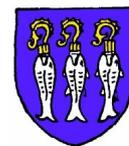


## WHALLEY PARISH COUNCIL



### Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 15 August 2019 at 7.30pm in the Old Grammar School, Whalley.

**Present:** Councillor M Highton(Chairman)  
Councillor J Brown (Vice Chairman)  
Councillor J Threlfall  
Councillor D Sleight  
Councillor C Ball  
Councillor P Brown

**In Attendance:** M Richardson – Clerk to Whalley Parish Council  
Members of the public (3)

**Apologies:** Councillor D Sleight

#### 1520/19 to receive declaration of interests

None

#### 1521/19 to approve as correct the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Meeting held on 18 July 2019

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 July 2019 be approved as a correct record.

#### 1522/19 receive minutes of other Committees

The minutes were received of the:

- Planning Committee meeting held on 18 July 2019
- Grounds and Garden Committee meeting held on 12 March 2019

#### 1523/19 to adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion

Councillor Martin Highton welcomed Borough Councillor Ged Mirfin. The Borough Councillor went onto report that he had taken steps to highlight the problem of under reporting crime in Whalley. He estimated crime was under reported by 30-40%. He had issued a press release about the problem in rural areas and this had also been disseminated via Facebook and Twitter reaching an audience of approximately 2000. He also reaffirmed his proposal to try and get the Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership to hold their next meeting in Whalley. He suggested that pressure could also be put on the Andrew Snowden the prospective Conservative Party Candidate for the Crime Commissioners post.

He went onto report that he had received an increasing number of reports relating to Anti-Social Behaviour in Whalley from young people. He felt the problem was getting worse and reported a

young girl had been assaulted. The Police said they were unable to press charges. Councillors felt the failure to prosecute and there being 'very few consequences' for the perpetrators resulted in an unprecedented lawlessness. The Multi Agency Form meeting co-ordinated by the Parish Council in May 2019 had not resulted in any substantive action. Ged agreed to ask Dilys Day on progress at Ribble Valley Borough Council. The Clerk reported that she had contacted Inspector Winter via email to request his attendance at a future meeting but had not yet received a reply. At the last Parish Council meeting Ged discussed the possibility of using S106 monies to invest in additional CCTV cameras to deter ASB activity. Unfortunately, there was no progress to report at this stage.

All Councillors agreed there was an increasing risk of residents of taking matters into their own hands and that it was now imperative the relevant statutory organisations look into the possibility of using Community Protection Orders or Public Space Orders as a means of trying to manage the problem more effectively.

The public raised questions on the progress of dealing with the excessive speeding in the area. Two Neighbourhood Community Policing initiatives had taken place. The Clerk agreed to ascertain the outcomes from these initiatives. The Council was unaware that the LCC Road Safety Partnership van had been deployed in the area (although this was promised). James Pay (Whalley Anti Speeding Initiative) was extremely disappointed at the lack of action given the current facts on the problem in Whalley.

Borough Councillor Ged Mirfin reported that resurfacing work had taken place on King Street and he had received many complaints about the quality of work. The Parish Councillors concurred with Ged and agreed that letter should be written to the Leader of Lancashire County Council to ask them to re-examine the quality of work carried out.

Tony Brown commented that abuse of the car parking facility of the Co-operative by users 'parking all day' when it was limited to 2 hours has now resulted in the company changing the rules. Car Parking was only allowed for 30 minutes and people would be issued with a parking ticket exceeding this amount. If a customer spent over £5 during their visit this would entitle them to 2 hours parking.

### 1524/19 **Councillor Update**

Councillor Martin Highton stated that a final site inspection had taken place at the Queen Elizabeth Playing Fields and this meant that the final draw down of money from the LEADER Scheme should soon follow. The Parish Council made a bridging loan to cover costs in the interim and this would be repaid imminently.

Councillor Dave Sleight as Chair of the Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Joint Burial Committee submitted a written report in advance that stated that the Committee had met on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August. Ribble Valley Borough Council have annually inspected the safety of the memorials at this time of the year and they will be asked to do so again. The Committee have spent a lot of money bringing the memorials up to an appropriate level of safety over the last few years and think that the next inspection should be reasonably fault-free.

The staining of the fence, gates and benches has now been completed. We are awaiting delivery of a new noticeboard in the next few weeks. A tree inspection is to take place. The Memorial Garden work is on-going. The Working Party met and gardeners were invited to quote for the work. Thus far we have only one-part quote despite contacting four gardeners. The present

thinking regarding the memorials is to have brass plaques on top of the wall and on the stone work of the circular garden. Stake memorials to be used on the bank behind the wall. Managing how these memorials are put in place in an appropriate way, will need some careful thought.

Councillor June Brown reported that she had attended the Almshouses Trust Meeting and was present for the visit by the Trust officer. She reported her attendance the Whalley Educational Foundation Trustee Meeting on the 29 July 2019. At this meeting the Trustees were briefed on the need to take precautions to prevent Legionella Disease and this would be actioned. The De Fibrillatory and Cabinet had now been installed and training sessions would be carried. She requested that Parish Councillors participate in the refresher training if possible. The Annual Accounts were also circulated at this meeting and the Foundation was optimistic that this would allow for Community Educational Grants to be made in this financial year.

The Grounds and Garden Committee meeting met on 30 July 2019. It was agreed at this meeting the Rowan Trees would not be replanted due to their poor condition. Approval was granted for a Bench Audit to take place. A replacement memorial bench for Jill Taylor and memorial plaque would be ordered. The Lombardi Poplars at Vale Gardens are at stage whereby felling maybe an option. The ultimate decision would be with Ribble Valley Borough Council and this was being progressed.

She stated her concerns about the ongoing street drinking that was taking place at the corner of Accrington Road and King Street immediately outside the H2O bar and adjacent to the Swan Pub. She suggested that this is problem of the Licensing Authority and perhaps as generic letter is sent to all publicans. Finally, she reported flytipping had taken place on Accrington Road that had been reported Ribble Valley Borough Council.

Councillor Cliff Ball is Chairman of the Adam Cottam Almshouses. He reported that the Trust has now reconsidered the way forward regarding No. 36 Station Road and decided to not to undertake temporary repairs but to investigate the feasibility of proceeding with a full refurbishment. This will entail seeking an additional loan from the Almshouses Association.

An exploratory approach has been made to the Trust regarding an additional loan, the result of which was a visit from an officer in late July. The officer was highly impressed with the standard of refurbishment already done in Nos 30 & 34 Station Road.

Whalley Almshouse Trust has now been offered an additional interest free loan of £15,000 and a grant of £15,000. The Loan Application papers are now being prepared; these include a Feasibility Study describing the work to be undertaken, our current and projected accounts, repayment plan and contractor's estimates.

It will be necessary to re-house our resident for the duration of the work (approx. 4months) and the overall estimated cost is expected to be in the region of £40,000. The Trust will make up the balance from its Community Bank Account. Work will start either December 2019/January, 2020 or in July 2020 depending upon Trust finances. Armistice/Remembrance 2018 – he stated see this week's Clitheroe Advertiser! He added that gullies are blocked on Mitton Road following the heavy downpours over the last two weeks.

John Threlfall reported he had made contact with Lancashire County Council to ensure that hedge on Mitton Road is pruned back. This issue arose last year and he was successful in getting the County Council to accept responsibility for maintenance. It is not included in the Annual Maintenance programme but must reported each year. He reported a resident had

highlighted a ‘pothole’ but that looked more like a sunken utility or reinstatement outside 88 Mitton Road. This had been reported .

Patrick Brown reported his approval of efforts by Rod Hollick to ensure that yellow lines on the highway are now being implemented in accordance with the conservation status. These lines are narrower and a more muted yellow. He reported that the Whalley War memorial looked it needed cleaning. He queried ownership of the Blue Plaques put in place to commemorate the 2018 Armistice. These remain in the ownership of Whalley Remembers. He had received a complaint about the visibility of a plaque that was being obscured by a hanging basket. A meeting of the Friends of Whalley Abbey is scheduled to take place on the 12 September 2019.

**1525/19 Update on Multi Agency Meeting – Anti Social Behaviour and Young People**

The Clerk has had no response from Ribble Valley Borough Council or the Police on the proposal to put together an action plan following the Multi Agency meeting on the 22 May 2019. The Clerk agreed to chase up a response again.

**1526/19 Update on Anti Speeding Initiative**

See minute 1523/19 above paragraph 3.

**1527/19 To appoint a building contractor to undertake repair work to the wall at Vale Gardens adjacent to Woodlands Drive**

Martin Highton outlined two quotes that had been received to undertake work damaged wall at Vale Gardens. After careful consideration the Council chose to appoint Darren Helm as the contractor with a quote of £1049 to remove the existing sand/cement bedding and replace some walling stone, cut and re-bed new flag coping stones where existing have been removed.

**1528/19 To consider and approve Training Requests with the Lancashire Association of Local Authorities (LALA)**

In November and October the LALA are running two workshops on Chairmanship and Finance. The Clerk had expressed a wish to undertake training on Finance and Parish Councillor John Threlfall wished to attend the Chairmanship course. The proposals were unanimously agreed.

**1529/19 Authorisation of Accounts. Payments and Receipts and Balances for August 2019**

The Parish Council authorised the following payments, receipts and balances for August 2019:

Payments	£
<b>Web maintenance</b>	<b>(24.00)</b>
<b>Grant</b>	<b>250.00</b>
<b>Salary</b>	<b>(539.43)</b>
<b>Home office</b>	<b>(43.33)</b>
<b>Internet</b>	<b>(10.00)</b>
<b>48 miles at 0.65</b>	<b>(31.20)</b>
<b>Mobile rental</b>	<b>(5.00)</b>
<b>Concurrent Grant 18/19</b>	<b>(5.60)</b>
<b>Vale Gds May 19 Invoice 2686</b>	<b>(273.00)</b>
<b>Church May 19 Invoice 2687</b>	<b>(291.00)</b>
<b>Church June19 Invoice 2705</b>	<b>(291.00)</b>
<b>Vale Gds June19 Invoice 2704</b>	<b>(273.00)</b>

Bench J Taylor Ord No 46063	(449.00)
Room Hire June 2019 JM1400	(25.00)
Room Hire Jul 2019 JM1434	(25.00)

**Total** (2,035.56)

Balances : Nat West Current: £28,096.80      Nat West QE2:      0  
Skipton Building Soicety: £21,742.69

1530/19 **Clerks Report**

The Clerks Report for August 2019 was accepted.

1531/19 **To approve the date of the next meeting of the Parish Council as 7.30pm  
Thursday 19 September 2019**

It was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Parish Council on **Thursday 19 September 2019.**

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

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