

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 15th January 2026 in the Calder Room, Whalley Old Grammar School at 7.30pm

Signed: *EK Haworth*

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.	Attendance & Apologies	
	Present: Cllr Allen, Cllr Ball, Cllr Duckworth, Cllr Mirfin, Cllr Highton (Chairman), Cllr Vickers. Apologies: Cllr Shaw, Cllr Smith, Cllr Threlfall, Borough Cllr Hindle. In Attendance: Liz Haworth (Clerk), 6 members of public.	2936/26
2.	Declarations of Interest	
	There were no declarations of any disclosable pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interest in respect of matters contained in the agenda.	2937/26
3.	To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meeting	
	3.1 It was resolved to approve and confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 20 th November 2025. 3.2 It was resolved to approve and confirm the minutes of the Precept Budget Planning meeting Thursday 27 th November 2025.	2938/26 2939/26
4.	To Receive the Minutes of other Committees	
	4.1 It was resolved to receive the minutes of the Planning Committee Thursday 20 th November 2025. 4.2 Moved to item 3.2. 4.3 It was resolved to receive the minutes of the WWBJC meeting Wednesday 8 th October 2025.	2940/26 2941/26
5.	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) The railway station had a recent Health & Safety Trip Hazard Assessment. All signs on the railway bridge are illuminated. The Station car park spaces have been re-lined.	2942/26

	The hedges on Station Road still require cutting back. It was reported that LCC has the matter “in the system.”	2943/26																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
6.	Monthly Financial Report																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
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7.	Internal Auditor																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
	It was resolved to appoint David Swift as an independent internal auditor to evaluate the effectiveness of the Councils governance processes and control of finances for the financial year ending 31/3/2026.	2946/26																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
8.	Grant Applications 2025-26																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
	It was resolved to approve the requests for grant funding listed below, under the appropriate powers of the Local Government Act 1972, within the 2025/26 financial year budget.	2947/26																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												

	Organisation	Purpose	No of People to benefit from Parish	£ Project Amount	£ Amount Requested	Decision
Whalley & District Lions	Afternoon Tea Social Event for less young residents (Grant Application)	40 residents	£300	£300		Approved
Ribble Valley Rail	Planting at Whalley Railway Station (Grant Application)	All users of the station	£300	£300		Approved
Whalley In Bloom	Purchase of annual and perennial plants and compost etc for both spring/summer and autumn/winter planting as well as new and replacement of gardening equipment and planters as required. (Grant Application)	All residents throughout the village	£5000	£2000		Approved
Whalley Methodist Elevenes & Whalley Methodist Church	For maintenance work on the side garden and gardening services for the coronation garden (Eleven's project for King Charles Coronation) also power washing of the paths to avoid the buildup of debris and mold. (Grant Application)	All residents using/passing the main street	£500	£500		Approved
Whalley Table Tennis Club	To support developing young players and to encourage new junior and senior members, to purchase table tennis bats, coaching and development. (Grant Application)	25-30	£500	£500		Approved
Little Green Bus	Door to door transport services for the most elderly and often immobile and vulnerable members of the parish. (Donation Request)			£300 proposed		Approved
Totals					£3900	£3900
<p>The grant monies awarded will be paid with Februarys payments and by 23rd February 2026.</p>						
9.	Shared Prosperity and Jubilee Fund Expression of Interest					
	<p>To confirm the submission of the Shared Prosperity and Jubilee Fund Expression of Interest for a capital award of £10,000 – to invest in five traditional heritage fingerposts located around the village to provide permanent wayfinding to promote key heritage sites and public spaces for residents and visitors encouraging tourism to help sustain local services and businesses that benefit the wider community.</p> <p>The Parish Council would fund 30% of the project costs from their community project allocation of their precept budget. Total Project circa £14,475.</p> <p>(FS-Case-775272072)</p>					2948/26
10.	Works to repair entrance steps and base steps to the War Memorial at the Old Grammar School					
	<p>It was resolved to approve the quote of £1150 including materials to rake out all old/lose or damaged mortar to steps up to the war memorial and base of memorial and repoint in a lime pointing mix.</p>					2949/26
11.	Speeding Awareness /Traffic Matters					
	<p>11.1 The council received an update on speed awareness and prevention measures in Whalley. It was resolved to renew the SpiD contract with Altham Parish Council as per the previous year.</p> <p>11.2 The council reviewed the SPID report data for 70 Mitton Road LC27 2-15 November 2025 and is available on the Parish Council website.</p> <p>11.3 The council reviewed the SPID report data for King Street LC99a 13-30 December 2025 and is available on the Parish Council website.</p> <p>11.4 Cllr Threlfall has provided LCC's Speed Assessment Team with high level results of our SpiD reports data from the last two years.</p>					2950/26
12.	Planning Permission Whalley Sports Park/QEII Playing Fields and Land					
	<p>To receive any updates on the QEII land & playing fields including;</p> <p>12.1 The pre-planning application for the Sports Park is ongoing.</p>					2954/26

	<p>12.2 We have been informed by RVBC that we are not currently being considered for funding for the development of an all-weather pitch on the playing fields. This item may be revisited by the Parish Council in future considerations.</p> <p>12.3 18 Mitton Road - encroachment on QEII land. Solicitor's letter issued due to lack of action following initial verbal communication July 2025 and written correspondence September 2025 & October 2025; compliance required by Friday 16 January 2026. It was resolved that WPC would have the fence reinstated, the hardcore removed, and the associated costs charged back to the householder.</p>	2955/26 2956/26
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>13.1 Lancashire Parish and Town Council Conference Feedback 2025 – 1st November 2025 shared with members- Cllr Vickers.</p> <p>13.2 + Other meetings</p> <p>Lancashire County Cllr Mirfin has attended meetings with the Fire Authority regarding the Lancashire budget.</p> <p>Work and investigations are ongoing with LCC in relation to the drains around Broad Lane.</p> <p>A meeting was attended with the Flood Authority, and areas of concern raised in discussion have been passed to the Environment Agency.</p> <p>Cllr Ball reported on the Adam Cottam Trust Alms Houses.</p> <p>Cllr Ball would like to call a meeting of the Churchyard Committee.</p>	2957/26 2958/26 2959/26 2960/26
14.	Reports by Cllrs & Clerk as INFORMATION only – Not for debate	
	<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</p> <p>14.2 Trading Standards Service - Consumer Alerts</p> <p>14.3 Whalley Queen St RAG Reports</p> <p>14.4 NALC Executive Bulletins and newsletters</p> <p>14.5 CPRE News Bulletins</p> <p>14.6 Community Engagement - News items on Websites/Facebook</p> <p>14.7 The overgrown footpaths and hedges on Accrington Road have been cut back.</p> <p>14.8 Update on Wiswell Lane Unregistered Land Consultation – no declarations of ownership of land have been received and WPC now intends to progress the new village sign in conjunction with relevant authorities.</p> <p>14.9 Upper Garden Room Project verbal update – the schedule of works to renovate the Upper Garden Room has commenced and will be overseen by the Council.</p> <p>14.10 Crime Figures - December</p> <p>6 x Assault 4 x NTE related and 2 inv known parties</p> <p>1 x Burglary attempt to dwelling</p> <p>2 x Damage</p>	2691/26

	<p>5 x ASB all NTE related 2 x Road related offence 1 x drink driver and 1 x S59 warning 1 x Public order related to NTE 1 x Theft</p> <p>14.11 Christmas in Whalley was reported to have been a successful event, despite the adverse weather conditions on the day.</p> <p>14.12 LCC – Local Government Review Summary of Choices</p> <p>14.13 Damage to low wall at Whalley bus station – a quote for repairs is to be requested.</p> <p>14.14 Condition of Whalley Public Toilets – It was reported that the toilets were in poor condition due to a lack of care by users and groups mistreating the facilities.</p>	
15.	Next Meeting Dates	
	The next meeting date is Thursday 19 th February 2026 to be held at Whalley Old Grammar School at 7.30pm in The Calder Room.	2692/26

The meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Draft Minutes Subject to Confirmation