

The 851st meeting of Wheelton Parish Council was held on Monday 10th May 2004

Present: Councillor T Dickenson – Chairman
Councillors K Berry, N Hayes, A Mohamet, S Monaghan, R E Scambler and R Wheale

Also present: Sgt D Brown – Lancs Constabulary

Election of Officers

Councillor Dickenson having vacated the Chair, the meeting opened with the election of Officers for 2004/05.

The following officers were elected:

Chairman – Councillor R Wheale
Vice-Chairman – Councillor T Dickenson
LAPTC Area Committee representatives – Councillors T Dickenson and N Hayes (substitutes Councillors A Mohamet, S Monaghan and R Wheale)
Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall Committee representative – Councillor S Mohamet
Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial Trustees – Councillor R Wheale and Mrs D Gorton
Heapey and Wheelton Charity Trust Trustees – Councillors T Dickenson and R Wheale
Village Playground Fund representative – Councillor R Wheale
Tree Warden – Councillor A Mohamet
Press Officer – Councillor T Dickenson
Parish Newsletter co-ordinators – Councillors N Hayes and S Monaghan
Wheelton Web Site co-ordinator – Councillor S Monaghan
School Governor – Councillor T Dickenson

Councillor Wheale thanked the Councillors for electing him as Chairman.

Minutes of meeting held on 5th April 2004

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Apologies for Absence

Borough Councillors C Howard and Mrs I Smith

Matters Arising

63/5/04 Arrangements have been made to have the old bark safety surface in the Children's playground dug out and a new layer laid. Hire of the digger will be £130 and the bark will cost £25 a cubic metre. Councillor Wheale will oversee the work and calculate the amount of bark required. There are repairs needed on some equipment and the Clerk will ask the installers, Playdale, to come and give an estimate of the work required.

Police Report

64.5.04 Sgt Brown introduced himself to the meeting. He has been in the Police force for 12 years and served the last 4 and a 1/2 years as Sergeant in Chorley and Leyland. He reported that there were only 2 crimes in Wheelton during April – theft of bag at the Dressers Arms and setting fire to a temporary toilet at a car boot sale off Blackburn Road. This compares with 3 crimes in the same period in 2003. For the year 2002/03 there were 44 crimes compared with 42 in 2003/04.

Questions from Public

65/5/04 None

Financial Report

66/5/04 The financial report was approved with the following additional accounts:

J J Bennett – Garden maintenance – WM £44.00 + VG £77.00 = £121.00
W A Geddes – Computer Toner cartridge - £64.99

67/5/04 The statement of accounts for 2003/04 that had been circulated with the agenda, was discussed and approved by the meeting.

Planning Matters

68/5/04 No.9/04/00328/AGR – Application for agricultural determination in respect of the erection of a lambing shed/general purpose building – Portland Farm, Buckholes Lane, Wheelton.

The Parish Council objected to this application on the following grounds:

1. There are already other buildings on this site that could be used for this purpose
2. A new roadway has been constructed to this proposed development
3. Concern was expressed that the building would be used for commercial purposes other than those stated on the planning application.

No. 9/04/00344/FUL – Erection of single storey extension to side and construction of dormers to front and rear – Brookside, Blackburn Road, Wheelton
No objection providing the work is in keeping with the local environment.

No. 9/04/00469/FUL – Erection of detached bungalow and garage – Land on Lawton Close and rear of 383 Blackburn Road, Higher Wheelton.

The Parish Council objected to this application on the grounds that the size of this proposed dwelling would overdevelop the site available and the height would have a detrimental effect on the adjoining properties that are all bungalows.

Old Sand Quarry

69/5/04 A meeting is being arranged with Roger Handscombe and Jamie Carson, Chorley Borough Council to formulate a business plan. It has been reported that motorcyclists are still using the quarry. They say that they have permission from the owner when questioned by the Police. Clerk to complain to Chorley Borough Council about the noise and LCC about damage to footpaths.

Parish Plan

70/5/04 Work is continuing on arrangements to hold 4 “Launch Venues” throughout the Parishes and customise the questionnaire to meet the views of Parishioners.

Wheelton Web Site

71/5/04 Congratulations were expressed to Councillor Monaghan and her team for the marvellous job they had done in setting up the web site. Many compliments had been paid by members of the public. Training was taking place so that updates could be carried out more quickly.

Parish Newsletter

72/5/04 The next edition is due to be published by 24th June. Councillors Hayes and Monaghan to co-ordinate the publication. Policy regarding articles to be included will be discussed at the next meeting.

Items for information

73/5/04 Noted with the following additional items:

Chorley Borough Council – Standards Committee Agenda 6th June 2004

Powergen – Fixed price electricity

Chorley and South Ribble Primary Care Trust Future events

CPRE – Newsletter

Enquiries have been made by a member of the public about the purchase of a small piece of land on Victoria Street near the off-licence. This is owned by Chorley Borough Council and it was the general opinion that it would be best if it remained in public ownership.

Date of next Meeting

Monday 7th June 2004 at 8.0pm.