

The 843rd meeting of Wheelton Parish Council was held on Monday 1st September 2003

Present: Councillor T Dickenson – Chairman

Councillors K Berry, N Hayes, S Monaghan, R E Scambler and R Wheale.

Minutes of meeting held on 7th July 2003

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Apologies for absence

Borough Councillors C Howard and Mrs I Smith

Matters Arising

179/9/03 Councillor Hayes has completed and submitted to CBC the application form for a grant to improve Parish amenities.

Parish Councillor Vacancy Interviews

180/9/03 Two candidates attended to fill the vacancy - Miss J Christopher and Mr S Mohamet. They were both interviewed and informed that the results would be given to them as soon as possible. After a long discussion a vote was taken whether an appointment should be made at this time. The voting, taken by a show of hands, was agreed unanimously

A vote was then taken to select the successful candidate and the result was as follows:

Miss J Christopher – 3 votes

Mr S Mohamet – 3 votes

Mr Mohamet was selected on the Chairman's casting vote.

Police Report

181/9/03 A reply has been received from Paul Harry, Divisional Commander, Lancashire Constabulary to the Parish Council's letter of 26th June complaining about the closure of the Police cells in Chorley. The contents were noted but the Parish Council disagreed with the policy. Clerk to write and seek assurances that there would be no further reduction of Police presence in this area.

Questions from Public

182/9/03 None.

Financial Report

183/9/03 The financial report was approved. The following additional accounts were authorised:

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

W A Geddes – Stationery and photocopying - £12.00 + VAT £0.44 = £12.44

Planning Matters

184/9/03 There were no objections to the following applications:

No. 9/03/00677/FUL

No. 9/03/00755/FUL

No. 9/03/00856/FUL

No. 9/03/00831/FUL

185/9/03 An additional planning application has been received:

No. 9/03/00896 – Demolition of existing workshops and construction of building to house games room, gymnasium and storage areas – Sitchcroft Farm, Brown House Lane, Wheelton.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should object to this application on the grounds of impact on the environment as a single storey building is being replaced by a two storey

building.

Concern was also expressed about other work which was taking place and for which no planning application had been received. Clerk to consult with CBC Planning.

186/9/03 It was agreed that the draft letter to Mr J E Morgan, Miry Fold Farm in response to his complaint should be sent.

Old Sand Quarry

187/9/03 The Chairman has been discussing with Mr Roger Handscombe CBC about a possible compulsory purchase order for the Old Sand Quarry. Although a statement has been made that CBC will provide funds to cover the purchase price of the site over £33,000, a letter to that effect is required before he can negotiate with the Charity Commissioners. If a letter is not received before the weekend further contact will be made.

Lancashire Playing Fields Association – Invitation to join

188/9/03 It was agreed that the Parish Council would join the Lancashire Playing Fields Association. The current annual membership fee is £11.00.

Village Design/Parish Plan

189/9/03 Difficulties are still being experienced getting enough volunteers to serve on the Steering Group. A concentrated publicity campaign will be set up and it was agreed that a joint meeting with Heapey PC should be held on Monday 6th October at 7.45pm to discuss the situation and possibly have a joint Parish Plan.

Wheelton Web Site

190/9/03 Good progress has been made in setting up the site and the launch date in October should be met. A separate bank account will be set up to control the finances of the Web Site.

Parish Newsletter

191/9/03 A number of articles have been received and others have been promised so that the next edition can be published at the end of September.

LAPTC – Training Seminars – 26th and 28th August 2003

192/9/03 Due to circumstances, the Clerk was unable to attend either of these seminars.

Items for Information

193/9/03 AON Ltd – Insurance of special events. Clerk was instructed to enquire if this ruling would cover the Annual Road Race.

194/9/03 Jobspec – Supporting People in Employment Choices – Clerk to make further enquiries about employing someone as a Lengthsman.

195/9/03 LAPTC AGM 8th November – It was agreed that, if possible, a delegate would be nominated at the next meeting.

196/9/03 Difficulties caused by Heapey and Wheelton being treated as one Parish Council. Clerk to request CBC and LCC to change their records.

197/9/03 CBC Planning have proposed changes to the Planning Application to provide a disabled toilet in the Village Hall. Councillor Wheale will discuss.

198/9/03 Complaints have been received about the restrictions placed on van owners who have no other means of transport having access to the Waste Disposal Site. Clerk to write to LCC.

199/9/03 Due to work commitments, Councillor Berry tendered her resignation as Wheelton Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee. A substitute is required.

Date of next Meeting

Monday 6th October 2003 after the Joint Meeting with Heapey Parish Council which starts at 7.45pm.