

Chairman's Report

2010 is an election year for Heapey Parish Council and we were sad to hear Joan Geddes announce her intention not to stand this time around. On behalf of the Parish Council and the residents of Heapey I would like to thank Joan for her past service to both the Council and the Village Hall Committee.

Julia Berry

Parking

Proposals to restrict parking and ease the congestion at the bottom of Blackburn Road and along Victoria Street are set to go ahead. Double yellow lines will be installed on both corners of Kenyon Lane at its junction with Blackburn Road.

Christmas Tree

Work should commence shortly to provide the power supply for the Christmas Tree at the entrance to Kittiwake Road.

Once this is done, and a little more work to provide a receptacle for the Tree, we will be ready to celebrate Christmas 2010 in style on Heapey Chase.

Highways

The Parish Council's requested clearing back of the pavements at the top of Blackburn Old Road and Chapel Lane has been completed by Lancashire County Council.

In conjunction with our colleagues at Anglezarke Parish Council we are trying to get drainage issues on Coppice Lane, Hollin Lane and Moor Road attended to by LCC, and to try to rid the area of Himalayan Balsam. We may be asking for local volunteers for areas in White Coppice and anyone interested in joining in should contact the Clerk with their details.

Parish Councillors

Julia Berry (Chairman)
01257 268035

Peter Church (Vice-Chairman)
07854 630304

Dave Berry
01257 277145

Joan Geddes
01254 831522

Margaret Osborne
01257 264446

Janet Ross-Mills
07732 027490

Alan Platt (Clerk)
can be contacted at:

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Euxton, Chorley, PR7 6NX

Tel: 01257 234003

e-mail:
heapeypc@btinternet.com

website:
www.heapeyandwheelton.org

Parish Council meetings are held on the first Tuesday in alternate months (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep and Nov), in The White Coppice Rooms, St Barnabas Church, Chapel Lane.

See the Parish Council noticeboards at the junction of Blackburn Road with the A674, the junction of Coppice Lane with Hollin Lane, the entrance to Heapey Chase and the War Memorial Grounds (visible from Kenyon Lane) for details.

Members of the public are welcome to attend all Council meetings.

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Council Tax Freeze

Residents having received their Council Tax bills for 2010/11 will, no doubt, be pleased to notice that the Parish Council's portion of the total bill has not increased.

In the current financial climate we felt residents should be assisted wherever possible so, by careful budgeting, we have been able to manage this zero increase with no reductions in services provided by the Parish Council.

Services provided by the Parish Council include the ongoing maintenance of the Play Area and the War Memorial Grounds, grasscutting of verges on Blackburn Road, Parish Council noticeboards, wayside seats, the Christmas tree and lights, emptying of dog waste bins and relevant insurance cover. Assistance is also provided for the upkeep of the Village Hall and War Memorial. Heapey Parish Council is a Joint Trustee of, with ultimate responsibility for, Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall, but this is run and maintained by a separate Committee.

In addition to the services provided, the Parish Council exists to represent the views of all Heapey residents to the Borough and County Councils, the Police and various other public and private bodies. If you have an issue you feel the Parish Council may be able to help with please contact the Councillors or the Clerk (contact details on the back page).

Lancashire Constabulary



There is currently a scam where people are phoning households and also knocking on doors, claiming residents are entitled to thousands of pounds in council tax rebates, they will ask for bank details. Residents are advised not to give any bank details out to anyone phoning them or knocking on their doors.

Contact the Neighbourhood Policing Team on the non - emergency reporting number:

0845 1 25 35 45 or via email at

Police Sergeant Andrew Bramhall
andrew.bramhall@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Community Beat Manager - Chris Evans
christopher.evans@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO - Michelle Appleton
michelle.appleton@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

Winter Gritting

The Parish Council is liaising with Lancashire County Council in a bid to avoid a repeat of the problems which arose last winter as a result of the heavy snow.

No promises but, we are trying to get Chapel Lane/Tithebarn Lane along to Heapey Road added to the Precautionary Gritting Routes operated by LCC.

We are also looking at increasing the number of grit bins although, a repeat of the 'rationing' of salt which occurred this time around could well mean no salt available for grit bins.

LCC has told us that the salt in the bins is for highway use only and is designed to be effective by being 'worked in' by a large number of vehicles. Anyone taking the salt for private drives etc is, technically, stealing.

Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall

It is almost 30 years since the residents of Heapey and Wheelton acquired the Hall for community use and a variety of activities are available including the Annual Village Fete, Playgroup, Nursery, Holiday Club, Children's Dance, Drama, Music classes and an Indoor Bowling Club. The Hall is also available for private hire.

Energetic and enthusiastic volunteers are needed to join the Village Hall Committee and become involved in promotion, fundraising, events and the general running of the Hall so, if you are interested, please come along to the Public meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 21 April 2010 at the Village Hall, West View, Wheelton, PR6 8HJ

Wheelton Toddler Group

Are you a new Mum or Dad, carer or grandparent of a baby, toddler or pre-school child - why not meet up with others in the Wheelton and Heapey Area on Thursday mornings? We are a very friendly toddler group based at Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall and meet 9.30am till 11.30am on Thursdays during term time.

If you have a spare couple of hours and wish to join us with your pre school children you would be very welcome. We have a good selection of toys for boys and girls and soft baby gym mats for babies. It is a relaxed atmosphere and the children (and parents!) usually enjoy a sing song before the adults have a coffee and the children a cold drink and a biscuit. We ask for a donation of £1 to cover the cost of the room and drinks. Its always lovely to see new people and the children always have a great play!

Pippa Shaw and Tanya Rollins

Parish Council Elections

2010 is an election year for the Parish Council. Anyone wishing to put their name forward as a candidate should contact the Elections Office at Chorley Council on 10257 515151 for information or an election pack, or the Clerk on 01257 234003 for further information.

Internet Access

Following on from the article in the December newsletter we have been told that Shine Telecom (0845 456 6990) may be able to provide a solution to residents who would like a broadband connection.

White Coppice Cricket Club

League matches start on Saturday 17 April 2010, until the season ends on Saturday 12 September. There will be a match every Saturday at White Coppice. Fixture lists will be available from the Pavilion.

New Players for the 2010 season are welcome for the Senior Team and the Under 17's, who must be under 17 years of age, on 31 August 2009 to play during 2010.

Practice nights for Juniors are Mondays and Seniors on Wednesdays.

Contact Club Secretary, Cindy Dixon, on 01257 410130 for details.

Non-playing members are also welcome. For details of membership contact Geoff Haydock on 01257 274241.

The 8th Annual Sportsmans Dinner will take place on Friday 17 September 2010 with Guest Speaker, Warren Hegg (ex Lancashire CC Captain and Wicket Keeper), Comedian, Martin Gold and MC, Chorley Guardian Editor Chris Maguire. Tickets will be £28. Contact Geoff Haydock for details.