



PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

December 2014

Chairmans Report 2013/14

Throughout the year the Parish Council have been working hard as always to address a number of key issues on your behalf.

In particular, the thorny question of safety within the parish, especially inconsiderate car parking, unsafe double parking and use of footpaths and pavements. We have been working closely with our local Police and LCC to try to resolve these issues-sometimes with success, other times not so! However resident safety is the top priority for this Council.

This past year has seen many changes nationally to local planning policies and these have an impact on the area including new infill housing and local developments. We as a council are monitoring these developments carefully.

One area of concern has been the vandalism through arson of part of the Play area, something quite unprecedented within Wheelton. We are working with the Police and thanks to the vigilance of residents have descriptions of those possibly involved. I think it is pertinent to ask parents do they know where their children are at 2.30 am in the morning.

I would to take this opportunity of thanking all the people who spend their time volunteering in our community-they are the people that help make Wheelton a more pleasant place to live. Once again very many thanks for all the work they do, especially the Village Hall Committee.

We are still looking for available land in Higher Wheelton to build a Playground in that part of the Village and the Borough Council would look carefully at helping to secure funds

I thank all my councillor colleagues for all the time they put into our community on your behalf and thank also our Clerk Joanne Carr for her invaluable service to the Council.

Terry Dickenson

Chair 2014/15

Just a thought - Christmas in the Trenches

1914 style

“Life in the trenches was abominable. Continuous sniping, machinegun fire and artillery shelling took a deadly toll. The misery was heightened by the ravages of Mother Nature, including rain, snow and cold. Many of the trenches, especially those in the low-lying British sector to the west, were continually flooded, exposing the troops to frost bite and "trench foot."

This treacherous monotony was briefly interrupted during an unofficial and spontaneous "Christmas Truce" that began on Christmas Eve. Both sides had received Christmas packages of food and presents.

The Germans seem to have made the first move. During the evening of December 24 they delivered a chocolate cake to the British line accompanied by a note that proposed a cease fire so that the Germans could have a concert. The British accepted the proposal and offered some tobacco as their present to the Germans. The good will soon spread along the 27-mile length of the British line. Enemy soldiers shouted to one another from the trenches, joined in singing songs and soon met one another in the middle of no-mans-land to talk, exchange gifts and in some areas to take part in impromptu soccer matches. “

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

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

Jobs in the garden for December.

Clear up any leaves from lawns, ponds and beds. Raise containers on to pot feet to avoid waterlogging. Plant bulbs. Prune roses to prevent wind rock. Put out bird food to encourage winter birds into your garden. Protect

Welcome back!

As with all our businesses we do not like to lose them to closure from flood, pestilence, plague, fire or anything else of biblical proportions.

We all know the Dressers Arms suffered a cataclysmic fire earlier this year. The Parish Council is highly delighted to see that the refurbished 'Dressers' is open again and to be at the heart of the community once again.

Wheelton PC has fought long and hard to keep our amenities- we want to see all the Pubs and Restaurants flourish and will do whatever we can to keep them for the purpose they were intended.

WE want to see local businesses flourish.

A great loss.

Unfortunately, the Council haven't had a response by the Post Office to finding a suitable business to take on the duties of a sub post office in Wheelton. We as a council have been told the closure is only temporary- let us hope that is correct

Advances in Broadband speed

The Brinscall exchange is in the Superfast Lancashire plans and will serve approximately 2100 premises, including Wheelton with speeds of 30mbs and above for the majority. A new 14Km fibre route is in process of being built, involving a lot of night work to minimize disruption, about 20% of this is now complete.

This fibre route will service premises in the Brinscall and Wheelton areas, 90% of which will get access to fibre broadband over 30Mbs. There are 500 premises which will be served with fibre to the premises (FTTP) and able to access services up to 330Mbs. These will take a bit longer to complete as the engineering is more difficult. The network started coming on line in September, and most of the cabinet work will be completed by the end of December; and the FTTP by March next year. More information will be shared when available.

Fancy a bit of work!!

Normally when you ask people why they live in the area the answer is far from straight forward. Good housing albeit expensive, easy access to the Motorway network, pleasant environment, community spirit plus many other reasons.

Well one of the indicators of a vibrant community is the involvement of its residents. Yes as simple as that!

So what's the catch – simple really, we need more people to be actively involved in helping the Village Hall Committee.

Let me do the list of excuses for not getting involved:

- Too busy
- Too tired
- Not interested
- Don't care
- Haven't got the right skills

Multiply the above tenfold for more excuses, BUT the bottom line is the Village Hall Committee need more volunteers, they need a Chair, they need support.

Having mulled over the list of excuses, think carefully what would happen to the Village Hall without volunteers; no place to meet, no facility for community events, no parties, no place to vote during election time, no nursery-the list is endless

Advertising in the Newsletter

We are seriously looking at ways of raising revenue for the Play Ground (Trust) and are considering, for the first time, advertising by local businesses in the Parish Newsletter.

What's your view on this?

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

We look forward to seeing you all on Christmas Eve at Carols Round the Tree, in Wheelton.

With best wishes to all for a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year.

The Leadership Team

1st Wheelton Brownies

Jacqueline Berry Caroline Smith

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Nikki Sharples

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Forthcoming Dates of the Parish Council

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



1 December 2014

5 January 2015

2 February 2015

2 March 2015

13 April 2015

11 May 2015

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.

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Wheelton–Recollections by Ralph Snape

DID YOU KNOW

- The main butcher was Cowburn's in Blackburn Brow next to the Post Office which was run by Mrs Holt
- The undertaker was Billy Tomlinson who was the only one who had a car apart from Geoff Jackson whose dad Jimmy had a shop and became chairman of the Rural District Council
- The majority of people worked at Victoria Mill, a cotton mill built by Peter Todd and bought in 1922 by Joshua Hoyle
- There were two cloggers. One, Harold Slater, was underneath the house at 1 Spring Bank. The other was Harold Tomlinson who was nicknamed 'Putty'.
- Marsden's butchers shop, which was near Scotsons Cottage which can still be seen in the village
- Blackburn Road only came into being when the bypass was built.
- There were four cake shops in Wheelton, plus a Busy Bee, Marsden's Butchers and the main butcher was Cowburn's in BlackLion Brow next to the Post Office which was run by Mrs Holt

Have you any early recollections of Wheelton? Contact the Clerk if you have.



Photo Courtesy of Harry Noblet

The Parish Council's of Heapey

CAROLS AROUND THE TREE

5.30 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE

At the War Memorial/Clock Tower, Wheelton

Come along and enjoy the magic of Christmas, mince pies
and soft drink/sherry

ALL WELCOME



**A RETIRING COLLECTION WILL TAKE
PLACE ON BEHALF OF THE WAR
MEMORIAL TRUST**

Consultation on Proposed Development

As you can see from the diagram opposite, Wheelton Parish Council with support from Chorley Borough Council are proposing to site a new access, footpath, car park edging and movable picnic bench on the green near the Village Hall, Westview.

This project was identified by previous Borough Councillor Alison Hansford during her discussions with residents, children and their parents and disability groups. Money has been made available by Chorley Borough Council. Parents asked for a seating area not too close to Play Area but sufficient distance away to ensure safe supervision. The Parish Council support this development in principle.

You are asked for your views on this proposal. Please take into account the following points when submitting your views:

1. The area has been identified as the most practical and viable on the site
2. It is not sufficient to say that young people will use the area for congregating in; you would need evidence to support this.
3. This is not a Youth Shelter
4. The proposed Picnic Bench is movable for maintenance.

Please make your views known, for or against in writing/email to the Clerk Joanne Carr (contact details on back page) by 24 December 2014.

You will have a chance to discuss your views at the Council Meeting in January 2015 – time will be set aside to discuss



Don't forget to check our website
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1st Wheelton Brownies

Some members of 1st Wheelton Brownies have certainly been embracing the “Brownie Adventure” and their promise and tried their hand at Raft Building, Archery to name but a few during their 3 days Big Brownie Birthday Holiday at PGL Winmarleigh. The Brownies had a fabulous time. When’s the next one.

Just recently we have been working with members of Wheelton & District Rural Royal British Legion and learning about the 1st World War, why it started, and why the 11 November is so important. We also learnt what Guides did during this time including working in hospitals, collecting newspapers and being heavily involved in carrying important messages for the Admiralty on behalf of Marconi. We would especially like to thank Tom and Eileen Rigby for giving up their time to help us learn about conflict both past and present.

We are also pleased that our retired Brown Owl, Mrs Kathleen Berry, has been given recognition and thanks for her lifetime commitment to Girlguiding, especially 1st Wheelton Brownies, by attending a Recognition and Thanksgiving Service at Westminster Abbey, London at the beginning of November, where members of both Scouting and Guiding were publicly thanked for their self-sacrifice in giving their time up for others. Congratulations, Mrs Berry, thank you and a Brownie “Well done”.

1st Wheelton Brownies grows from strength to strength and we are pleased to welcome a young lady to our unit who is a unit helper. We now have a full unit of 24 girls who enjoy the fun and friendship of Brownies with girls on the waiting list wishing to join us.

Unfortunately there are at least 18 girls aged between 5 – 7 who are unable to enjoy the fun of Rainbows as we currently have no Rainbow unit within our area. If you would like the challenge and fun to work with this age group and other ladies and are willing to become a leader, with training and support, please contact one of the Brownie Leaders. That way, working together we can offer more girls the fun and excitement and

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