



WHALLEY PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th February 2016 at 7.30pm in the Old Grammar School, Whalley.

Present: Councillor M Highton (Chair)
Councillor J Brown
Councillor L Rimmer
Councillor C Ball
Councillor S Barker
Councillor M Fallon
Councillor D Sleight
Councillor M Reid
Apologies: Councillor I Kent
Members of the public – 5

In Attendance: F Holland – Clerk to Whalley Parish Council

936/16 to receive declaration of interests

No declaration of interests were received

937/16 to approve as correct the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st January 2016

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st January 2016 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

938/16 to adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion (information only)

Mr Pickup asked for clarification on the Parishes Grant Fund application on behalf of Whalley Old Grammar School. He also alerted the meeting to a number of issues with the fabric of the building which have financial consequences for the OGS trustees and the community. He sought assurances from the Parish Council regarding future funding.

Mr Brown asked the Parish Council to congratulate Calderstones NHS Trust on achieving a “good” rating in all aspects following an inspection. He informed councillors that the Trust was one of the first to offer accommodation and food to the Whalley flood victims.

939/16 to receive minutes of other Committees

The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings of the 21st January 2016 and the Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Joint Burial Committee meeting minutes of 11th December 2015

940/16 to receive reports of Councillors from other committees (information only)

Cllr Kent (by letter) expressed admiration for the energy and enthusiasm of Cllr Ball, Chair of the Adam Cottam Trust in transforming the organisation. The next meeting of the Churchyard Committee will be 14 March 2016. Regretfully Cllr Kent tendered his resignation with effect from 1 March 2016.

Cllr Ball reported that an architect has now submitted outline costs for the restoration of the empty dwellings. A contractor has been asked to consider the above. Discussions have been held with the Almshouses Association Executive Committee and discussions have taken place for the empty dwelling to be made available for someone made homeless by the Boxing Day floods.

Cllr Barker confirmed that the signed Deed of Dedication and Deed of Novation regarding Whalley Sports Community Park have been forwarded to the solicitor.

Cllr Sleight reported that at the Joint Burial Committee meeting searches are continuing for a stone mason to check the memorials and a grave digger; Abbey Gardening Services has received an extension to their contract; the purchase of adjoining land is on hold and the land is draining well despite the heavy rains.

Cllr Rimmer noted that the potholes on the bridge have been repaired but are immediately showing signs of damage. She will continue her representations to LCC.

Cllr Highton reported that Cllr Kent has resigned from the Parish Council and thanked him for his work during his tenure; at the Parish Councils Liaison meeting information was made available regarding the War Memorials Trust; a LCC Bus Services update and a presentation on the workings of the LCC Highways on-line reporting system.

941/16 to authorise the accounts for payments, receipts and balances for December 2015 and January 2016 (enclosed)

It was resolved to accept the accounts for payments and receipts presented for February 2016.

942/16 to consider the proposed cessation of the LCC Countryside Service and the impact on Whalley

It was resolved to contact the Friends of Spring Wood for their comments before the Parish Council completes its own views on this proposed cessation of the LCC Countryside Service.

943/16 to receive an update on communication matters (information only)

Councillors expressed content on the present use of the notice boards, web site and newsletter. Should future innovations become available they would review the options.

944/16 to receive the Clerks Report (information only)

Additional information forwarded to councillors by e-mail:

Cllr Hill regarding the re-opening of Old Sols Bridge
Whalley in Bloom Clean up on 5 March 2016

- Resignation of Councillor I Kent – Cllr Kent has resigned from the Parish Council to take effect on 1st March 2016. From that date a casual vacancy is deemed to have occurred. A Public Notice of the Vacancy has to be advertised. An election to fill the vacancy will be held if TEN electors give notice in writing (to RVBC) within 14 days after the Public Notice. Otherwise it is to be filled by co-option as soon as practicable.
- Vandals have destroyed a tree at the bus station and LCC Highways has been alerted to damaged kerbs adjacent to the bus station.

945/16 to receive Borough Councillors Report (information only)

Councillor Hill confirmed that the applicant for works at Mitton Road Cemetery had to ensure that they did not interfere with any existing graves; He clarified that LCC are the lead flood authority and that the Environmental Agency are statutory consultees and United Utilities are responsible for the main under King St; He confirmed that LCC had made £2million available for urgent services; discussions were taking place regarding the devolution process of combined authorities; the projected rates for RVBC will be an increase of 3.53%

946/16 to consider and approve the date of the next meeting of the parish council as Thursday March 17th 2016

It was resolved that the next meeting of the parish council will be held on Thursday March 17th 2016 at 7.30pm at the Old Grammar School.

The meeting closed at 9.30

Signed: _____ Date: _____