

HEAPEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting held 28 February 2008 at 7.30 pm in the White Coppice Rooms, St Barnabas Church, Heapey.

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

08.14 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr R Smith.

08.15 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

The Chairman and Cllr Geddes, as members of Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall Committee, declared prejudicial interests in an item forming part of Agenda Item 5 (Financial Matters).

08.16 Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 January 2008

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

08.17 Public Participation

i) Police Report

A crime report for the period from 1 December 2007 was provided.

ii) Residents Points of Interest

No points raised.

iii) Borough Councillors

No report.

08.18 Finance

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

The Chairman and Cllr Geddes withdrew from the meeting. Cllr D Berry took the Chair.

Councillors considered a grant application from a member of the Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall Committee towards medals for participants in the 25th Through the Villages Race.

Resolved: the Clerk is to request details of costings for the medals and request the application is resubmitted by the Village Hall Committee.

The Chairman and Cllr Geddes rejoined the meeting.

Councillors considered requests for payment to the Council.

Resolved: the following payments be approved, the invoices having been inspected in accordance with Fidelity Guarantee requirements:

£ 10.00	St Barnabas Church	Room hire
£ 98.34	Inland Revenue	Income tax
£ 348.60	Employee 1	Salary
£ 98.16	Employee 1	Reimbursements
£ 33.00	C Oakden	Bulb planting

08.19 Planning Matters

No matters for consideration.

08.20 Heapey and Wheelton Playground

The Playground Working Party has requested Heapey and Wheelton Parish Councils each set aside £3000 to provide 'kick start' funding for the improvements. Traditionally Heapey

contributes one third towards the maintenance of the Play Area and Councillors were unwilling to exceed this. The precept budget for 2008/09 for play equipment was set at £2350.

Resolved: the amount set aside is not to exceed one third of the total kick start funding, up to a maximum of £2350.

08.21 Planning Obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Councillors considered a suggestion brought up at a recent Borough/Parish Liaison Meeting for Parish Councils to become involved in the process of Section 106 Commuted Sums Agreements. At present sums for play space are collected by Chorley Council, held centrally and distributed by Officers. Parish Councils are concerned that parishes have no say over the utilisation of funds generated from developments within their locality.

Resolved: Chorley Council be requested to amend its current policy on Section 106 Agreements to allow Parish Councils to take in the preparation and implementation process.

08.22 Financial Risk Assessment

The Financial Risk Assessment, as recommended by the Practitioners' Guide to Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England and Wales, was carried out. The existing procedures and controls were found to be adequate.

Resolved: the adequacy of the existing controls be noted.

08.23 Footpath from Copthurst Lane to Public Footpath FP40

A proposal to have an existing footpath through the Former Sand Quarry formalised was considered. A part of the site, with outline planning permission, is being advertised for sale and Councillors expressed a wish to protect the amenity of local residents.

Resolved: the Clerk is to obtain the relevant paperwork from Lancashire County Council and an article requesting evidence of use from local residents is to be placed in the newsletter.

08.24 Advertising Boards

Lancashire County Council requested comments on the advertising boards sited, without consent, on the verge at the junction of Blackburn Road with the A674. The Parish Council had already received complaints from residents regarding the signage. Councillors wished to be supportive of local businesses and suggested the businesses co-operate to provide a single, larger sign advertising business in the centre which would be sympathetic to the rural setting.

Resolved: the Clerk is to advise of residents complaints regarding the current advertising boards and to request a co-ordinated approach to suitable signage be implemented.

08.25 Competition Entries

Entries for the Certificates of Merit were considered. Councillors nominated St Barnabas Church, Ryefield and Ryecroft, the Red Cat and the Top Lock, the War Memorial, the Raised Flowerbed and White Coppice Cricket Field for entry into their respective categories.

08.26 Newsletter

Councillors favoured the format of A4 folded into three. Items suggested for the newsletter included an article requesting residents support for the Sand Quarry footpath and an update on the adoption of Heapey Chase by Chorley Council.

08.27 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

08.28 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 24 April 2008 at 7.30pm.

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