

The 840th meeting of Wheelton Parish Council was held on Monday 12th May 2003

Present: Councillor T Dickenson – Chairman
Councillors K Berry, S Monaghan, R E Scambler and R Wheale
Also present: Borough Councillor C Howard
Sgt Robinson – Lancs Constabulary

Councillor Dickenson having vacated the Chair, the meeting opened with the election of Officers for 2003/2004.

The following officers were elected:
Chairman – Councillor T Dickenson
Vice-Chairman – Councillor R Wheale
LAPTC Chorley Area Committee representatives – Councillors T Dickenson and N Hayes
Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall Committee representative – Councillor K Berry
Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial Trustees – Councillor R Wheale and Mrs D Gorton
Heapey and Wheelton Charity Trust Trustees – Councillor T Dickenson and R Wheale
Village Playground Fund representative – Councillor R Wheale
Tree Warden – Councillor S Monaghan
Press Officer – Councillor T Dickenson
Parish Newsletter Co-ordinator – Parish Clerk

Councillor Dickenson thanked the Councillors for re-electing him as Chairman for another year.

Minutes of meeting held on 7th April 2003

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Apologies for absence

Councillor N Hayes
Borough Councillor I Smith

Matters arising

104/5/03 None

Police report

105/5/03 Sgt Robinson had to leave the meeting due to operational requirements. There were 5 Parish Council meetings on this night and it was impossible to have representatives at all of them. Any items requiring Police attention should be handed in to the Police Station.

Questions from public

106/5/03 It was reported that the future of Brinscall baths was in jeopardy following a report that £250,000 would be needed for repairs over the next few years. Friends of Brinscall baths will be considering ways and means of keeping the baths open and will keep the Parish Council informed.

Financial report

107/5/03 Financial report approved along with the following additional accounts:
Geddes – photocopying - £17.40
Allianz Cornhill Insurance – premium - £1105.67
JJ Bennett – garden maintenance – WM £42.00, VG £73.50 = £115.50
S Monaghan – 50% web site fees - £40.54

108/5/03 A statement of accounts for 2002/2003 was distributed to Councillors. Balance in bank, including £5000 Awards for All, confirmed as £21986.42.

Planning matters

109/5/03 Councillor Wheale, having declared an interest, took no part in this item.

110/5/03 There were no objections to the following applications:

No 9/03/00320/FUL

No 9/03/00362/FUL

No 9/03/00363/FUL

The Sand Quarry

111/5/03 A meeting with Heapey and Whittle-le-Woods Parish Councils to discuss their commitment to the acquisition of the Sand Quarry is to be set up shortly.

112/5/03 Complaints about the use of the quarry by quad and trials bikes have been received. The public footpaths are being destroyed. Lancs County Council have been notified, but only the owner of the property can take action to stop their access to the site.

LCC's "Business Planning on Traffic Issues – Parish Partnership"

113/5/03 After discussion, it was decided that the following four traffic issues should be submitted to LCC for their consideration:

A674 – junction with Briers Brow and Victoria Street – provide mini roundabout to assist access onto A674 and slow traffic.

Victoria Street - Waiting restrictions on one side (double yellow lines) Mill Street to junction with Blackburn Road.

Victoria Street – Double yellow lines (both sides) at junction with A674 to stop parking and obstructing sight lines.

Old Blackburn Road – restoring access to alleviate lack of parking space throughout the village.

Parish Councillor vacancy

114/5/03 The Parish Council has not met with any success in its search for someone to fill the vacancy. Advertisements will continue.

Parish Plan

115/5/03 Tammy Smith will be asked to assist in completing the application form. A joint meeting with Heapey PC will be held.

Wheelton Web Site

116/5/03 Work continues on setting up the site. It was reported that Heapey PC have agreed the £600 setting-up costs and the £20 per month maintenance costs.

Proposed upgrading of various footpaths

117/5/03 After discussion, it was agreed that no action would be taken.

LAPTC Training Wish List

118/5/03 The pro-forma has been completed detailing courses that may be of assistance to Councillors and the Clerk.

Amendments to the Regional Assemblies (Preparations) Bill

119/5/03 Noted.

Appointment of Primary School Governors

120/5/03 Noted.

Chorley Environmental Forum

121/5/03 After discussion, it was agreed that the only suitable space for housing re-cycling banks was at The Dressers Arms car park. An agreement would have to be set up with the Landlord. Clerk to inform Mr Trebilcock.

Parish Newsletter

122/5/03 There have not been sufficient articles produced to publish a Parish Newsletter. A new target date has been set for the end of May. The Parish Clerk will co-ordinate the publication.

123/5/03 Car parking issues are still a high priority with many Parishioners and a public meeting will be held shortly to see if any solution can be found.

124/5/03 The Chairman asked that consideration be given to altering the hours of the Parish Council meeting and making them 7.45pm to 9.30pm. A formal resolution would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

125/5/03 At the request of the Clerk, it was agreed that all minute books up to the year 2000 would be lodged in the Records Office, Preston.

Date of next meeting

Monday 2nd June 2003 at 7.45pm.