

The 844th meeting of Wheelton Parish Council was held on Monday 6th October 2003

Present: Councillor T Dickenson – Chairman
Councillors K Berry, N Hayes, A Mohamet, R E Scambler and R Wheale
Also present: Borough Councillor C Howard
PC J Colclough – Lancs Constabulary

The meeting opened with the Chairman welcoming Councillor Mohamet to his first meeting after being co-opted on to the Parish Council.

Minutes of meeting held on 1st September 2003

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Apologies for absence

Councillor S Monaghan

Matters Arising

200/10/03 LAPTIC AGM 8th November. It was agreed that the Clerk should represent the Parish Council at this meeting.

Police Report

201/10/03 PC Colclough reported that there had been two incidents in the Parish over the past month.

1. A man was charged with causing an affray and possession of an article with intent to cause criminal damage at the Golden Lion, Higher Wheelton.
2. Burglary at a property on Harbour Lane. A quad bike, large lawnmower and a circular saw were stolen.

He appealed to the public to be observant and report any suspicious incidents to the Police.

202/10/03 More complaints have been reported about inconsiderate and dangerous parking in the village.

1. Vehicles being parked on Victoria Street blocking the sight lines of traffic driving out of Millbrook Close and Stable Lane.
2. Parking on the pavement outside the laundrette on Victoria Street.
3. Parking on both sides of Kenyon Lane near the War Memorial.
4. Parking around the Top Lock pub and Boatyard making it difficult for commercial vehicles to get past.

Questions from Public

203/10/03 None.

Financial Report

204/10/03 The financial report was approved with the following additional credit and accounts being authorised:

Credit – Royal Bank of Scotland – interest - £24.11

Accounts

JJ Bennett – gardening maintenance – WM £42.00 + VG ££73.50 = £115.50

HLB AV AUDIT plc – fees - £120.00 + VAT £21.00 = £141.00

Chorley Borough Council – Emptying dog waste bin - £67.60

Playground Management Ltd – annual inspection - £59.00 + VAT £10.33 = £69.33

South Lancs Arts Partnership – fees - £1790.00

Victim Support Lancs – donation - £20.00

H & W Village Hall Committee – race donation - £150.00

205/10/03 The Clerk reported that the Annual Audit Return for the year ended March 2003 has been completed and a satisfactory Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been issued by the Auditors. There were no items to be drawn to the attention of the Parish Council.

Budget and Precept 2004/2005

206/10/03 The budget for the remainder of this financial year and the proposed precept for 2004/05 would be presented at the next meeting. The Clerk asked for details of any projects that needed to be included. A number of items for the playground were identified and also maintenance to street furniture, street signs and additional dog waste bins.

207/10/03 The request for a donation to the village hall race prize made by Councillor Dickenson was considered after Councillor Dickenson had left the meeting. It was agreed that a donation of £150 would be made.

Planning Matters

208/10/03 No. 9/03/00778/FUL – Erection of two storey dwelling and garage – Land on Lawton Close and rear of 383 Blackburn Road – The Council objected to this application on the grounds that the height of the proposed dwelling would have a detrimental effect on the adjoining properties which are all bungalows.

209/10/03 An additional planning application has been received:

No. 9/03/00984/FUL – Single storey side extension and detached garage – Thorncroft, Bett Lane.

No objection providing the work is in keeping with the local environment.

210/10/03 The following application has been granted:

No. 9/03/00755/FUL – Erection of stable block and tractor store – Logwood Mill Farm, Brinscall Mill Road, Wheelton.

211/10/03 There are a number of unauthorised building works taking place in the Parish:

1. Sitch Croft Farm – work commenced before a decision on planning permission has been made
2. Buckholes Lane – stable block in the course of construction (no planning permission)
3. 1 West View – garage under construction (no planning permission)

These have all been reported to the Enforcement Officer, Planning Department, Chorley Borough Council

Old Sand Quarry

212/10/03 As discussed at the joint meeting with Heapey PC, a letter is to be sent to Mr Roger Handscombe requesting a copy of the report he is preparing for the Executive Cabinet and also a copy of the Cabinet resolution, so that an approach may be made to the Charity Commission for the release of some of the capital from the Heapey and Wheelton Charitable Trust.

Street Furniture

213/10/03 In response to a letter from the Head of Transportation and Engineering, Chorley Borough Council, a request has been made for the maintenance of public benches throughout the Parish, bollards at the layby at the junction of Whins Lane and the A674, railings outside nos 349 to 367 Blackburn Road, Higher Wheelton. A request has also been made for new benches on Briers Brow and the A674 in the vicinity of Victoria Street.

Parish Plan

214/10/03 As discussed at the joint meeting with Heapey PC, it was agreed that a joint plan should be prepared. Advertisements in shop windows and Parish notice boards for further volunteers to serve on the Steering Committee will continue for a month. The Steering Committee will then be set up and work on the plan started. A meeting of Steering Groups will be held at The Green Centre, Eccleston on Thursday 9th October at 2.0pm. The Clerk will attend.

Wheelton Web Site

215/10/03 Though Councillor Monaghan was unable to attend the meeting, she submitted a report on the progress made in setting up the site. She also submitted an extract from the web site text that was approved with a few minor amendments. Photographs of the area are needed for inclusion in the site text.

Parish Newsletter

216/10/03 The final draft of the Parish Newsletter was agreed and will be published as soon as possible. Volunteers are needed to deliver around the Parish. Future editions will be joint publications with contributions from Heapey PC and the Village Hall Committee.

Chorley Borough Council inquiry into flooding

217/10/03 Most of the flooding in the area was due to blocked gullies and Chorley Borough Council would be asked to clear the gullies more frequently at this time of the year.

Items for information

218/10/03 Borough/Parish Council meeting 25th September – Clerk attended
219/10/03 LCC 20 MPH speed limit zones presentation 3rd October – Clerk attended
220/10/03 LAPTC AGM 8th November – Clerk will attend
221/10/03 LCC household waste recycling scheme – Further discussions needed to clarify the position of small businesses – Invite LCC to next meeting.
222/10/03 Chorley Borough Council to be requested to sweep up leaves and clear gullies.
223/10/03 Complaints received about overhanging hedge obstructing footway in Victoria Street. Clerk to write to occupant of No 13 asking them to cut it back.
224/10/03 The Chairman reminded Councillors that the “Through the Villages” road race in aid of the Village Hall would be held on Sunday 2nd November 2003 at 10.30am. Volunteers were needed to marshal this event and names should be given to Councillor Dickenson.
225/10/03 The Remembrance Day Service will be held at the Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial on Sunday 9th November 2003 at 12.30pm. The Chair of Heapey PC will lay the wreath on behalf of both Parish Councils.

Date of next meeting

Monday 3rd November 2003 at 8.0pm.