

Minutes of 886th Meeting -Wheelton Parish Council, Monday 3rd September 2007

Present - Councillors T. Dickenson, R. Wheale, K. Berry, S.Monaghan, R. Scambler N Hayes J Ross-Mills

Also Present - PC A Crow

Minutes of Meeting held on 2nd July 2007

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record

Apologies for Absence –Mr E Downs.

Matters Arising

109/09/07 - The Clerk was requested to amend the wording on the Enhancing Wheelton project to state bulbs and other floral displays not just bulb planting.

Police Report

110/09/07 - PC Crow stated that during the period July to August four crimes were recorded for the parish these were not of a serious nature. Even though this period included the school summer break there were no juvenile nuisance incidents reported.

Questions from the Public

111/09/07 – The Clerk informed the members that he had contacted both the Chorley Council and Lancashire County Highways departments regarding the advertising signs on the A674 and was awaiting a report from them stating whether the businesses had applied for the necessary permission to display the signs.

Financial Report

112/09/07 – All payments were accepted

113/09/07 - The Annual Audit Return for the year ending 31st March 2007 was accepted by the Council and the Chairman thanked the Clerk for his efforts in its preparation.

Parish Plan – Action Priorities

114/09/07 - The members decided to tackle the priorities in the order listed in the minutes and therefore Children & Young People – Improve the Play Area and Cycling Routes would be acted on first

Consequently the Clerk was requested to check with British Waterways and the Local Council on the bylaws relating to cycle routes on the Leeds Liverpool canal and the Whins Lane area

The Playground Working Group consisting of two representatives each from Wheelton and Heapey Parishes will continue to oversee the upgrade of the Playground and arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

Planning Matters

Councillor J Ross-Mills declared an interest in appeal on application

07/00478/OUT and left the meeting

115/09/07 - After hearing the concerns from residents from Millbrook Close the members decided that they would reiterate their objections to this application and requested the Clerk to write to the Planning Inspectorate accordingly

Councillor J Ross-Mills returned to the meeting

Councillors J Ross-Mills,R Scambler and K Berry declared an interest in this application

116/09/07 - 07/00786/OUT - Removal of quarry building, erection of single storey cafe with landscaping to create a picnic area -Land at Copthurst Lane (Sand Quarry)

Although this item was not in the Wheelton area the Parish council have a vested interest in the Sand Quarry and therefore discussed the application. They decided by a majority vote (Councillors Ross-Mills,Scambler and Berry abstained) that they had no objection to the proposed structure of a cafe on the site they were concerned that there would be no parking facilities on the site enclosure and there were concerns relating to access to the cafe especially disabled access and the access from Kenyon Lane would be quite steep. The Clerk instructed to write to the Planning Authority with these comments

117/09/07 - The granted applications were noted.

Enhancing Wheelton

118/09/07 - The Clerk read out the proposals from the Maintenance Contractor regarding the areas he considered best for attention. He also stated that there are various trees in the village that needed some attention

It was decided that the Tree Warden would liaise with a Playground representative regarding the trees and that two members would meet with the contractor to discuss the flora to be planted. The Clerk to set up the meeting

It was pointed out that the benches throughout the village needed urgent repairs and instructed the Clerk to ask the contractor to carry out necessary repairs as soon as possible especially in the Whin Lane area.

Items for Consideration

119/09/07 - Four members indicated they would be hoping to attend the Code of Conduct training.

120/09/07 - Joint meeting time and venue were noted by all members.

Items for Information

121/09 /07 - All items were noted.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 1st October 2007

6. Financial Report

The following accounts to be approved for payment

S Berry - Quarterly Maintenance - £810.00

Powergen - War Memorial Electricity - £60.25

Balance at Bank £ 14414.86

7. Traffic Issues A674

To discuss the latest position and how to step up the pressure with the Highways Department bearing in mind we are still awaiting the initial report from Lancashire County Council

8. Parish Plan – Action Priorities

The Playground Working Group to deliver their report on the initial meeting of the group

The Clerks report on cycle ways is enclosed and members are to discuss the route the cycleway will take through the village and the link up with the canal

9. Planning Matters

The following applications to be considered

07/00967/FUL - Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new dwelling and detached garage,
Bali Hai Whins Lane Wheelton

10. Parish Newsletter

To discuss how the Newsletter can be improved in its appearance, agree on a timetable for items to be included and future publication dates if we are to comply with the four issues per year

11. Enhancing Wheelton

There has been a proposal for the members consider replacement of the sign from the Whins Lane milestone and the 'Wheelton A674' sign near 226 Blackburn Road. The Clerk to report on the situation with bench repairs and the flora planting

12. Items for Consideration

The minutes from the recent Joint meeting with Heapey Parish are attached and members are requested to give any feedback they have for discussion

13. Items for Information

LCC - Lancashire Locals Climate Change Fund

14. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 5th November 2007

Appendix 1

Sustrans have forwarded your email about cycle paths to me.

The County Council has a small budget for the size of the county for new cycle schemes. We keen to extend the canal towpath improvements north of Chorley and link surrounding villages to the town. We extending the towpath improvements south of Chorley to Heath Charnock, and hopefully eventually to Adlington using grant funding. . How quickly we can extend the towpath improvements north of Chorley is in part dependent how much outside funding we can secure.

I think the best way forward is for you to send us a plan showing your suggestions to us at

If you want to convert a linking footpath to the canal to a cycle path, we need landowner approval. It may easier for the parish council to secure this than us

Traffic and Safety
Environment Directorate
Lancashire County Council
Guild House
Cross St
Preston
PR1 3EX
Alasdair Simpson
Cycling Officer

HEAPEY AND WHEELTON PARISH COUNCILS

MINUTES of an informal Joint Meeting held 4 September 2007 at 8.30 pm in the White Coppice Rooms, St Barnabas Church, Heapey.

Present Cllrs J Ross-Mills (Chair), D Berry, K Berry, T Dickenson, J Geddes, D Greenhalgh, S Monaghan, R Smith and R Wheale.

Also Present Borough Councillor M Gray.

Cllr Ross-Mills took the Chair for this meeting.

07.01 Apologies for absence

Councillors N Hayes and R Scambler.

07.02 Play Area

A Working Group, to provide recommendations regarding the upgrade of the play area, comprising Cllrs D Berry, Greenhalgh, Monaghan and Wheale is to arrange to meet as soon as possible. Cllr Dickenson will provide information and assistance regarding grants and funding if required. Proposed costings are to be obtained in time for the precept meetings of both councils. Replacement bark is urgently required.

07.03 Parking

Problems exist on Victoria Street, Blackburn Road and both ends of Kenyon Lane, exacerbated by the garage and the boatyard.

A joint meeting with the local Police was suggested to discuss the problems, which could then be taken to Lancashire County Council.

07.04 Speeding

A major problem exists at Higher Wheelton, where vehicles have been recorded at speeds in excess of 70mph. Wynns Lane, Chapel Lane and the A674 in the vicinity of the Malt House junction also have problems with traffic speed. Some of the speed limit signs on the A674 are barely legible.

It was suggested both Councils should write to Lancashire County Council regarding the problems, particularly on the A674, and request a site meeting with Officers.

07.05 Lengthsman

Details of the Lancashire County Council Lengthsman Scheme are to be obtained with a view to considering the sharing of the costs between the two Councils. Some grant funding may be available to offset the costs.

07.06 Village Hall

The lottery bid has been unsuccessful and other sources of grant funding, which may provide funding on a much smaller scale, are being investigated.

Concerns were expressed that the Council's are not subsidising private businesses currently using the Hall. The Village Hall Committee is to review the situation and check

whether the playgroup pays its way. The current rents structure is also to be investigated.

07.07 Raised Flowerbed

The final costings for the flowerbed were £1500 for the building and carving and £71 for the plaque. Wheelton Councillors expressed concerns at not being aware of the costs and having no input into the design. In view of the location of the flowerbed a suggestion of a contribution of 1/3 of the cost by Wheelton Parish Council was made. If necessary a replacement plaque can be obtained.

07.08 North West in Bloom

The possibility of future entry in the North West in Bloom Competition was discussed. Wheelton Parish Council has embarked on an 'Enhancing Wheelton' project whereby flowerbeds are to be sited around the village. It was agreed that entry into a future competition was a good idea, possibly in two years time. Residents and local businesses will have to be encouraged to become involved.

07.09 Christmas Lights

The Christmas tree and lights have been erected by Wheelton Councillors for many years and assistance from Heapey Councillors is required. A suggestion for each Council to contribute £150 towards new LED lights was made and prices are to be obtained.

07.10 Advertising Boards

Both Councils had issues with the A-boards displayed at the junction of Blackburn Road with the A674. Some form of wooden board, more in keeping with the area, displaying the names of businesses in the villages was suggested.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.