he and Ms Farrow were investigating the matter.

d) Benches and Notice Boards

Councillor Scambler confirmed that he would be happy for the new Bench and Noticeboard to be delivered to his address so that the Grounds Maintenance Contractor can collect when he was able to install them.

PLANNING MATTERS

06/05/26

The Parish Council considered the following planning applications and **RESOLVED** to make the following observations:

26/00346/FUL- Little Harbour Farm Harbour Lane Wheelton Chorley PR6 8JR
Section 73 application to alter the wording of condition 7 (self-build) of planning permission ref: 24/00925/FUL (Erection of 2no. dwellinghouses (following demolition of existing building) and the siting of a residential caravan for a temporary period during the construction of the dwellings and access alterations) in order to remove the requirement for the dwelling to be a self-build dwelling so that the development will not be exempt from mandatory biodiversity net gain requirements

The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to object to this application on the grounds that the application is not in keeping with the National Planning Policy Framework because the permission given is for a Self-build Eco-House.

26/00378/FUL - Highfield 20 Bett Lane Higher Wheelton Chorley PR6 8JH
Change of use of a parcel of land from agricultural use to residential garden land incidental to 20 Bett Lane. No buildings, structures or engineering operations are proposed. The site is enclosed by post and rail fencing, installed in accordance with the agreed boundary treatment.

The Parish Council RESOLVED to make no objection to this application.

26/00377/FUL - Land at Lodge Bank Brinscall
Erection of 1no self-build dwelling, following demolition of existing domestic storage buildings.

The Parish Council Object to this application on the grounds of:

- Overdevelopment in the area.
- Access is poor so additional traffic is not acceptable.
- The volume of the development is too large.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

07/05/26 All accounts were authorised for payment:

Mrs J Carr – Salary May – £520.00
Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions May - £164.95
LALC – Annual Subscription - £219.15
Clear Insurance Management Ltd – Annual Insurance - £964.79

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

CIL RECONCILIATION

08/05/26 Councillors RESOLVED to accept the CIL Income report for the 2025/26 Year and the income to be received in April 2026 as circulated.

DATES FOR THE 2026/27 YEAR

09/05/26 Councillors RESOLVED to approve the dates for the 2026/27 as follows:

Monday 1 June 2026
Monday 6 July 2026
Monday 24 August 2026
Monday 5 October 2026
Monday 2 November 2026
Monday 7 December 2026
Monday 4 January 2027
Monday 1 February 2027
Monday 1 March 2027

Monday 5 April 2027
Monday 10 May 2027

REQUESTS TO USE THE RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk reported that there has been a request from Meerat's Childminding to hold a colour run on the recreation ground in July 2026

The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the request with the following provisos –

- 10/05/26**
- Use of the ground would be at the Nurseries own risk and they must have their own insurance.
 - Because the recreation Ground is an open space, they would not be able to move someone out of the area if they were already using the green.
 - Any damage to the recreation ground be repaired at their cost.

PLANT BASED TREATY

- 11/05/26**
- Councillors RESOLVED to note the request from Plant Based Treaty to support/endorse their treaty and or support local awareness initiatives around sustainable food

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- Chorley Area Committee Meeting – LALC – Thursday, 11 June 2026, at 7pm – Chorley Town Hall
- Chorley Council Liaison Meeting – 21 October 2026 – 6.30pm
- Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall Committee – Tuesday 2 June 2026 – 6.30pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 1 June 2026 at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.24pm.

Minutes approved and accepted as correct.

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Chair
Dated