

PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



December 2025

Chairman's Report

Dear villagers, friends and fellow councillors, As we move towards Christmas and look forward to spending time with those close to us, we realise how fortunate we are to live in such a warm and welcoming village, with a supportive and warm community, full of spirit and character.

Over the past 12 months, Wheelton Parish Councillors have continued to work hard to maintain and improve village life. They have invested in the upkeep and safety of the playground, co-ordinated repairs to equipment and ensured facilities remain well-used and welcoming for local families. The Council has overseen the maintenance of key community assets such as benches, noticeboards and the war memorial grounds, whilst also supporting seasonal events that bring residents together. Councillors have actively raised and pursued issues around road safety, drainage, signage and environmental concerns with relevant authorities, ensuring residents' voices are heard. They have also taken a proactive stance on planning matters, carefully reviewing applications, protecting green belt land, and supporting community groups opposing developments with potential negative impacts to our community in order to protect the character of the village.

I thank all my councillor colleagues for the time and effort they put in to the community on our behalf.

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

Mathew Harper
Chairman 2025/2026

BON VOYAGE

As 2025 draws to an end, the Parish Council Would like to offer a huge thank you to two stalwarts of Wheelton Village community over the years.



Most of you will know Terry Dickenson, who has been a member of Wheelton Parish Council for 38 years, many of them as Chair, and served the community well in so many ways. He was often to be seen out running in vest and shorts in all weathers across the locality and was part of Chorley Sports Forum, championing fitness and exercise. His knowledge and expertise in all things pertinent to Wheelton will be sadly missed as he and his wife are relocating south to be close to family .

Pat Dickenson should also be thanked as she was an integral part of the Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall Committee, and under her guidance, the Hall flourished and was the site of many village celebrations and private family occasions, bringing the community together in a very positive way.

We would like to offer our sincere thanks on behalf of everyone for their years of service and to wish them a happy and peaceful Christmas and future in their new home .

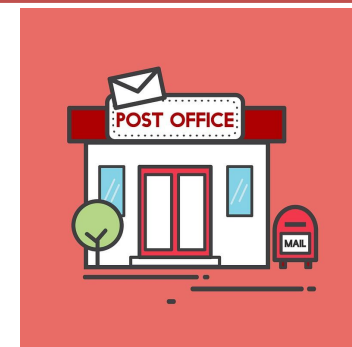


Don't forget to check our website
www.wheeltonparishcouncil.org

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

Most people will have heard of the closure of Brinscall Post Office, as Naseem and Seema Akhtar have decided to take a well earned retirement after many many years .

Thank you both for your long service and for being part of our local rural community where you have raised your family .



There is currently a vacancy advertised on the Post Office website for a full time post office counter within an existing business, so we are hopeful that there will still be some provision nearby . There is a pop up Post Office who opens in the Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall on Friday afternoons

KEEP OUR VILLAGE CLEAN

Please, please, please. Pick up after your dog. Carry a roll of poop -and-scoop bags with you; you are rarely more than a few hundred meters from a waste bin that accepts pet poo, and clearing up your pet's mess will help protect livestock, nature, and make it nicer to walk around the village..



Please help to keep our village clean and tidy for all to enjoy. Thank you.

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

Higher Wheelton Handmade Christmas Display 2025

This year, a truly special Christmas Display has appeared at the Higher Wheelton Community Notice board on the A674 opposite Bett Lane – created entirely by local volunteers, schoolchildren, crafters and neighbours from across Higher Wheelton.

Why we created the display? Our aim is simple: Bringing our village together and to raise money for two charities that mean so much to our community – Derian House Children's Hospice and St Catherine's Hospice. These hospices support local families through some of their most difficult times, and we wanted to give something back in a way that brought the whole village together.

What began as a simple idea back in February has grown into something wonderful. Over the past ten months, the crafters of Craft Shedquarters, friends and families throughout the village, and the talented pupils of Withnell Fold Primary School have worked together to knit, crochet, paint and stitch every single decoration you see.

From the nativity scene to the snowmen, elves, robins, toy box and bunting – every part of the display has been handmade with care, creativity, and a huge amount of community spirit. It has been a joy to see so many people join in, share ideas, and help bring the display to life.

Already, in the first few days, the display has brought smiles to countless passers-by – joggers stopping mid-run, families taking photos and children finding the pom-pom they made



If you enjoy the display and would like to support our fundraising, please consider donating. Every penny makes a real difference, and both hospices are hugely grateful for your support.

You can donate online here: Derian House:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/craftshedquarters-for-derian-house>

St Catherine's Hospice:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/craftshedquarters-for-stcatherineshospice>

There are also collection tins at Four.1.Two Café, The Golden Lion and DymphnaJane Haberdashery.

Thank you so much to everyone who has helped make this happen, and to everyone who has donated so far. This display belongs to the whole community – and we hope it brings a little extra joy to Higher Wheelton this Christmas.

Craft Shedquarters is kind of a club and people are more than welcome to join, the more the better. We meet locally for knit and natters etc. Any one interested can message Dymphna on 07930 304523 or search on Facebook for craftshedquarters.



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



1st Wheelton Brownies

1st Wheelton Brownies have had a busy few months doing fun activities including Remembrance Stones that the Brownies have left around their area, a no-sew sock snowman that one Brownie instructed as part of her personal challenge for her Brownie Gold Award and made Angel's to hang on the Christmas Tree.

We have had some Bronze and Silver awards presented and also two more Brownies gain the Brownie Gold Award - the top award a Brownie can work towards, learning new skills on the way including basic First Aid, how to call the Emergency Services and what to do in a Fire situation.

Wise Owl and Brown Owl attended the official re-opening of Waddow Hall in September and were given a tour of the Hall and activities that are being offered.

We have joined other Rainbows and Brownies from Chorley Division on a trip to Blackpool Zoo, which the Brownies enjoyed, even though it rained most of the day.

We joined Councillors, Wheelton Guides, St Pauls Scout Group and other villagers for the annual Remembrance Service at the War Memorial Clock Tower in November and we have also visited Wheelton Guides as part of a link up between the two units.



1st Wheelton Brownies

We are joining other Rainbows/Brownies and Guides at Reel Cinema as part of Girlguiding's Cinema Take Over to watch Wicked Part 2.

We do currently have spaces available, if your daughter is aged between 7 - 9 and interested in joining 1st Wheelton Brownies, or you wish to volunteer to help with Brownies, or a Rainbow unit please visit the Girlguiding website and "Join Us"

BRINDLE ART GROUP

JOIN OUR FRIENDLY GROUP

EACH THURSDAY
2PM TO 4PM
at COMMUNITY HALL BRINDLE

PAINT AND CHAT.....
GOOD FUN...



CONTACT SHIRLEY 01254 854 290 FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

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**

VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

A vacancy has arisen through the resignation of a parish councillor.

The Parish Council would like to invite suitably qualified individuals to apply for this vacancy. To hold office as a Parish Councillor an individual must fulfil the following qualifications:

1. Be a British subject, a Commonwealth citizen or a Euro national and at least 18 years old.
2. Be either a local government elector of the parish; or a person who a) has, during the whole of the 12 months up to the date of their appointment, occupied land or other premises as owner or tenant in the parish or b) has, during the same period, resided in that area or within three miles thereof, or c) has during the same period, had his/her principal or only place of work in that area.

Suitably qualified individuals interested in joining the council are invited to submit a letter outlining why they are interested to the Clerk to the Council at the address given in this Newsletter by 23 February 2026. Suitably qualified applicants will be invited to address the council meeting at the March Parish Council meeting on the 2 March 2026 and give a 5 minute presentation on what they could bring to the Council. Co-options will be decided by a vote of the council.

If you would like to know more about what the role of a Parish Councillor involves or would like any other information, please contact The Clerk or another Councillor.

A red rectangular sign with a white border, hanging from a string. The word "VACANCY" is written in large, white, capital letters on a red background.

Forthcoming Dates of the Parish Council

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



5 January 2026
2 February 2026
2 March 2026
13 April 2026
11 May 2026
1 June 2026
6 July 2026
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

Kathleen Berry	01254 830360
Richard Scambler	01254 830244
Nick Hayes	01254 830851
Matthew Harper	01254 491121
Ronnie Wheale	07801 816778
Margaret France	01254 830647

Borough Councillors

Gordon France	01254 830647
---------------	--------------

gordon.france@chorley.gov.uk

Margaret France	01254 830647
-----------------	--------------

margaret.france@chorley.gov.uk

Jennifer Whiffin	07527 038870
------------------	--------------

Jenny.whiffin@chorley.gov.uk

County Councillor

John Clemson
john.clemson@lancashire.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Lindsay Hoyle 01257 271555
www.lindsayholye.com

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