

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 10th May 2004

Old Sand Quarry

Since the latest edition of the Joint Parish Newsletter was published, two residents from Wheelton have expressed an interest in buying the Sand Quarry. They hope to develop part of it and let the Parish Councils have the rest. These enquires have been informed that as far as the Parish Councils are concerned, the whole site has been earmarked for Community leisure purposes and has been designated as such in the Chorley Borough Local Plan. The Parish Councils will continue to press for a Compulsory Purchase Order whoever owns the site

Web Site

The Web site is now up and running and is very impressive. Many good reports have been received about it. Congratulations to Councillor Monaghan and her team for all the work they had put in.

Financial Report

A copy of the statement of accounts for 2003/2004 had been circulated and after discussion this was accepted by the meeting.

Recreational Facilities

Provision of sports facilities is now considered a health and welfare issue. There will be grant aids to help improve the health and fitness of the Nation. Schemes that can be submitted to Groundwork Chorley and Wigan will be e-mailed to Councillor Dickenson

Young People (Awards for All)

There is still £2585 left from the grant received last year. Councillor Dickenson will write and request additional time so that further projects can be identified before the grant expires. Bernard Hegarty from Chorley Borough Council can organise if required. Councillors were asked to put forward any ideas they had for consideration at the next meeting.

Car Parking

Car Parking in the village has been a problem over the years. There is not sufficient space to provide villagers with on street parking. This has led to illegal parking at road junctions and on footways creating traffic hazards. Sgt. Brown agreed to have a

notice prepared that would be placed on offending vehicles. If no notice were taken, a fixed penalty would be imposed.

Complaints have been received about “Cars for Sale” being parked in Higher Wheelton and Lower Wheelton. Sgt. Brown will investigate to ensure that these cars are not creating a traffic hazard and that all are taxed

Parish Plan

A Steering Group has been set up and work is proceeding on the preparation of a questionnaire that will be distributed throughout Heapey and Wheelton Parishes. It is proposed to hold “Launch Events” at four venues – Red Lion, Wheelton – Golden Lion, Higher Wheelton – White Coppice CC – Heapey Chase and also an information stand at the Village Fete. Feedback from these launch events will be incorporated into the questionnaire.

School Governors

Councillor Dickenson reported that St. John’s Primary School, Brinscall was growing in numbers. They have been given an award to improve sports facilities. All other Primary Schools in the area are in a healthy state. Secondary Schools that cater for young people from this area are also thriving.

Any other Business

There was no other business