

Volume II

Extract from Minutes 15 March 1897

The Report of the committee appointed at the last meeting of the council on the Circular as to the housing of the Working Classes Act 1800 in the words and figures following:-

‘Your committee having made enquiries find that there are about 150 cottages in Wheatley concerning which the inspector of nuisances reports 32 to be in good Sanitary condition 10 fairly good and 14 sanitation very bad - several cottages have their Privies too close to the House and in one instance the Privy is actually in the Kitchen. Three cottages are not considered fit for habitation one of which is very dilapidated condition. The majority of the Bedrooms are without fireplaces and in many cases without doors - some cottages have neither backdoors nor any drainage whatever. The Tenants having to go from their front door to the Privy. There is also one cottage of 4 rooms one of which is used for washing purposes both of clothing and persons. The floor is of mud and the Tenant having to lay sacks down to walk on. The Water Supply of the Village is good but a large part of the population have to fetch their water from the Parish Pumps.

This Report does not embrace the Hamlet of Littleworth

Signed on behalf of the Committee

W. Iliffe Pike’

.....was read to the Council.

5th August 1897

Special Report of Medical Officer of Health, 4th August 1897

Inspection of Wheatley

Dear Sir,

I write to report to the Wheatley Urban District Council that in company with Inspector Deakin I made a systematic inspection of Wheatley on 22nd ulto.

House in High St occupied by H.A. and owned by Mr C- there is an untrapped drainage grating very near the house door. I recommend that either a Drain-trap or Gully should be put down. There is an open Drainage Channel for 4 adjoining cottages connected with the above in a defective condition and blocked. An improved Channel with better fall is required.

House occupied by R.M. and owned by Mrs. P - the house is want of limewashing throughout, the flooring is dilapidated, the roof is out of repair, rain comes into both bedrooms, the closet is dilapidated. -The house in present condition is in my opinion unfit for habitation.

The House occupied by J.M. - owned by Mrs B in want of limewashing throughout.

House occupied by W.M. owned by Mrs P - the ceiling of 2 bedrooms is in a dangerous state - house in my opinion in its present condition unfit for habitation.

Blenheim — Pig Keeping etc\*

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House occupied by C.H. owned by Mrs R of Wheatley, there is a pigstye within, about 8 feet of S's own house - within about 15ft of another dwelling house, the Red Lion Inn. In accordance with Inspector Deakin's notice 2 pigs have been removed from the stye & the stye disinfected. I wish to express strongly the opinion that the above pigstye is too near dwelling houses and that pig-keeping should not be allowed in future. An old Closet Vault abuts on to the House Wall & is closely under the house windows. I recommend the Vault be abolished, filled in & an earth closet substituted.

Pigstye belonging to T.G. and within about 9 yards of C.S.'s dwelling-house - in accordance with Inspector Deakin's notice 2 pigs have been removed from the stye. I recommend that pig keeping should not be allowed in the stye in the future.

Empty pigstye belonging to - G — I found an accumulation of filth in and around the stye - this should be removed immediately.

Closet vault in dilapidated condition for house occupied by E.T. and owned by Mr J.F. There is also a pigstye containing 2. pigs, the pigstye abutting on the Washhouse - I recommend that notice should be served for the removal of the pigs and that pig keeping should not be allowed in such a position in future.

Pigstye with very bad flooring and in a dirty state within about 15 feet of a bedroom window of the house occupied by J.M. and owned by Mr B. I recommend that notice should be served for the removal of the Pigs and that pig keeping should not be allowed in such a position in future.

Pigstye with 3 pigs in stye belonging to E.C. of the Red Lion Inn and within about 21 feet of a dwelling-house. I recommend that notice should be served for the removal of the pigs and that pig keeping should not be allowed in such a position in future.

Pigstye belonging to J.J.'s house owned by U.S. - in accordance with Inspector Deakin's notice 1 pig has been removed, the pigstye abuts on the house wall — I recommend that no pig keeping should be allowed in such a position in future.

I remain, Dear Sir,  
yours faithfully,

W. DYSON WOOD - Medical Officer of Health

The above was read by the Clerk. to the Council and Inspector of Nuisances indicated various actions taken.... after discussion it was agreed

Inspector should keep close observation upon the several Pigs and styes in Blenheim and report back to Council