

HEAPEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting held 6 January 2009 at 7.30 pm in the White Coppice Rooms, St Barnabas Church, Heapey.

Present Cllrs J Ross-Mills (Chair), D Berry, J Berry P Church, J Geddes.

Also Present Borough Councillor M Gray.

09.01 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr D Greenhalgh.

09.02 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

Cllr D Berry, as Chairman of Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial Trust declared a prejudicial interest in an item forming part of Agenda Item 5 (Financial Matters).

09.03 Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 November 2008

Resolved: the Minutes (as circulated) be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

09.04 Public Participation

i) Police Report

No report.

ii) Borough Councillors

Chorley Council is currently involved in budget consultations for the forthcoming financial year.

iii) Residents Points of Interest

The Council was advised of a recent occurrence of the stalking of wild deer on the MOD site on Chapel Lane. Vehicle numbers were provided for the Police but the residents reporting the matter were advised no action would be taken.

09.05 Finance

Resolved: the financial update be received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr D Berry withdrew from the meeting.

Councillors considered requests for payment to the Council.

Resolved: the following payments be approved.

| | | |
|----------|--|---------------|
| £ 15.00 | St Barnabas Church | Room hire |
| £ 91.60 | Inland Revenue | Income tax |
| £ 366.26 | Employee 1 | Salary |
| £ 350.00 | Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial Trust | Donation |
| £ 454.79 | Chorley Council | Grass cutting |

Cllr D Berry rejoined the meeting.

09.06 Planning Matters

No matters for discussion.

09.07 Parish Precept for the Year 2009-2010

Councillors considered the Precept for the forthcoming financial year. Funds are to be set aside for a licence and the works required to maintain the path from the rear of the Top Lock, through the Former Sand Quarry, for public use. Also, additional funds towards a bus shelter and the new play equipment project, in conjunction with Wheelton Parish Council, are to set aside. Funds are to be built up in this, and the following year's, precepts towards the provision of a Christmas tree and lights at Heapey Chase, which should be provided by Christmas 2011.

Resolved: the Precept be set at £9350, representing an increase of 4.6% in the cost of the Parish Council portion of council tax to residents.

09.08 Complaints Procedure

Councillors considered the introduction of a formal procedure to deal with complaints against the Council, Councillors or Clerk.

Resolved: the Model Code of Practice in Handling Complaints be adopted.

09.09 Alternative Names and Styles for Parish Councils

Councillors discussed an option, provided within the Local Government and Public Involvement in Heath Act 2007, to change the name of the Parish Council to “community, neighbourhood or village” council. There was no support for a change.

09.10 Reports from Outside Bodies

Attempts are being made via the Chorley Council Equality Forum to look into issues specific to rural areas and inhabitants.

The Standards Committee reviewed the Members Register of Interests forms. The maximum term for suspension for councillors in breach of the Code of Conduct for has been increased to 6 months.

09.11 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 3 March 2009 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

..... (Chairman)

Budget 1 April 2009 - 31 March 2010

| | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| Salaries | | 3200 |
| General Administration | | 400 |
| Room hire | | 90 |
| Insurance | | 450 |
| Subscriptions & entry fees | | 250 |
| Audit Fees | | 165 |
| Newsletter | | 120 |
| Training | | 200 |
| Donations | | 2900 |
| Flowers and planting | | 200 |
| Play Area maintenance | | 1000 |
| Street furniture | | 1000 |
| War Memorial expenses | | 1600 |
| Election Expenses | | 400 |
| Grasscutting | | 500 |
| Bus shelters | | 1000 |
| Christmas tree | | 1000 |
| Sundries | | 500 |
| Total expenditure | | <u>14975</u> |
| | | |
| Balance as at 06.01.09 | | 15335 |
| Add: Anticipated income to 31.03.09 | | <u>1070</u> |
| | | 16405 |
| Less: Anticipated requirements to 31.03.09 | 2780 | |
| Earmarked reserves: Copthurst Quarry | 3500 | |
| Flowers and planting | 150 | |
| Play equipment | 2350 | |
| Bus shelter | <u>2000</u> | |
| | <u>8000</u> | |
| | | <u>10780</u> |
| Balance forward | | 5625 |
| Add: Proposed precept | | <u>9350</u> |
| | | <u>14975</u> |