



PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



December 2023

Chairman's Report

Dear villagers, friends and fellow councillors,

Despite challenging times at home, it pails in to insignificance compared to events globally. We are lucky to live in such a supportive and civically minded community, with strong social bonds and a sense of identity.

The Parish Council has continued working on our local priorities and responding to community concerns. This year has seen our play area upgraded, and I thank my fellow councillors for all the hours they have put in to ensure the children of the village have a playground of a good standard. As a Council we are continuing to monitor the playground with a view to upgrading or adding to the equipment in the future. As usual local developments have been a key focus for the council, and we have strived to ensure that Wheelton remains a village in the truest definition of the word. I thank all my councillor colleagues for the time and effort they put in to the community on our behalf.

Remembrance Sunday enabled us to give thanks and show our respect to all those from our community who have fallen fighting for our freedom. We are also looking forward to our carols around the tree this year, as always a great event for our community with local businesses providing their support and most importantly the villagers themselves gathering to celebrate Christmas together.

May I on behalf of the Parish Council wish you all a safe and merry Christmas, and a peaceful New year.

Mathew Harper
Chairman 2022/2023

PRIMROSE HOLISTIC THERAPY

Powerful treatments for pain, aches, stress, fears, long term conditions such as Fibro, MS, anxiety, phobias, PTSD.

Foot Reflexology, Emotional Release Reflexology, Reiki, Crystal Healing, Aromatherapy.

Available Railway Road, Brinscall and home visits

Phone Jayne 07595547077 for initial consultation or chat to explain these treatments

Also available for talks & demonstrations

www.primrosetherapy.com



Heapey and Wheelton Parish Council

Carols around the Tree

At The War Memorial/Clock Tower, Wheelton



5.30pm

24 December 2023

Entrance to the Memorial Gardens will be restricted to performers as last year so please be mindful of others and traffic when attending to make everyone as safe and comfortable as possible.

**Come along and enjoy the magic of Christmas,
and refreshments.**

There will be a collection at the end of the event.

Withnell Health Centre Update

Many of you will be aware of the decision last December by the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) to award the contract for Withnell Health Centre to an outside provider.

This was followed by a successful campaign to overturn this decision and a temporary contract was awarded to Dr Robinson and team.

We are currently awaiting the outcome of the Primary Care Commissioning Group of the ICB, who will meet in mid-December and deliver their intention as to whether the whole process of tender and procurement will be repeated, or whether they will now grant the contract to the incumbent provider, in accordance with recent changes to the Procurement Evaluation Strategy.

What this means, in essence, is that the future provider of medical care at Withnell Health Centre is still unclear. In addition, the ICB is intending to award a different sort of contract known as APMS, instead of the long held GMS contract. APMS contracts have to be reviewed at least every 10 years so there is no long-term security of tenure either for the doctors and staff or for the patients.

The recent engagement exercise which was carried out by the ICB Communications team resulted in approximately 2,400 responses which have been logged and will hopefully have some influence in the final outcome.



The Withnell Health Centre Steering Group are very grateful for the level of patient participation shown throughout.

Don't forget to check our website
www.wheeltonparishcouncil.org

Contact your Clerk: Mrs Joanne Carr.
clerk@wheeltonparishcouncil.org
17 Higher Meadow, Clayton-le-Woods,
Leyland, PR25 5RJ



Planters needed!

Chorley Borough Council have once again made bags of daffodil bulbs available to the Parish Councils for planting around the Parish. A lot of the nodding yellow heads you see in Spring have been planted over the years by Parish Councilors, and this year the Parish Council would like to enlist the help of volunteer planters to bury as many as you'd like on the roadside verges, footpaths, byways and public grasslands around the Parish. No specific skillsets or experience needed; dig a shallow hole, chuck a couple in and put the soil back on top. Now is about the time to start burying them so lets get on with it.

Parish Councilor Nick Hayes is co-ordinating the effort this year and has supplies of bulbs to issue to anyone interested in planting a few. Call on 07756936173. Or email at victerr4@hotmail.com to arrange collection/delivery.

Contact your Clerk: Mrs Joanne Carr.
Clerk@wheeltonparishcouncil.org
17 Higher Meadow, Clayton-le-Woods,
Leyland, PR25 5RJ

Stay safe and warm this winter

Now that winter's here, many of us have already started heating our homes.

Staying warm is better for your health – the NHS recommends homes should be kept at around 18°C. But did you know it can be dangerous if you don't heat yours safely?

Please follow our advice to help you stay safe and warm this winter.

Which Heater?

Not everyone has central heating. When it comes to heating your home, you might use a portable heater instead – or in addition to – your central heating.

There are lots of different types of heater, from oil radiators to portable electric heaters and open fires. All of them come with risks that you should be aware of.

As a rule, you should:

- Have your heater serviced each year by a professional or competent person.
- Never use a damaged appliance.
- Keep soft furnishing and other flammables well away from heat sources.
- Install a working smoke alarm on each level of your home.

Cost Of Living

We know that the higher cost of living is making people heat their homes by alternative means or even avoid using the heating altogether. If you live in a very cold home, you could be putting your health and wellbeing at risk.

Are you struggling to pay your energy bills? We recommend you join the Priority Services Register.

The Priority Services Register helps vulnerable customers when they need it most. It is a joint register that allows the utility companies to keep track of those who need support so that they can supply services and advice during times of uncertainty.

You can learn more about heating your home safely on our [keeping warm](#) page



1st Wheelton Brownies

1st Wheelton Brownies are going from strength to strength, but do have a limited number of spaces available to join in the fun.

We have enjoyed various activities this term and have learnt some life skills including what to do in the event of a fire, or if someone needs to be put in the recovery position. We have also taken time to look at our surroundings and be thankful for our homes, health and education.

Our main event has been a birthday party as 1st Wheelton Brownie unit has been going 90 years. The unit first meet on 1 September 1933, and have been providing fun and friendship for girls aged 7 - 10 years ever since. We even played some games that Brownies in the 1930's would have played.

We joined with 1st Wheelton Guides at the Clock Tower in Wheelton for the annual Remembrance Sunday Service and we will be providing the tableau for Carols Round the Tree on Christmas Eve.



We are thrilled that more Brownies have been working towards and been awarded their Bronze and Silver Awards and that two more Brownies have been awarded their Gold Award, the highest award a Brownie can gain. The photo below shows the two Brownies with their Brownie Gold awards together with Chorley Division Commissioner, Ann Wood, Heapey Moor District Commissioner, Gillian Rees, and myself Brown Owl, Jacqueline Berry.



We are sorry to lose 5 of our older Brownies, but we are pleased to say they are continuing their Guiding adventure by moving on up to 1st Wheelton Guides.

We are also looking at setting up a Rainbow unit within the area, (Reception to Year 2) and would welcome volunteers to get this off the ground.

If you are interested in joining 1st Wheelton Brownies, or wish to volunteer to help with Brownies, or a Rainbow unit please contact Jacqueline Berry on 07834 069562 or jberry.brownie@gmail.com or visit the Girlguiding website and "Join Us"



Table Tennis -Sport for all and just plain fun!

Monday nights at the Village Hall are rocking to the sound of movement and laughter all because residents can play table tennis. Equipment is available for all to use plus coaching available should you want. Some interesting points have come out with research into the sport-TT (table tennis) has come out as the most sociable of all sports, it also can make the most inactive person active. So why not come along to the sessions, they are 6 to 8 pm on Monday nights- why not give it a go, you'll surprise yourself !



Jobs in the garden for Winter

You can plant over wintering onion sets, Broad Beans and Garlic.

December is a good chance for you to prepare your soil, clear weeds and add organic matter to your soil before winter sets in. Collect any fallen leaves from your garden especially your lawn, as they act as a blanket that may encourage moss, bag them up and use them as leaf mould next year.



Remember to feed the birds in your garden and provide fresh water.

Don't forget to check our website
www.wheeltonparishcouncil.org

Forthcoming Dates of the Parish Council

Meetings are held on Mondays at 8.00pm in Wheelton Village Hall



8 January 2024
5 February 2024
4 March 2024
8 April 2024
13 May 2024
3 June 2024
1 July 2024
No meeting in August

Public participation is welcomed, just contact the Clerk at least 14 days prior to the meeting so that the matter you wish to raise can be researched and added to the agenda.

Advertising in the Newsletter

We are asking local businesses to consider advertising with us as all money raised will go towards the Playground Trust

If you have any ideas you would like to share whether for or against then please can you contact the Clerk or email tdickenson.td@gmail.com

If we can help in any way we will!

Are you a member of a local club and would like to have a write up of club events or forthcoming events? Please advise the Clerk so that we

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Joanne Carr.

Clerk@wheeltonparishcouncil.org

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

Your Parish Council

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Don't forget to check our website
www.wheeltonparishcouncil.org