

HEAPEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting held 7 November 2006 at 7.30 pm in the White Coppice Rooms, St Barnabas Church, Heapey.

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

Also Present 1 member of the public

06.50 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr D Berry (holiday).

06.51 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

06.52 Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 September 2006

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

06.53 Clerks Report

Chorley Borough Council advised seats are not normally placed in bus shelters as they take up space and have become a focal point for youths when tried in the past, leading to problems. Also, if the buses run to schedule, waiting time in shelters should be minimal. With regard to the two shelters at the top of Blackburn Road a condition study is being carried out on existing shelters to develop a priority list and, once this is completed the request will be entered. The Clerk is to ascertain whether the Parish Council could contribute towards the upgrade of the shelters.

Chorley Borough Council is hosting a presentation on 29 November 2006 for anyone interested in entering the North West in Bloom Competition.

The Remembrance Service will take place on 12 November 2006 at the War Memorial.

The next Lancashire Local meeting will take place on 6 December 2006.

The Clerk had attended the first joint training session with neighbouring Parish Council's and advised it was a welcome improvement on previous offerings.

The Countryside Alliance provided details of its campaign to save rural post offices.

The judges comments from the Lancashire Best kept Village are to be displayed in the noticeboards.

Resolved: Item 13 on the agenda be brought forward.

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

06.54 Parish Plan

The Chairman of the Parish Plan Action Group provided information on the Action Plan. Points arising are to be prioritised with Committee members taking on some points. Councillors are already involved in the Village Hall and Sand Quarry and the Parish Council's assistance will be required with highways related issues, including improvements at the junctions with the A674 and managed parking in the Kenyon Lane/Victoria Street area. The lack of success with the Parish Business Plans was discussed at a recent meeting of the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils Chorley Area Committee. There is a need to involve the local Police with traffic matters. Wheelton Parish Council has suggested attendance at its December meeting to discuss the Action Plan requirements. The new Chorley Borough Council Local Development Framework has

housing as a priority however aspects of the Framework have been delayed due to problems experienced by other local councils.

Resolved: Standing Orders be restored.

Councillors considered action points arising from the Parish Plan.

Resolved: the Clerk is to request updates from Lancashire County Council regarding the junctions on the A674 and other items originally requested as part of the Parish Business Plan. The views of Wheelton Parish Council regarding managed parking in the Kenyon Lane/Victoria Street area are to be sought. The up-to-date position regarding the Chorley Play Strategy is to be requested from the Borough Council.

06.55 Police Report

There were no recorded crimes in the previous quarter. Warnings were given regarding the unattended defrosting of vehicles with the engine running over the winter period.

06.56 Residents Points of Interest

No points raised.

06.57 Finance

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

Councillors considered a grant application from North West Air Ambulance the operating costs of the service, which is reliant on donations.

Resolved: a donation of £100 be made.

Resolved: the following payments be approved, the invoices having been inspected:

£	10.00	St Barnabas Church	Room hire
£	95.92	Inland Revenue	Income tax
£	340.20	A Platt	Salary
£	371.66	Wheelton Parish Council	Play Area maintenance
£	766.47	Wheelton Parish Council	War Memorial maintenance
£	25.00	St Chad's Bowlers	Donation
£	131.84	Chorley Borough Council	Uncontested election fee
£	20.00	Euxton Parish Council	Training course

The Clerk advised that charges for maintenance of the Play Area and War Memorial in the previous financial year had been undercharged. The shortfall is to be identified and considered at the next meeting.

06.58 Planning Matters

A Councillor questioned what could be planted or grown on land, within the Green belt, owned by a householder but beyond the domestic curtilage. Information is to be obtained from the Planning Officers.

06/01146/FUL Retrospective application for timber shed to east of block of stables at Land off Heapey Road - no comment

06/01212/FUL Rear conservatory at 10 The Dell - no comment

06.59 Picnic Table at White Coppice

Councillors considered options for a replacement picnic table. Options made from wood and Enviropol (recycled plastic) were considered.

Resolved: the Clerk is to obtain a wooden table costing up to £500 (including fitting).

06.60 Parish Council Logo

The matter was deferred and Councillors were instructed to bring one example each to the next meeting.

06.61 Raised Flowerbed Project

The carving of the stone has commenced. Wheelton Parish Council is to consider whether it will contribute at its' December meeting.

06.62 Copthurst Sand Quarry

Concerns were expressed that the project has failed to move on after a number of years. There seems to be little common ground with Wheelton Parish Council regarding the required use of the area. The Parish Plan states a requirement for the Quarry to be used for sport and recreation. Councillors are of the opinion this could be achieved without the requirement for formal football pitches.

Resolved: a small sub-committee is to be formed to attempt to negotiate with the landowner with a view to securing the future use of the land for local residents. Wheelton and Whittle-le-Woods Parish Councils are to be advised accordingly.

06.63 Newsletter

Councillors discussed the timing of the next newsletter. Given of the amount of newsletters and other materials delivered around Christmas it will be published in January.

06.64 Precept

Amongst preliminary suggestions put forward for consideration at the precept setting were a notice board for Heapey Chase, provision of bus shelters, contribution towards church yard maintenance and provision of nesting boxes.

06.65 Reports from Outside Bodies

Items considered at the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils Chorley Area Committee included funding for sporting activities and traffic concerns.

Topics discussed at the Borough/Parish Council Liaison meeting included the availability of grant funding for leisure ideas once the Play Strategy is up and running and the Transport Accessibility Study.

The existing Officers were re-elected at the Lancashire Association of Parish and Town Councils' AGM and a presentation was received from Penwortham Town Council which has recently acquired Quality Council status. Lancashire County Council is to be approached to allow parish councils more meaningful representation on the Lancashire Locals.

Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall Committee is, once again, without a secretary. Quotations for the disabled toilets are being sought. A grant from Awards for All will be spent on improving the rear yard and a consultation regarding the development of the Hall will be undertaken with a view to a bid for lottery funding.

06.48 Matters for Further Discussion

No matters raised.

06.49 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 9 January 2007 at 7.30pm.