

HEAPEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting held 6 March 2012 at 7.30 pm in St Barnabas Church, Heapey.

Present Cllrs J Berry (Chairman), M Allen, I Fairhurst, C Grunstein, M Osborne, J Ross-Mills.

Also present PC Etheridge.

12.11 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Borough Councillor M Gray.

12.12 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

12.13 Minutes of Meeting held 10 January 2012

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

Resolved: Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

12.14 Councillor Vacancy

Councillors considered an application for co-option from Mr Ian Fairhurst.

Resolved: Ian Fairhurst be co-opted.

12.15 Public Participation

PC Etheridge reported thefts of ornamental stone are continuing throughout the borough. Several incidents of drug cultivation have been detected recently in other areas of Chorley. Councillors raised queries regarding gun licences, dogs believed to have been stolen and children on mini scooters.

It was reported that the drained former fishing lodge near White Coppice Cricket Club was suffering from vandalism. The lodge is up for sale.

12.16 Financial Matters

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

Councillors considered a grant application from Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall to assist with repairs. As a grant had already been awarded for the current financial year it was decided an additional grant should be taken in advance from the 2012/13 budget allocation.

Resolved: a grant of £1000 be awarded, to be taken in advance from the 2012/13 budget.

Councillors considered a grant application from the Ryes Tenants Association for a storage facility for the wooden hut.

Resolved: a grant of £250 be awarded.

The Clerk provided evidence of the receipt of the Precept request by Chorley Council.

Councillors considered requests for payment to the Council.

Resolved: the following payments be approved.

£ 15.00	Heapey Parish Church	Room hire
£ 92.80	Inland Revenue	PAYE
£ 370.98	Employee 1	Salary
£ 146.72	Employee 1	Reimbursements
£ 417.33	Wheelton Parish Council	Play area maintenance
£ 372.76	Wheelton Parish Council	War Memorial expenditure
£ 104.04	J H Mayor	Road grit
£ 25.00	DWG North West	Refilling of grit bins

£ 12.00	Lancashire Best Kept Village	Competition entry
£ 1000.00	Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall	Grant

12.17 Planning Matters

12/00005/FUL Conversion of part of outbuilding to form part residential with extension link to Phillipsons Cottage and extension of residential curtilage by 3m to rear of part of converted outbuilding at Phillipsons Cottage, Tithe Barn Lane.

12/00029/FUL Erection of single storey rear extension at Hillcrest, Chapel Lane.

12/00076/FUL Proposed single storey rear lounge extension at 1 Black Brook Close.

Councillors had no comments to make in respect of the applications.

12.18 Risk Assessment

Councillors completed the annual risk assessment in accordance with the Practitioners Guide to Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England and Wales. The existing procedures and controls were found to be adequate.

Resolved: the adequacy of the existing controls was noted.

12.19 Grass Cutting

Arrangements for the cutting of highway verges were considered in light of the cancellation of the contract under which the Parish Council cut verges on Blackburn Road on behalf of Lancashire County Council. It has been confirmed that the verges form part of the public realm work taken on by Chorley Council and the cutting regime will increase to 4 cuts per annum at no cost to the Parish Council. Councillors agreed to monitor the verges to gauge the effectiveness of the new arrangements.

Councillors reviewed the arrangements for the strimming of land at White Coppice. An increase in the areas to be strimmed was discussed but Councillors agreed to continue with the existing regime and monitor the areas.

Resolved: DWG (NW) be instructed to continue with the existing strimming regime.

12.20 Community Food Growing

The introduction of a community food growing scheme, similar to one in Todmorden, where areas of private and public land, including verges and roundabouts, have been given over for residents to grow vegetables. Chorley Council is to be contacted regarding land availability and possible assistance with a project.

12.21 Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition

Councillors provided suggestions for entries into the Certificate of Merit Section.

12.22 Reports from Outside Bodies

No reports.

12.23 Date of Next meeting

Tuesday 1 May 2012.

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