

Wheatley Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

**Minutes from meeting held on Monday 3rd May 2017 at
Wheatley Primary Academy School.**

**The evening started with a Community Fair at 7pm, with an open meeting at
8pm**

Present: Cllrs A Davies (Chair) , T Davies, R Harding, P Gregory, P Bignall, P Hood, G Stephens, T Newman, R Bell, John Walsh (District Councillor for Holton) Anne Purse (County Councillor) and John Fox representing Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan.

Clerk to Wheatley Parish Council Michelle Legg

Representatives from 24 Wheatley based groups and general public approx. 40 people

Apologies: Cllrs Carr, Wilmott and Coleridge

1. Welcome: Cllr A Davies welcomed all to the first 'new look' Annual Parish Meeting and welcomed questions from the floor

Cllr Davies provided a brief summary of key achievements over the last 12 months.

- i) Welcomed Michelle as the new Parish Clerk
- ii) Maple Tree Centre – funding received to take over the running from OCC
- iii) Looking to finalise the lease for Wheatley Playing Fields
- iv) Rock Fall in Church Road and work continues to find a long term solution
- v) Vehicle Activated Signs
- vi) High St Improvement Initiative

2. Footpaths - Cllr Stephens posed the question to the audience about their thoughts on the footpaths in the village.

J Fox reported that a WNP Committee member has measured all the footpaths in relation to 'buggy/mobility scooter' widths.

Mary Hall raised question asked about whether this focus included the cleanliness/overgrowth of the footpaths. Cllr T Davies responded to say that the quality of the grass cutting will be monitored during the summer for 2017.

Dog Mess along High St and negotiating the paths with a buggy is difficult Parish Council to take this up.

3. Greening High St/Toilet Square- aesthetics, landscaping, art works, car parking, Wake up to Wheatley using signage and marked routes. Audience asked to attend next Parish Meeting on Monday 8th May when the report will be presented.

4. Floods and drainage working to identify location for storage/holding areas to reduce flooding in the village. Roger Bettess is monitoring the water flow from Thames Water.

5. Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan John Fox provided an update on the plan, which has highlighted potential housing, improvements to the village and employment. Housing numbers on the Brookes site has varied but work continues on this. Draft Neighbourhood Plan has been sent to OCC supported by amateur traffic surveys highlighting the increased traffic flow through the village.

The High Street is being monitored for Nitrogen Oxide and will continue to be so until the end of the Local Plan.

Information leaflets available on the night for attendees to pick up.

6. County Councillor update Cllr Purse thanked everyone for being able to represent them over the last 24 years and the warm welcome she always receives, for which she received a round of applause.

7. Wheatley Park School Tim Martin addressed the audience as the new Head Wheatley Park School, who is keen to develop relationships between Wheatley Park School and the community. Everyone invited to pick up a copy of the latest school newsletter.

8. Puffin crossing Attendee raised that this has been placed in the wrong location on the London Rd. Cllr Newman informed the group that the alternative location would have resulted in a raised crossing which would have been noisy for residents. The desire line used by students through the woodland will be formalised and the puffin crossing will meet up with the new path.

9. Meeting format Cllr Stephens asked the audience whether the new format of the meeting was welcomed. Attendee appreciated the layout and opportunity to meet with other people. Although most attended were linked to one of the groups represented.

Cllr A Davies suggested the need to engrain the event into the Wheatley Calendar. Look at ways of incorporating events into any new parish council website with community event function. Cllr T Davies suggested focussing on new residents.

Attendee asked whether the meeting date could be arranged 12 months in advance.

10. Social housing on London Rd Development Cllr Bell enquired about the SOHA housing responsibilities with District Councillors, Cllr Newman updated people on the boundary changes which has impacted on the SODC responsibilities.

Boundary changes North of London Rd was in Holton, but now in Wheatley. Boundary is now A40.8.45pm

Show homes on the London Rd site are being completed. Shared ownership completion date unclear.

11. Meeting closed Cllr A Davies thanked everyone for coming and meeting finished at 8.40pm.