

**MINUTES OF THE 996th WHEELTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2017
AT WHEELTON VILLAGE HALL, WEST VIEW, WHEELTON**

PRESENT: Councillors Berry, Dickenson, Fowler, Harper, Hayes, Scambler and
Borough Councillor Mrs M France. PCSO 7419 and PC3164.
Three members of the Public.

Clerk: Parish Clerk Joanne Carr.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

357/09/17 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Wheale.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Dickenson declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 359/09/17 as he is a neighbour to the property and Councillors Berry and Scambler declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 370/09/17.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING 3 JULY 2017

358/09/17 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council.

POLICE REPORT

PC3164 and PCSO 7419 were welcomed to the meeting.

PC3164 Colclough reported that the recent crime figures for the area were comparable to the last couple of years and felt that there was a low number of crimes reported for Wheelton. Reported crimes included 3 assaults which were all in the same premises and a number of vehicle and burglary crimes.

PC3164 was advised that the Parish Council had received a number of complaints around the Public House in Wheelton and the people leaving the premises causing problems in Wheelton and Heapey and that there was a repeated issue in the village around illegal parking on yellow lines. Parkwise had been requested to assist regarding the illegal parking but had advised that this would not be actioned as there was not enough likelihood of being able to ticket enough cars. The Parish Council pointed out that this was due to them visiting the wrong areas of the village and at the wrong time of day. PC 3164 reported that low level crime such as this would not be actioned by the police as they were already stretched to the limit.

PC Colclough and PCSO Noblett were thanked for their attendance and they left the meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr Hodgson reported that a number of events centred around the Red Lion Public House in Wheelton were having an adverse effect on some of the residents in the village. Residents had reported that they felt that crime had increased in the area since the change in the Landlord. Recent issues included:

- Youths taking drinks out of the premises and drinking them in Victoria Street and their cars, which was contrary to the premises licence.
- Noise nuisance after 11pm (when the licence states that music had to finish). This had resulted in at least one person having to move bedrooms in their house and children being disturbed on school nights due to the noise.
- Two members of staff park in the carpark which meant that there was only three spaces for patrons. There have been safety issues with vehicles reversing out of the carpark into the road on a bend with restricted views and parked cars.
- Intimidating behaviour from some of the patrons both in the village and in the off licence.
- A marquee being erected in the carpark thus reducing the parking further (this has now been removed after questions were asked)
- Beer barrels being distributed from the premises each morning possibly from the microbrewery that the landlord also runs. (this was not included in the licence).

Mr Hodgson was questioned as to whether these matters had been reported to the Borough Council and Councillors were advised that they had been and that a log was being kept of all the issues and would be sent to Chorley Borough Council.

Councillors discussed the issues and felt that the new Landlord was pushing boundaries to see what he could get away with. It was noted that the Parish Council were keen to keep a Public House in the village but felt that the current management were not adhering to the licencing rules. It was reported that residents felt that they were now in a minority in the Pub and that they were not visiting currently therefore reducing the number of local patrons even further. Mr Hodgeson confirmed that he had spoken politely to the Landlord to advise of a number of health and safety concerns and been told that it was nobody's business except for the Landlords how the pub was run.

The Clerk reported that a report had been received regarding dogs being exercised again on the memorial gardens. The Chairman agreed to request that the War Memorial Trustees erect a sign to advise that the garden was for quiet reflection and not a place to exercise dogs.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk advised that the following complaints had been received; the situation with the Red Lion and A-frames on the A674.

Councillors discussed the matter regarding the Red Lion.

359/09/17 The Parish Council RESOLVED that:

- The Clerk should write to Chorley Borough Council Licencing Department to request that they closely monitor the Red Lion and for them to provide a report for the next Parish Council Meeting.
- The Parish Council also requested that the Borough Councillor Mrs M France request that Chorley Borough Council review the situation.

360/09/17 Councillors discussed the situation with A-frames on grass verges and the Chairman gave an overview of previous incidents. Councillors reported that the number of signs at the top of Victoria Street had increase but that they had now reduced in number. It was agreed that this matter should be monitored and revisited at the October Parish Council Meeting.

ENHANCING WHEELTON

a) Traffic Matters

Councillors reported that Bett Lane had been resurfaced and that this had resulted in the Gully emptier emptying the drain outside 24 Bett Lane but were advised that the road was now flooding again.

361/09/17 It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should request that County Councillor Snowden actions this matter.

362/09/17 Councillor Berry reported that following an accident on the Blackburn New Road on 19 august 2017, a sign, fence posts and tree had been demolished. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should advise Chorley Borough Council.

363/09/17 Councillors noted that the road markings had not been replaced on the A674 following road surfacing. The Parish Council RESOLVED that the Clerk should write to the County Council requesting that the markings be redone as soon as possible.

b) Recreation Area Enhancement

TREE

The Clerk advised that a quotation for the removal of the diseased Chestnut Tree had been received at a cost of £660.00. Councillors questioned whether this cost included the cost of stump grinding out to stop the tree from growing again and the Clerk agreed to investigate.

364/09/17 The Parish Council RESOLVED that the quotation to remove the tree should be accepted and that the Clerk should find out the cost to grind out the stump. A maximum of £1000 had been allocated for the removal.

PLAY AREA

The Clerk advised that a Resident had requested that:

- A catch of some type be fitted to the gate to stop small children exiting without their parents
- A seat for older children be added to the play area as the resident had had to “rescue” a number of smaller children who had climbed into the baby seat but were unable to get out on their own. (One of the baby seats could be replaced by a new seat.
- Signage be placed on the road warning that there was a playground

365/09/17 Following discussion, it was RESOLVED that the work to the gate and the new swing seat should go ahead. Councillors felt that the play area would not benefit from signage.

The Clerk advised that following the site visit by Playdale a quotation had been received for £281.98 for eyebolts for the square unit to replace the work bolts.

366/09/17 Councillors RESOLVED that replacement eyebolts be ordered as quoted.

GRANT FUNDING

Councillor Dickenson advised that the application for grant funding to the Big Fund had been successful and the Parish Council had been awarded £2,000 towards the replacement of the old Playdale unit which will have to be used by February 2018. There was already £1,700 raised previously by the Charity Trust and it was suggested that £5,500 should be requested from the Charity Trust to make up the shortfall.

367/09/17 Following discussion, it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should write to the Heapey and Wheelton Charity Trust to request a grant of £5,500 towards the cost of a replacement unit of play equipment.

PLANNING MATTERS

368/09/17 17/00743/FUL – Whins Farm Barn, Whins Lane, Wheelton.
The Parish Council RESOLVED to make no objections to this application but to request that it is in keeping with the local area.

17/00790/CLEUD Laneside Farm, Brown House Lane, Higher Wheelton
The Parish Council noted that local knowledge suggests that there are more than one building and the plans do now make it clear which building this refers to, the Clerk was requested to ask if the application could be deferred until the development plans were clear.

369/09/17 Councillors RESOLVED to comment that they did not want to see this area developed due to the limited access

Councillor Dickenson advised that he had attended a meeting regarding a proposed

development at Botany Bay. There would be four phases of development. Phase 1 was for 188 houses to be built on the same side of the A674 as Botany Bay, this could potentially mean 376 vehicles accessing the 1st roundabout at rush hour and an already busy junction and road network. Phase 2 was for a further 100 houses meaning a possible further 200 vehicles. Phase 3 was to develop Botany Bay to provide “more classy stall holders” and 1300 car spaces and Phase 4 was to build small industrial units and distribution units on the opposite site of the A674. This could mean large numbers of heavy vehicle traffic. There was no provision for schools, dentists, doctors, hospitals or infrastructure.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENTS

370/09/17 All accounts were authorised for payment:

Mrs J Carr – September Salary - £326.60
Inland Revenue – September Deductions - £81.60
Steven Berry – Grounds Maintenance - £910.00

DD – Easy Websites – Website hosting and support September - £24.00

BRIDLEWAY OVER BRIERS BROW TO BRINSCALL

Councillors noted the information circulated about a “lost” bridleway over Briers Brow to Brinscall. Councillors discussed the area and Councillor Berry gave an overview of the history of the footpath noting that this route had not been a bridleway in the past.

371/09/17 It being 9.30pm, Councillors RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders for a maximum of half an hour.

IRONMAN FEEDBACK

372/09/17 It was RESOLVED to make no comment regarding the 2017 Ironman event.

PLANNING IN PRACTICE

373/09/17 Councillors RESOLVED not to attend the planning in practice session.

LALC AGM

374/09/17 Councillors RESOLVED not to attend the LALC AGM.

LANCASHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE’S EMERGENCY COVER REVIEW 2017

375/09/17 It was RESOLVED to make no comment regarding the Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service’s consultation on their Emergency Cover Review 2017.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

There were no items to note.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 2 October 2017 at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Minutes approved and accepted as correct

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Chairman

Dated