

**MINUTES OF THE 1033rd WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2021
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

PRESENT: Councillors Harper, Mrs Berry, Dickenson, Mrs France, Hayes, Scambler and Wheale.

In attendance: Borough Councillor G France.

Clerk: Parish Clerk Joanne Carr.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from Borough Councillors Ms Whiffin and County Councillor Cullens.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Wheale made a non-pecuniary declaration on 299/09/21 as the applicant was known to him.

295/09/21 MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 5 JULY 2021

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council subject to the following amendment:

Councillor Berry and Scambler had declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 293/07/21 Cheque to S Berry.

Councillor Mrs M France and Borough Councillor France joined the meeting.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Clerk advised that Reverend Hogarth had sent his apologies for not attending the Parish Council meeting but had advised that he would be able to take the service in November.

The Parish Council noted that a formal complaint had not been received regarding an allegation at the 2019 Remembrance Service so felt that the verbal complaint was vexatious and mendacious.

Councillors discussed the whether the event could continue with regards to the Corona-19 Situation at present and whether the Brownies/Scouts parents may not want them to attend due to the number of high spikes of infections in the local area.

Councillors noted that this was a Parish Council event which meant that all details, including where people would stand, would be decided on and implemented by the Parish Council.

296/09/21 The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Clerk should advise Reverend Hogarth, as Chairman of the British Legion, that:

- As no-official complaint has been received, the verbal report has been deemed to be mendacious and vexatious and totally unsubstantiated.
- The event is Parish Council lead and as such the Parish Council should determine where the attendees should stand.
- Further discussions on arrangements will be made at the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillor Hayes joined the meeting.

POLICE REPORT

The Clerk reported that PCSO Clarke had not sent in a report this month.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Clerk was requested to report the following matters to the County Council/Borough Council:

- The majority of gullies on Buckholes Lane needed cleaning.

Councillor Berry reported that the County Council had cleaned the gullies out on Bett Lane and after discussing their list with her had agreed to clean additional gullies to the ones on their report.

ENHANCING WHEELTON

a) Traffic Matters

- i) There was no further information regarding the new finger post outside the memorial gardens.

297/09/21 The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Clerk should contact the County Council and request that the Parish Council be allowed to undertake the repair work on their behalf.

b) Recreation Area Enhancement

Litter Collection

The Clerk advised that the Chorley Council were currently using the small lorry

that collected the bin bags from Wheelton Terrace to empty the Meadow Street Recreation Ground bins.

The Clerk reported that a resident had advised that dog mess had been left in the play area on two occasions recently. It was noted that the new “no dog” signs were installed on the gateway to the play area and that unless information regarding who was offending was received there was little more that the Parish Council could do. Councillors discussed the issue of dog mess and people exercising their dogs on the recreation ground and play area. Councillor Hayes advised that he was writing an article on the psychology of owners not cleaning up after their dogs.

298/09/21 The Parish Council RESOLVED that Councillor Hayes should produce “no dog fouling” notices to put in the notice boards.

Councillors discussed the power of social media in enforcement and following discussion, it was agreed that Councillor Dickenson should investigate setting up a Wheelton Facebook page.

c) War Memorial

There were no issues with the War Memorial to report.

PLANNING MATTERS

299/09/21 The Parish Council considered the following planning applications and RESOLVED to make the following observations:

21/00996/FULHH RoyceCroft, Buckholes Lane, Higher Wheelton
Erection of timber decking within rear garden.

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

The Parish Council noted the responses made by the planning committee over the summer break as follows:

21/00854/FULHH 414 Blackburn Road Higher Wheelton
Two storey side extension

Comments: The Parish Council have no objection to raise to this application.

21/00939/FULHH Joe Brown’s Egg Round, Chandlers, Harbour Lane, Wheelton
Single storey front, side, and rear extensions to a detached bungalow.

Comments: The Parish Council makes no objection to this application.

21/00847/OUTMAJ Land next to 190 Blackburn Road, Heapey
Outline planning application for residential development specifying access from

Blackburn Road, Heapey.

Comments: The Parish Council strongly object to this application on the following grounds:

- **Traffic issues:**
 - A674 junction (s)** – dangerous now & will be hellish if both Botany Bay and BLF developed.
 - Motorway junction** – already has stationery traffic stretching back onto the motorway from the roundabout at peak times. This will only become worse with the additional traffic from the already approved developments and this application would be even more traffic.
 - Parking** - Parking is already an issue in the area with the majority of dwellings having less parking than required
- **Cumulative local developments** – Botany Bay housing and mixed use already approved. There will be a Knock-on effect of the Botany Bay Development to all aspects of local infrastructure i.e., schools, transport, traffic volume, road safety, utilities, medical/dental provision, hospital A&E. Chorley area Schools are already filled to capacity. Primary schools locally are small and haven't the capacity for extra build to accommodate increased numbers. Approximately 300 dwellings on Botany site plus original mill and storage site across A674 could generate up to 1000 additional vehicles at peak times.
- **School places:** There are NO primary or secondary school places available in Chorley (& no school capacity to expand in time or for predicted numbers required), so developers have committed to bus both primary and secondary schoolchildren to schools in Wigan/South Ribble and Blackburn for 5 years ONLY. This would really impact existing local families if say, new residents took all the local places by virtue of being closer to schools. Busing 4- to 11-year-olds to school is not acceptable to most parents.
- **Hospital capacity** – Chorley 24/7 A&E future. Currently only part time hours and adults only.
- **Local knowledge advises:**
 - There are Sink holes in the field. Questions arise around the stability of the land.
 - Sewerage capacity – the local pumping station (off Kenyon Lane) is at capacity and that many local pipes date from c. 1900 and cannot accept any more waste volume.
 - Water pipes across field link to the underground reservoir off Chapel Lane – corresponds to undevelopable area of site, being touted as new Village Green and footpath on illustrative draft proposals.
- **Impact on landscape character setting** - Housing design – needs to consider EV charging, fibre broadband, SUDS, proper bin storage and access for collection. Need to reflect local housing types if to blend in at all

so NOT off-the-shelf house designs from volume housebuilders.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

300/09/21 All accounts were authorised for payment:

Mrs J Carr – Salary September – £359.86

Mrs J Carr - Inland Revenue – Salary Deductions September - £89.80

Mrs J Carr – Stationery - £52.86

Playsafety Limited – Play area Inspection - £94.80

DD Easy Websites – Web Hosting and Support September – £27.60

REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Councillors noted the request for funding from Victim Support but were aware that there was no budget set for additional grant funding.

Councillors RESOLVED to not to make a payment to Victim Support.

PLAY EQUIPMENT INSPECTION REPORT

Councillors noted the circulated ROSPA play equipment inspection report and discussed this and other funding areas.

Councillors RESOLVED to request that the Clerk investigate obtaining a brochure from Playday and costs/designs from them to enable grants to be sought and so the Council were aware what funding they were looking for.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

LALC meeting - Annual General Meeting on **Saturday, 20 November 2021** at 10am, via Zoom

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 4 October 2021 at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Minutes approved and accepted as correct

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Chairman

Dated