

PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



July 2024

Chairman's Report 2023

With summer on its way, allegedly, we look forward to getting out and about in our wonderful village, to enjoy what we have on our doorstep.

It has been another busy year for the parish council, and it's great to see our parish priorities benefitting our community. The new playground equipment has been enthusiastically received by the villages young people, and the feedback from them has been great. The playground and its equipment is a long running project that the council continues to monitor with a view to future investment. This years priority is to invest in hand rails along the steps from Victoria street to the village hall to enhance accessibility, and councillors are currently in discussions around this.

As usual local developments have been a key focus for the council, and we have strived to ensure that Wheelton remains a village in the truest definition of the word.

Village events continue to be a success and as usual our carols round the tree continue to bring people in to the village, this also brings with it other challenges which we have to be mindful of so as not to inconvenience residents.

Parish council representatives have continued Identifying issues with highways, boundary walls, blocked gulleys and reporting these to the relevant agencies. The chairman would like to express his gratitude to all the fellow councillors for their time and hard work representing the community, and all the volunteers that make our village such a good place to live and visit.

Mathew Harper
Chairman 2024/25

VILLAGE HALL

The Heapey and Wheelton Village Hall has a new committee running it now. The Parish Council's thanks go to the outgoing committee for all of their hard work over their time working to provide a valuable village asset. We are sure that the new committee will work as hard to keep the hall viable and used to its full potential.

Please note that the village hall is now back open to add hoc bookings and should people want to enquire about booking the hall they can contact heapeyandwheeltonvillagehall@gmail.com

POLITE NOTICE

It has been brought to the Parish Council's notice that children/others are accessing private properties through gaps in hedges on Victoria Street of the Recreation Ground.

Please note that the only access to the Play Area and Recreation Ground are via the gate on Meadow Street or the gap in the wall at the top of West View.

Damage has been caused to shrubbery and vegetation to clear a route therefore, please could visitors to the area note that it is an offence to trespass on private properties adjacent to the playing fields and ensure that your children do not do this.

The Parish Council would like all users of the public land to enjoy this amenity and look after the surrounding area.

Thank you.

Don't forget to check our website
www.wheeltonparishcouncil.org

Contact your Clerk: Mrs Joanne Carr.
clerk@wheeltonparishcouncil.org
17 Higher Meadow, Clayton-le-Woods,
Leyland, PR25 5RJ

Here's some practical advice you can follow when it comes to dealing with suspicious messages and calls:

· If you have any doubts about a message, contact the organisation directly using the contact details on their official website.

Do not use the number or web address in the message. Your bank, or any other official source, will not ask you to provide sensitive information by email.

· Received an email that doesn't feel right? STOP! Report suspicious emails by forwarding them to: report@phishing.gov.uk. Send emails to this address that feel suspicious, even if you're not certain they're a scam – they will be checked.

· Always report suspicious text messages or scam call numbers, free of charge, to 7726. Your provider can find out where the text came from and block or ban the sender.

- To report a scam text, forward it to 7726 and then send the sender's number when prompted.
- To report a scam call, simply text 7726 with the word 'Call' followed by the scam caller's number.

· If you've lost money or provided financial information as a result of a phishing scam, notify your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud at actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. In Scotland, call Police Scotland on 101.



Message Sent By
Action Fraud
(Action Fraud, Administrator, National)

Don't forget to check our website
www.wheeltonparishcouncil.org

Your community needs you!

Two of our Charity trusts need trustees (volunteers) to help oversee the effective running of them.

You may ask what does a trustee do, well basically they ensure the trusts run according to their stated aims. The first of the trusts to need of your help and that is Heapey and Wheelton War Memorial trust which is responsible for the upkeep of the clock tower, collecting the retiring collection on Remembrance Sunday and retiring collection at Carols around the Tree on Christmas Eve (if available) and finally being a signatory to the trusts accounts.

The second trust needing trustees is Heapey and Wheelton Charity Trust which offers small grants for sport and recreational purposes. Again trustees are signatories to the trust accounts.

Being a trustee doesn't require a great amount of time, it's whatever time you can give.

If you can help or have any questions please contact either Councillor Dickenson or the Clerk to the Council.

Be a know it all

Find out what's really happening in your area - receive regular crime updates, information on road closures and learn about what your local neighbourhood policing team is doing.

In The Know is the free messaging service brought to you by Lancashire Police where you decide when and how you are kept informed about the issues that matter to you.

Visit: www.stayintheknow.co.uk

Firefighters say

"Be Water Aware"

to reduce accidental drownings



In 2022, 266 lives were lost to accidental drowning in the UK. These deaths are preventable tragedies. Statistics reveal 40% of people who accidentally drowned had no intention of entering the water. Slips, trips and falls were often the cause of these accidents.

Many people underestimate the dangers of jumping into water or taking a dip to cool off. Unseen hazards and cold water shock can mean even strong swimmers get into trouble.

Males account for 87% of these accidental fatalities, 60% of which are in inland waters such as rivers, reservoirs and lakes.

Simple tips to help stay safe include:

- **Stick to proper pathways and stay clear of the water's edge**
- **Don't enter the water after drinking alcohol**
- **Walk a safe route home after drinking, with friends and away from water**
- **Cold water shock can kill, walking into the water rather than jumping in can help reduce the risk.**

As the statistics show, many people don't expect their time near water to turn into an emergency, so knowing what to do if you or someone else is in trouble in the water is lifesaving advice.

If someone is in trouble in the water, the best way to help is by staying calm, staying on land, and remember Call, Tell, Throw:

- **Call 999 for the emergency services**
- **Tell the struggling person to float on their back.**
- **Throw them something that floats.**

If you find yourself in trouble in the water, remember to 'Float to Live'. Tilt your head back with your ears submerged. Relax and breathe normally. Move your hands to help stay afloat. Spread your arms and legs out. Once your breathing is controlled, call for help or swim to safety. For more information on staying safe around the water, visit <https://www.lancsfireandrescue.org.uk/water>.

We have had numerous complaints of off road motorbikes in the Chorley area in the past few months. This article is to make you aware of the law around these bikes and what action we have taken.



We want to make you aware privately owned e-scooters remain illegal in the UK. The only e-scooters permitted are the rented versions seen in city centres. E-scooters should not be ridden on the roads or pavements. They are classed as a mechanically propelled vehicle. When used on a road the use then changes the status to motor vehicle, and as such there is then a requirement for licence and insurance. E-scooters can be seized under Section 165A Road Traffic Act 1988. They are difficult to retrieve from a recovery agent once seized as they cannot be insured.

E-bikes are legal as long as they do not have a motor exceeding 250W and have not been adapted in any way. To remain legal an e-bike offers pedal assistance to 15.5mph, after this the electric motor stops providing the assistance. E-bikes become illegal if the motor is more powerful than 250W, or the bike can move with pedalling - for example a twist and go throttle, or the motor provides assistance beyond 15.5mph. This then put the bike into the mechanically propelled vehicle bracket, and again if used on a road it is then classed as a motor vehicle.

The other type of electric bike we see is the Suron type off-road bike. These are essentially an electric off-road bike and are not permitted on UK roads - unless registered and insured, and the rider has a licence to ride that category of machine. The Suron bikes are particularly dangerous due to the speed they can achieve and are often ridden by inexperienced riders with no helmet or protective clothing. We are seeing more and more collisions involving Suron bikes on our roads. If a Suron bike is used on the roads it can be seized under Sec 165A RTA and are difficult to retrieve from recovery agents due to inability to insure them.

We have also placed a number of s.59 Police Reform Act signs around the area which means any vehicle being driven in an anti-social manner can be seized without any warning as these signs act as the first warning.

We have taken action against numerous drivers as we are running plain clothes operations to catch these illegal riders. We have seized over 15 motorbike as a result.

Monday night at the Village Hall, Westview, Wheelton SORTED!

" Get up and go! Well to the Village hall on Mondays 6 to 8pm of course.

If you want a fun activity then table tennis is for you no matter your age.

Run by community volunteers Wheelton Ping Pong provides activity, friendship and even a brew!

So GET up and GO to the Village Hall"



Jobs in the garden for Summer

Hoe borders to keep down weeds
Position summer hanging baskets

Outside Mow the lawn once a week or more if needed. Plant out summer bedding. Stake tall or floppy plants.

Shade greenhouses to keep them cool
& prevent scorch. Prune may/spring flowering shrubs



1st Wheelton Brownies



1st Wheelton Brownies have enjoyed various activities this term and have learnt some life skills as part of North West England Region Challenge Risky Business. This has included identifying and managing risks, what to do in an emergency, either disaster planning or if there was a power cut, or there was a landslide, or flood. We have then looked at how you personally deal with things after the event and this has included mindfulness techniques.

Just prior to the local elections, we invited the modern day suffragette movement, and these ladies talked about how the life of a women in the early 1900's was very different to today and that their fight for women's rights has enabled women to have the right to vote in today's elections.

We are thrilled that more Brownies have been working towards and been awarded their Bronze and Silver Awards and that two more Brownies have been awarded their Gold Award, the highest award a Brownie can gain.

2024 has been a time of celebration. Charlotte England-Black, aka Snowy Owl got married on New Years Eve 2023 and Brownies gave her and her husband a personalised photo album to record their happy day.

In February 2024, Jacqueline Berry, aka Brown Owl, was awarded her 40 year service by Lancashire North West County Commissioner at Chorley Come and Celebrate evening. 1st Wheelton Brownies joined in the celebrations by having a cake specially designed with 40 stars on it, and enjoyed having a piece of the cake.

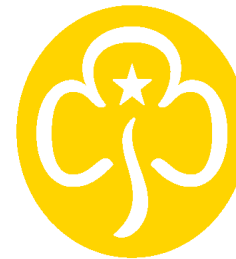


1st Wheelton Brownies



Some of our Brownies joined others from Chorley, Preston, Leyland, Lancaster and Morecambe at Guys' Farm activity centre on a very wet June day to celebrate Brownies being 110 years old, enjoying activities such as archery, abseiling, climbing tower, and also a silent disco.

We do currently have spaces available, if your daughter is aged between 7 - 9 and interested in joining 1st Wheelton Brownies, or you wish to volunteer to help with Brownies, or a Rainbow unit please contact Jacqueline Berry on 07834 069562 or jberry.brownie@gmail.com or visit the Girlguiding website and "Join Us"



Girlguiding

Don't forget to check our website
www.wheeltonparishcouncil.org

Contact your Clerk: Mrs Joanne Carr.
clerk@wheeltonparishcouncil.org
17 Higher Meadow, Clayton-le-Woods,
Leyland, PR25 5RJ

Forthcoming Dates of the Parish Council

Meetings are held on Mondays at 8.00pm in Wheelton Village Hall



No meeting in August
2 September 2024
7 October 2024
4 November 2024
2 December 2024
6 January 2025
3 February 2025

Public participation is welcomed, just contact the Clerk at least 14 days prior to the meeting so that the matter you wish to raise can be researched and added to the agenda.

Advertising in the Newsletter

We are asking local businesses to consider advertising with us as all money raised will go towards the Playground Trust

If you have any ideas you would like to share whether for or against then please can you contact the Clerk or email tdickenson.td@gmail.com

If we can help in any way we will!

Are you a member of a local club and would like to have a write up of club events or forthcoming events? Please advise the Clerk so that we can include something in the next edition.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Joanne Carr.

Clerk@wheeltonparishcouncil.org

17 Higher Meadow, Clayton-le-Woods, Leyland, PR25 5RJ

Your Parish Council

Kathleen Berry
01254 830360

Terry Dickenson
01254 830591

Margaret France
01254 830647

Nick Hayes
01254 830851

Richard Scambler
01254 830244

Matthew Harper
01254 491121

Ronnie Wheale
07801 816778

Borough Councillors

Margaret France
01254 830647

Jennifer Whiffen
07527 038870

Gordon France
01254 830647

margaret.france@Chorley.gov.uk

Jennifer.whiffen@Chorley.gov.uk

Gordon.france@chorley.gov.uk

County Councillor

Alan Cullens

07596 043618 Alan.Cullens@lancashire.gov.uk