



Local Government Act 1972
Whalley Parish Council

Members of the Council, you are summoned to a Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on
Thursday 16th April 2026 in the Calder Room, Whalley Old Grammar School at 7.30pm

Signed: *EKHaworth*

Liz Haworth - Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

Minutes

Agenda items should be submitted to the Clerk seven clear days before the meeting.
The Clerk will forward Councillors, all relevant information and supporting documents, 3 clear days
before the meeting.

1.	Chairman's Welcome	
	The Chairman formally opened the meeting and welcomed all present.	2474/26
2.	Attendance & Apologies	
	Present: Cllr Ball, Cllr Duckworth, Cllr Highton (Chairman), Cllr Mirfin, Cllr Shaw, Cllr Smith, Cllr Threlfall, Cllr Vickers. Apologies: Cllr Allen, Borough Cllr Hindle. In Attendance: Liz Haworth (Clerk), 3 members of the public.	2475/26
3.	Declarations of Interest	
	There were no disclosable pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interest in respect of matters contained in the agenda.	2476/26
4.	To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meeting	
	It was resolved to approve and confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 19 th March 2026.	2477/26
5.	To Receive the Minutes of other Committees	
	5.1 To receive the minutes of the Churchyard Committee Wednesday 2 nd April 2025.	2478/26
	5.2 To receive the minutes of the Planning Committee Thursday 19 th March 2026.	2479/26
6.	Adjourn the Meeting for Public Discussion	
	The meeting was adjourned for members of the public wishing to speak at the meeting in respect of items on the agenda or to update on relevant village matters. (5 mins per person)	
	A matter of lack of green spaces as per planning permission was raised on the Lawsonsteads new estate. Clerk is to make enquiries to RVBC.	2480/26
	The railway is running as normal. Whalley In Bloom are maintaining the plantings	2481/26

12.	Ongoing/Standing Items	
	<p>To note progress with ongoing matters – not for decision.</p> <p>12.1 Planning Permission Whalley Sports Park – ongoing. 12.2 QEII Playing Fields and Land Encroachment – letters sent to advise no right to access from gardens onto Parish Council land – any access must be closed off 31/3/2026- ongoing. 12.3 Trustees of the QEII Playing Fields charitable trust-ongoing 12.4 Wiswell Lane Welcome Sign - ongoing 12.5 Whalley In Bloom Plaques (New and change of placement) – ongoing. 12.6 Churchyard Wall Repairs – works approved - awaiting start date. 12.7 Tree Report BTC3323 - Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields - Awaiting quote from tree surgeon. 12.8 Mitton Road overgrown hedges – ongoing. 12.9 Parish Council owned bench numbering – order placed. 12.10 LCC Tree works to the boundary of land at QEII land and A59 bypass – LCC hope to commence these works between May and June 2026 (email 25/3/2026) 12.11 Register the bus station land with Land Registry – ongoing. 12.12 Carpark on Land South of Accrington Road Whalley-Oakmere Homes (NW) – standing item. 12.13 Village Traditional Heritage Signposts – ongoing.</p>	2488/26
13.	Partnership Meetings	
	<p>To receive reports from Borough/County Councillors and relevant Partnership Meetings impacting the Parish (e.g. LCC, RVBC, LALC, Parish Liaison, Police Partnership).</p> <p>Cllr Vickers attended the RVLALC meeting along with the clerk. The meeting was well attended with guest speaker Sarah Wells from RVBC. There are some positive developments with LALC with new training opportunities and seemingly better communication. The RVLALC will be held Wednesday 20th May 2026.</p> <p>Cllr Threlfall & Highton attended the RV Liaison meeting. Topics included LCCs Champion for Rural Affairs, Cllr James Tomlinson, Community Energy Schemes, HARP update, LGR update, Crisis & Resilience update, event safety funding for road closures, Ribble Valley Shared Prosperity Fund update, LCC contact changes and the removal of the highwaysdistrictlead contact email without consultation, and Love Clean Streets App is to shortly be replaced. RV are reluctant to transfer assets to Parish Councils ahead of LGR due to the work involved, unless a reasoned business plan is submitted demonstrating why the Parish option would be preferable to retention at Borough level.</p> <p>Cllr Mirfin met with the Strategic Flood Risk Committee and is expecting a decision on the level of funding dedicated to Billington & Whalley 17/4/2026.</p>	<p>2489/26</p> <p>2490/26</p> <p>2491/26</p>
14.	Reports by Cllrs & Clerk as INFORMATION only – Not for decision	
	<p>Items arising and correspondence received since the last meeting for information only, which may give rise to a future agenda item.</p> <p>14.1 Neighbourhood Alerts/Stay In The Know 14.2 Trading Standards Service - Consumer Alerts</p>	2492/26

	<p>14.3 Whalley Queen St RAG Reports 14.4 NALC Executive Bulletins and newsletters 14.5 CPRE News Bulletins 14.6 Community Engagement - News items on Websites/Facebook</p> <p>Cllr Ball reported that the church wall repairs are ongoing, the providers of the three new saplings need contacting to review the health of these new trees, and the trees over the allotments need reviewing. The Tree surgeon has attended site for a walk around and we are awaiting quotes and dates for work. Maintenance works are to be carried out on the Almhouses. The drains on Broad Lane are still blocked.</p>	2493/26
15.	QEII Development	
	The Council resolved to instruct a private consultant or LCC Pre-app advice for the planning application. The clerk will contact the consultant.	2494/26
16.	Internal Review of a Freedom of Information Request	
	The Council considered the internal review to a Freedom of Information request and concluded that the original response was appropriate.	2495/26
17.	Exclusion of the Public and Press	
	<p>17.1 Clerks Remuneration The council considered and resolved the Clerk's remuneration package and, due to the confidential nature of the matter concerning a member of staff, will be noted and implemented as the confidential note set out in Appendix 17.1.</p> <p>17.2.1 Correspondence for discussion The Council considered the correspondence received for discussion and, due to the confidential nature of the matter concerning a former employee, resolved to respond in accordance with the confidential note set out in Appendix 17.2.1.</p> <p>17.2.2 Correspondence for discussion The Council considered the correspondence received for discussion and, due to the confidential nature of the matter concerning a former employee, resolved to respond in accordance with the confidential note set out in Appendix 17.2.2.</p>	2496/26 2497/26 2498/26
18.	Next Meeting Date	
	<p>The next meeting date is Thursday 21st May 2026 to be held at Whalley Old Grammar School at 7.30pm in The Calder Room.</p> <p>Note: Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 7th May 2026 at 7pm.</p>	2499/26

Meeting Closed 9.45pm.

Signed by Chairman:

Date:

Councillor Martin Highton