

WHALLEY PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19 April 2018 at 7.30pm in the Old Grammar School, Whalley.

Present: Councillor M Highton (Chairman)
Councillor J Brown
Councillor M Fallon
Councillor C Ball
Councillor D Sleight
Councillor P Elson
Councillor J Threlfall
Councillor M Reid

Apologies received: Councillor Lois Rimmer

In Attendance: M Richardson – Clerk to Whalley Parish Council
Members of the public – 3
PCSO Katie Ferguson

1238/18 to receive declaration of interests

None.

12239/18 to approve as correct the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 March 2018

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 March 2018 be approved as a correct record of the meeting with the amendment C Ball apologies received.

1240/18 to adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion (information only)

PCSO Kate Ferguson attended the meeting and reported that over the past week an excavator had been stolen from a building site in Whalley. She encouraged members of the public to report any suspicious activity even if it does not result in a crime. People can use the 101 number but this was difficult to get through as it was constantly busy. Another option was for people to use the Lancashire Constabulary online reporting. In emergencies always use the 999 number. A Community Roadwatch had taken place on Mitton Road with 720 vehicles being monitored. 50 vehicles were breaking the speed limit and warning letters will be sent the vehicle owners addresses. This activity does not have the power to issue fixed penalty notices. She added that Police work tended to be reactive rather than proactive. Allocation of resources for equipment like permanent speed cameras was based amongst other factors - the number of serious road traffic accidents. As Mitton Road did not have a significant number of road traffic accidents it was not considered a priority for this type resource. Since her last attendance at a Parish Council meeting she was pleased to inform the Committee that Breda Murphy's had installed a post which meant that cars could not infringe the footpath nor site lines for vehicles on Mitton Road. There are a number of A boards on the footpath immediately before the bridge adjacent to the restaurant. Councillors felt this was particularly obstructive especially for people with mobility issues –

wheelchair users or a double pram. Debate took place about which public body had powers to enforce. Information was provided to the PCSO about a den that had been created on Vale Gardens by young people. This was difficult to see from the roadside and Parish Council intended cutting the foliage back to deter future use.

Tony Brown reported that the S278 works had been completed on King Street and there was an improvement in ease of parking. During the works traders had been particularly disgruntled because they believed it had affected trade. Tony Brown stated that for many years it was well known some local Traders had failed to help the parking situation by them using parking spaces immediately outside their businesses when perhaps these should have been left vacant for their customers. He acknowledged that the disruption to trade had been difficult for businesses that relied heavily on passing trade such as the Post Office, newsagents, CJs and Ironmongers.

Discussion focused on the additional parking bay that had been created outside the funeral parlour. This did not align with the kerb and John Threlfall felt this was not good design as it created a pinch point for larger vehicles. Discussions considered the proposal put forward by Councillor Lois Rimmer for a dropped kerb. Some Councillors felt this would only encourage parking on the footway so were not supportive. The Council revisited the original LCC consultation drawings (CSW 30 September 2015 – Chris Nolan WPR 003) that did not have this additional parking space. The Councillors agreed to monitor the situation and instructed the Clerk to find out the rationale for inclusion of this extra space.

1241/18 to receive minutes of other Committees

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of the 15 March 2018 were received.

1242/18 To receive reports of Councillors' from other committees (information only)

Councillor Highton reported that work continued on the business case for Whalley Sports Community Park that aims to develop a multi-use community sports facility on the existing Cricket Club site. The business case for the bid was being developed. The equipment for the Green Gym that will be placed on the QE2 playing fields will be installed late May 2018 at the earliest.

Councillor Mike Reid had nothing to report.

Councillor Fallon stated the significant amount of surface water that seemed to be running off the land and flooding the road on the bypass road heading out of Whalley towards Read had improved following reporting. Parking on the pavement near the Bridge had become a problem again and asked that the PCSO looked at the matter again.

Councillor Ball reported that refurbishment of the middle Almshouse was complete and ready for occupancy. Two adverts had been placed in the Clitheroe Advertiser and Lancashire Evening Telegraph seeking invitations for elderly residents with low income from Whalley or Sabden. No suitable candidates had applied that met the criteria following the adverts. The Trust was seeking advice from the Charity Commission about looking to change the terms/conditions to have a wider geographical coverage in an attempt to receive more applications from low income elderly individuals in the Ribble Valley area. The Church Yard Committee had not met. The Armistice Commemoration Group had met on the 28 March 2018 and would be seeking to put in a Heritage Lottery bid. A private donation had been made towards the work. He went on to add that speeding motorists on Mitton Road was a growing problem and welcomed the Community Roadwatch. He felt frustrated that current allocation of resources for speeding motorists meant that there would have to be a serious accident before more enforcement (ie speed camera) is taken.

Councillor Dave Sleight reported that a clean up took place at the Whalley and Barrow Cemetery. Flytipping was still a problem on the private land adjacent to the Cemetery and the Registrar had written to Ribble Valley Borough Council seeking enforcement action.

Councillor Philip Elson had still received no response about the hedge problem that had been ongoing for nearly one year with Lancashire County Council.

Councillor June Brown stated that she had attended the Whalley Remembers Group and that a great deal of good work and commitment had been shown by the local community to make this a successful event. As a Trustee for Whalley Educational she reported the organisation was in good financial health and plans had been agreed to refurbish the kitchen and office. The heavy downpour over Easter Bank Holiday weekend resulted in flooding on King Street. The manhole cover at the top end of King Street near the funeral parlour was particularly bad. Traffic struggled to get through and residents resorted to directing and slowing down traffic for 2 hours to avoid accidents.

Councillor John Threlfall stated that he had worked with the Clerk to submit the Council's response to oppose Lancashire County Council's consultation on the closure of Clitheroe Interchange.

1243/18 to authorise the accounts for payments, receipts and balances for April 2017

It was resolved to accept the accounts for payments and receipts for April 2018. A Precept grant of £35,845 had been awarded for 2018/19 for Whalley Parish Council.

1244/18 to nominate a Third Parish Councillor Signatory – Nat West Account

Councillor Highton requested that a third parish council signatory was necessary following the resignation of Stephen Barker. Councillor Mike Reid was nominated and accepted at the third signatory to the Nat West account. The Clerk was instructed to carry out the necessary actions.

1245/18 Clerks Report

The Clerk circulated a report of the correspondence, emails and circulation of reading material for the April 2018. Councillors received a verbal briefing on the Data Regulations that come into force in May 2018 for all organisations that hold personal information. This was significant in terms of future restrictions on the public disclosure of personal email addresses. No reply had been received from Lancashire County Council on electrical charging points. Ribble Valley Borough Council had not responded to Whalley Parish Council's request for full details of the Surface Land Drainage Scheme applicable to the Land off Accrington Road.

1246/18 Clerks Increment

In accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the Contract of Employment the Clerks Salary was eligible for an increase. The increase recommended was based on the Local Government Terms and Conditions Spinal Column point 15 to 16. The Council approved the increase to spinal column point 16.

1247/18 Planning for AGM 3 May 2018

Councillor Highton informed Councillors that the Annual General Meeting for the residents of Whalley was due to take place on the 3 May 2018. He asked the Council for nominations as to the Guest Speakers that should be invited. The Council nominated that the Lancashire County Council Councillor Albert Atkinson be invited to meeting. Councillor Cliff Ball suggested he could present to the meeting the plans so far of the 2018 Armistice Commemoration Events which the Council unanimously agreed.

1248/18 Purchase of George Hardman Memorial Bench

Councillor Lois Rimmer and the Clerk recommended to the Council the purchase of an Alexander Rose 5 foot Roble bench at a cost of £449. This purchase is from a local supplier Shackletons Lifestyle and the product has a 10 year guarantee. A plaque would be installed on the bench following the formal agreement of the wording with George Hardman's family. The bench will be placed on Mitton Road close to his home.

1249/18 Notice Board Installation

The Clerk reported that following the completion of the S278 Highways work on King Street the Notice Board Company had been instructed to install the new noticeboard but a date had not been set.

1250/18 S278 Works – King Street – Planters and Trees

The Clerk reported that the carriageway widening works had been completed but there was insufficient depth in the pavement to replant the existing Rowan trees. The developer proposed as an alternative to pay for 4 large decorative planters and 4 new trees of the Council's choice. The developer will meet the full costs of these items. Circulated at the meeting was an Amberol brochure with the preferred planter following a previous site meeting with the Clerk, Chair, Vice Chair and Lengthsman on the Monday 16 April 2018. The Council approved the purchase of 4 planters and 4 birch trees. The Lengthsmen would need to maintain the planters and trees and this would mean an increase of 1 hour per week equivalent to an additional cost of £10.50 per week. The Council resolved that the planters, trees and associated cost of ongoing maintenance be approved.

1251/18 Litter Bin Purchase and Emptying – OE2 Playing Fields

Councillor Highton reported that the Youth Shelter that has been erected on the QE2 Playing Fields is being used by young people. However there is a growing problem with the amount of litter that is left at the site. It was decided that to try and tackle this problem a litter bin should be purchased and located near to the shelter. Following discussions with the Lengthsman, he would routinely empty the bin when he emptied the bins at Vale Gardens. The Council resolved to approved the purchase and future plan for emptying the litter bin.

Councillor Highton reported that at a recent Licensing Committee of Ribble Valley Borough Council a report was submitted to look at the Cumulative Impact Policy into the rapid growth of licensed drinking establishments in the area. This follows the concerns raised by Whalley Parish Council to the Borough Council. It stated that Whalley Parish Council would be consulted informally on this policy. The Parish Council awaited further details.

1252/18 Whalley Parish Council Newsletter

Councillors agreed that a newsletter should be produced for distribution in June 2018. A draft newsletter will be presented at the May 2018 Parish Council Meeting. This will include an article on the Armistice 2018 Celebration events. The distribution of the newsletters will be shared amongst Parish Councillors and this would be determined at the May 2018 meeting.

1253/18 **Armistice Commemoration 2018**

Councillor Ball stated that planning continued and the Group wished to submit a Heritage Lottery Bid to fund the events. An individual donation had been made totaling five figures. The Committee was looking to have 6 'Whalley Remembers' Banners produced and these would be placed in key location for limited amounts of time. These locations included the Railway and Bus Stations, the Primary School. Members of the community are knitting poppies, collections of old World War One memorabilia were in hand. Whalley in Bloom had agreed to dedicate a floral display to mark the occasion. Whalley Library will display a scale model of the Queen Mary Hospital in Whalley where 330,000 service men from around the world were treated. To engage the young people and children they Group planned to produced 'Whalley Remembers' mugs that would be given out to the primary schools in the Parish. A Beacon would be lit on Whalley Nab. A book was being compiled by Paddy Brown on the History of World War One and Servicemen that lost their lives. The next meeting of the Group was at 7.00pm on Tuesday 8 May 2018 at Whalley Old Grammar School and this was open meeting for any interested individuals to attend.

Councillor Ball requested that Whalley Parish Council submits the Heritage Lottery Bid which seeks £6800 of funding. The Parish Council resolved to be the lead organisation for the bid. This would be accompanied by a letter of support from the Chair of Whalley Parish Council and other key stakeholders.

1254/18 **Borough Councillors Report**

No Borough Councillors were in attendance and no report was presented.

1255/18 **to consider and approve the date of the next meeting of the Parish Council as Thursday 19 April 2018**

It was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 17 May 2018.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____