



# WHALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 7.30pm in Methodist Church Hall, Whalley.

## 1. To receive apologies.

Present:

Councillor M Highton      Chairman  
Councillor E Ronnan  
Councillor S Barker  
Councillor M Fallon  
Councillor M Reid  
Councillor J Taylor

Apologies:

Councillor J Brown  
Councillor S Earnshaw

In attendance:      Mr F Holland Clerk to the Parish Council  
Members of the public – 5 + Borough Councillor T Hill

## 2. To receive declaration of interests

No declaration of interests were received

## 3. To approve as correct the Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2008

The minutes were signed as a correct record of the meeting.

## 4. Matters Arising (Information Only)

Cllr Ronnan informed the meeting that the Governors of Adult Centre will meet on 24<sup>th</sup> November to resolve the issues regarding accessibility to the War Memorial.

Cllr Fallon has still in his possession the cup and certificates from the Best Kept Village Competition. He will see the Chamber of Trade for the items to be prominently displayed. Cllr Ronnan stated that the plaque will be in place next week.

## 5. To adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion

## 6. To approve as correct the Minutes of the Special Purposes Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2008

The minutes were signed as a correct record of the meeting. The clerk was accordingly instructed to inform Ribble Valley County Borough that the precept request for 2009/10 would be £32000, a 0% increase on the previous year.

**7. To receive minutes of other committees**

The minutes of the Planning Group meetings on the 16<sup>th</sup> October and 6<sup>th</sup> November plus the Grounds and Gardens meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> September were presented and accepted.

**8. To receive reports of councillors from other committees**

Cllr Highton attended the Parish Liaison Committee and commented on the relevance of the Concurrent Functions audit and the impact on finances. Cllr Fallon had sent details to RVBC

Cllr Highton attended the District Response Forum meeting. Officers are now fully aware of the flood problems associated with the village. They have published a flood plan with steps to prevent problems. This will be distributed to residents within the flood risk area.

**9. To receive the external audit for the year ended 31 March 2008 and to approve and accept the report.**

External Auditors confirmed “in our opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commissions requirements and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met”.

The report was approved and accepted by the meeting. Cllr Barker on behalf of the meeting expressed thanks to the clerk.

**10. To authorise the payment of accounts for October and consider authorisation of payment of November invoices and salaries during December.**

The details of accounts for payment and receipts received during October were circulated, approved and signed by the Chairman. It was resolved that the clerk would be authorised to ensure regular monthly payments were continued during December.

**11. To consider if Whalley Parish Council should initiate steps to work towards achieving Quality status.**

It was resolved that the parish council will work towards achieving quality status.

The clerk explained that it would involve an examination of current practice. Cllr Ronnan suggested the virtues of a parish newsletter to aid communication. It was agreed that this would feature on the next agenda as concerns in producing relevant material were expressed.

**12. To consider filling the vacant parish councillor position.**

The clerk was instructed to commence the process in filling the vacancy. If an election is not necessary co-option would be placed on the agenda at the next parish council meeting.

**13. To receive a financial report on the construction of the toilets.**

Cllr Ronnan stated that monthly payment dates had been agreed. As the parish Council have to pay V.A.T. then reclaim the amount which can take over a month. The clerk was given authorisation to move £15,000 into the Skipton toilet account to ensure a cash flow and monitor cross payments between Whalley accounts.

**14. To receive the Clerks Report (Enclosed)**

Cllrs Ronnan, Reid, Taylor and Fallon indicated they would attend the NHS Trust Management Group meeting at Calderstones on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

**15. To receive Borough Councillors Report (Information only)**

Cllr Hill reported on the following issues relevant to Whalley:  
Planning – all planning issues are following the legislative procedural process but all objections are considered. Speeding – a mobile speed camera is to be introduced on Mitton Road. Concurrent Functions – upgrade of footpath alongside river due to start shortly. Station Rd zebra crossing – due to be completed within short period of time.

**16. Additional public contributions after close of meeting**

**17. To consider and approve the date for the next meeting as Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

It was resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.19pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## PUBLIC QUESTIONS AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2008

Mr Hardman asked for details of the proposed layout to enable access to the War Memorial. At the conclusion of the meeting Cllr Ronnan provided a sketch plan.

Mr Hardman alerted councillors again to his concerns regarding the lack of heating for the residents in the Alms Houses. Cllr Fallon stated he would see Mr Spensley as representative of the Adam Cotton Trust regarding the matter.

Mr Clayson asked councillors to consider a feasibility study to resource renewable electricity in the area. A number of areas were considered and Cllr Highton would take advice on the matter.

Mr Clayson asked for clarification regarding greenfield/brownfield sites at Calderstones Park. Cllr Hill emphasised the demands from central government on the borough to provide affordable housing.

Mr Kerr thanked the parish council for the use of Vale Gardens on Pickwick night. RVBC electricians have certified the electrics. He praised the police with regards to the closing of the roads and all hoped it would not rain. Cllr Ronnan stated that the lengthsman has agreed to work on the Thursday and will be available to help in preparation for the event.

Mr Hardman alerted the meeting to the problems for visitors arriving by train. The railway station has no signs indicating the direction of the village, hence people walking in the opposite direction to the village. Cllr Ronnan will be meeting Mr Bowles of RVR to consider erection of effective signs.

Mr Gill instigated a debate on the problem of car parking in the village. Discussion with agencies is ongoing. Mr Gill suggested that the mobile speed camera would be more usefully utilised from the Medical Centre on King St on the road out of the village to Billington.

Mr Gill applauded the possibility of a newsletter but cautioned that the material should not be superficial.