

Minutes of 912th Meeting -Wheelton Parish Council, Monday 4th January 2010

Present:

Councillors Wheale (Chair), Dickenson, Berry, Fowler, Scambler, Hayes
Also present Alan Platt (Mentoring Officer and three members of the public

Minutes of Meeting held on 7th December 2009

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record

Apologies for Absence

Cllr G Wood

Matters Arising

330/01/10 – Cllr Berry thanked the members for recognising her long service which was actually as Brownie Leader

331/01/01 - Cllr Dickenson thanked everyone who assisted in the delivery of the Parish Newsletter

Questions from the Public

332/01/10 – It was reported that two lamp standards where not working and the Clerk was requested to contact Chorley Council

333/01/10 – The clerk was requested to find out if the public could obtain grit salt from the Highways themselves in view of the adverse weather conditions and the Highways Agency concentrating on the major routes

334/01/10 – The Clerk was asked to get the Dog Wardens to visit the village again due to the amount of dog fouling problem which as recently reappeared

Clerks Report

335/01/10 - A674 – The Clerk read a statement from the Traffic Engineer at LCC which indicated that no survey had been requested at the meeting in July 2009 but if a survey was required they would consider this

The members agreed that a survey of speed through Higher Wheelton would indicate whether the improvements to that area are becoming affective

336/01/10 – The Clerk informed the meeting that the repairs to the bench at Higher Wheelton had been completed He was also to report a problem with the retaining wall at the bottom of Whins Lane

337/01/10 – The Clerk informed the meeting that thank you letters to all who assisted in the excellent “Carols around the Tree” service had been prepared

Police Report

338/01/10 – In the absence of a representative from the Lancashire Constabulary the Clerk read out the following report

Theft from a vehicle was reported to have happened overnight in Wheelton between 5/12 & 06/12, a car radio was stolen, attempt's to start the vehicle were made but were fortunately unsuccessful

Overnight on 14/12 a car was subjected to damage by way of a wing mirror being broken; local enquiries have been carried out and prove negative at this time.

On 19/12 a dispute erupted into a report of criminal damage, the offender has been dealt with.

Overnight on 31/12 a car parked on Victoria Street has had its window wipers damaged, enquiries are still ongoing.

Standards Board Mentoring Officer

339/01/10 – Alan Platt from Chorley Councils Standards Board Committee gave the meeting a summary of his role of Mentoring Officer and informed the members of contacts at Chorley Council if needed

The Chair thanked him for attending the meeting

Financial Report

340/01/10 – The CPRE account was approved for payment. The Clerk asked for the following accounts also to be approved for payment

EON – War Memorial Electricity - £22.41

T Dickenson – Printing Costs for Carol Sheets & Newsletter - £ 13.00

R Thompson – New Glasses for Carol Service Refreshments - £19.65

Cllr Dickenson declared an Interest in the Dickenson Account

All were approved for payment

Landscaping of Victoria St Site

341/01/10 – Prior to the debate the Clerk read out a report from Chorley Councils Arboriculture Officer regarding the tree on the site which in his opinion given its location, I think it would benefit from some works. Obviously, left to its own devices, the tree will be a problem in the future. If it were pruned though, almost as an ornamental, it could perhaps be fitted into the scheme.

A good crown reduction would keep the tree manageable and get the branches out of the phone lines.

The members and present residents discussed the issues of the tree and the proposed siting of a bench on the site in some detail

It was agreed that the other landscaping of shrubs etc would be a joint effort between both parties. However there was disagreement amongst members regarding the fate of the tree and bench

It was decided to put the matter to a democratic vote which resulted in the following

The tree would be removed mainly due to the concerns Parish Council had regarding the roots and that it could not be assured of indemnity should anything untoward happen in the future

It was also agreed that the bench may be installed at a later date for a trial period - residents to be informed prior to instalment-and if it proved to be of a nuisance it would be relocated somewhere else in the village or replace an existing one

The Clerk to inform the Arboriculture Officer of the decisions

H&W Playground Trust

342/01/10 – Cllr Dickenson informed the meeting that the trust members that the intended meeting in December had to be cancelled and that they hoped to meet on Friday of this week. Cllr Dickenson also informed the meeting that he was in

contact with Chorley Council regarding funding and will update the members when further information was to hand

Planning

345/01/10 – The members had no objections to the following application providing it was in keeping with the local environment

09/00991/FUL- Erection of two-storey rear extension (amendment to planning approval 09/00416/FUL)

Logwood Mill Farm Brinscall Mill Road Wheelton

346/01/10 – The members asked the Clerk to reiterate its concerns on the following appeal on planning refusal

09/00327/FUL - Former Victoria Mill Building Millbrook Close

Items for Consideration

347/01/10 – Cllrs Dickenson and Wheale will attend the Parish Council Liaison meeting on 20 January 2010. The Clerk to indicate that Dog Fouling and Parking were items they wanted to discuss on behalf of the Parish council

Items for Information

348/01/10 – All items were noted

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 1st February 2010