

## WHALLEY PARISH COUNCIL



### Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19 September 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 (5) Including Borough Councillors G Mirfin and D Berryman

**Apologies:** PCSO Natasha Harris

#### 1532/19 to receive declaration of interests

None

#### 1533/19 to approve as correct the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Meeting held on 15 August 2019

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 August 2019 be approved as a correct record.

#### 1534/19 receive minutes of other Committees

The minutes were received of the:

- Planning Committee meeting held on 15 August 2019

#### 1535/19 to adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion

Eric Ronnan Trustee of Whalley Old Grammar School reported that at a recent meeting a proposal had been undertaken to look at action to improve the acoustics of the Calder Room. He went onto to ask that the Parish Council and Borough Councillors approach John Heap with a view to the Parish Council having more influence in suggesting new street names for Whalley. He was particularly keen to try and reference the link the Kosovo and suggested Pristine Avenue. Councillor Berryman said he would undertake to make further enquiries.

A further member of the public raised concerns about the safety of pedestrians at the mini roundabout at the junction of King Street and Accrington Road. He stated that pedestrians were making a dangerous short cut as there was no pavement area and the railings protecting pedestrians from the roadway stopped short. This means there is a gap through which they could cut across the road. He felt this was dangerous.

Councillor John Threlfall stated that there would be Health and Safety reasons for not totally blocking off access but that maybe a pedestrian refuge in the centre of the road would be a more suitable solution. This would be for Lancashire County Council Highways Officers to assess. The Parish Council agreed to raise this with the Highway Authority. The member of the public also highlighted the general shabby appearance at the Queen Elizabeth Playing Fields stating that many fences and benches are broken and that this was due to anti social behaviour from young people. The Chairman reiterated that the Parish Council had been trying to put pressure on the statutory organisations with powers to address the problems and that nothing had progressed since holding a Mulit Agency Meeting on 22 May 2019. The responsible organisation for the fences and benches was the Queen Elizabeth Playing Field Trust and Whalley Cricket Club.

Tony Brown reported that CJs sandwich shop had been broken into again and he reiterated his concerns about the rising crime rate and lack of Police action. More disconcerting was the conflicting messages given by the Police about whether the CCTV cameras were operational. The Police said the cameras were not working which was contrary to what John Heap at Ribble Valley Borough Council had recently said. The Parish Councillors felt bemused and Borough Councillors G Mirfin and D Berryman agreed to take this back to John Heap and ask for visit to see the Whalley cameras in operation at Headquarters. The Parish Councillors suggested that the Clerk could raise this issue with the Chief Executive of the Borough Council and Police Chief Constable in a letter.

Paul White stated that the map casing at the Railway Station was still broken even though the Clerk had reported this. It was agreed that this would be chased up again. A ticket machine was now installed at Whalley but not operational. A pothole on the footpath at the entrance to the Library Car Park was highlighted but it was unclear whether this was a United Utilities problem or the Highway Authority.

### 1536/19 **Councillor Update**

Councillor Martin Highton stated Trustees of Queen Elizabeth Playing Fields had been reimbursed from LEADER fund and that the bridging loan from the Parish Council would be repaid. No progress had been made on the future location of the Noticeboard. He had received a complaint from a resident about inappropriate greetings card being sold at a shop in Whalley. A Parish Council Liaison Meeting was due to take place on 26 September 2019.

Councillor Dave Sleight as Chair of the Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Joint Burial Committee stated that the noticeboard had now been installed.

Councillor June Brown reported that the replacement memorial bench and plaque had been ordered and would be collected by the lengersman and installed over the next two weeks. Repair work to the coping stones on the wall on Woodlands Drive had now been completed. The Parish Council was conscious that further protection was needed to ensure that stone was not stolen and had agreed that CCTV signs and Smart Water would be used to try and deter further thefts.

Councillor Cliff Ball is Chairman of the Adam Cottam Almshouses reported that the Loan Application has now been delivered to the Almshouses Association for their Approval. The Trust had received a list of Almshouses in Lancashire to find alternative accommodation for our resident who would have to relocated whilst the planned refurbishment took place. The proposed timetable was still on track with a start date planned in early 2020.

Deadwooding of the trees in the Churchyard had now been completed. A meeting to discuss further monument repairs had to be cancelled due to the wet weather and this would be rearranged.

John Threlfall reported Lancashire County Council would trim the hedge on Mitton Road at the end of October 2019. He was still trying to make progress with utility reinstatement outside 88 Mitton Road. He had made further enquiries about speed cameras and this was to be discussed later in the meeting. He had attended a meeting of the Joint Burial Committee and reported on an interesting talk from Ken Linford on the nationwide problem of Ash Dieback.

Patrick Brown reported the Police had recently carried out a drugs raid on public houses in Whalley. There was a heavy Police presence and two arrests were made. He reported that a Friends of Whalley Abbey Meeting had taken place and 78 people attended. Due to the financial problems with running the Abbey all the staff had now been officially laid off. Interviews for the new Guardian would take place on Friday 20 September 2019.

#### **1537/19 Update on Multi Agency Meeting – Anti Social Behaviour and Young People**

Borough Councillor G Mirfin had spoken to the Partnership Officer at Ribble Valley Borough Council but little progress had been made. He suggested that if possible the next Community Safety Partnership Meeting could be hosted in Whalley. It was agreed that in order to try and get action the Parish Council should write to the Chief Executive, Chief Constable and MP.

#### **1538/19 Update on Anti Speeding Initiative**

John Threlfall had made investigations about the possibility of recommended Lancashire County Council(LCC) Speeding Device manufacturers. At the moment this procurement list is being updated and Martin Highton reiterated that a Speeding device was onerous in terms cost and time. John Threlfall was unhappy with the response that that there was nowhere to put the Anti Speeding Enforcement Vehicle on Mitton Road. The van has clearly been present in the recent past.. The Parish Council agreed that some action must be taken to address this growing problem.

John Threlfall stated that there are 2 existing SPIDS in Whalley but neither work. The Parish Council undertook to find out who was responsible for the two existing SPIDS that are not operational and if necessary adopt the cameras and try and get them back in use. The Parish Council agreed that they would look at a preferred supplier once Lancashire County Council updated the list. The Clerk and John Threlfall to investigate further the speeding van.

#### **1539/19 To accept a Proposal from Whalley In Bloom to Purchase and Locate a Notice Board on Vale Gardens**

The Parish Council agreed to accept a proposal from Whalley In Bloom to purchase and locate a noticeboard at Vale Gardens. This will be used to publicise the great work of Whalley In Bloom.

#### **1540/19 To approve the External Auditors Report 2018-2019**

It was resolved to accept the External Auditors report for 2018-19 including the except for matters that relate to incorrect asset management figures submitted in the external audit for 2016-17.

#### **1541/19 Authorisation of Accounts. Payments and Receipts and Balances for September 2019**

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

Payments	£
<b>Web Maintenance</b>	<b>(24.00)</b>
<b>Clerks Salary</b>	<b>(539.43)</b>
<b>Home office</b>	<b>(43.33)</b>
<b>Internet</b>	<b>(10.00)</b>
<b>mileage</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Mobile rental</b>	<b>(5.00)</b>
<b>Printer Cartridge</b>	<b>(36.50)</b>
<b>Jill Taylor Memorial Plaque</b>	<b>(24.00)</b>
<b>Tree Work Churchyard 2018 report</b>	<b>(1,050.00)</b>
<b>2019 Inspection Vale Gardens</b>	<b>(168.00)</b>
<b>Chairman Workshop</b>	<b>(25.00)</b>
<b>Vale Garden Wall Repair</b>	<b>(1,201.00)</b>
<b>External Audit 2018-2019</b>	<b>(240.00)</b>
<b>Vale Gardens 2724 July 2019</b>	<b>(273.00)</b>
<b>JM1461 Room Hire August 2019</b>	<b>(15.00)</b>
<b>Whalley Church 2725 July 2019</b>	<b>(291.00)</b>
	<b>(3,945.26)</b>

Balances : Nat West Current: £24,151.54                      Nat West QE2:                      0  
Skipton Building Soicety: £21,742.69

1542/19 **Clerks Report**

The Clerks Report for September 2019 was accepted.

1543/19 **To receive and approve an agreed Action Plan for the refurbishment of the Christmas Lights**

Martin Highton gave verbal update on the Christmas lights that are owned by Whalley Chamber of Trade. He stated that he was awaiting confirmation from the Chamber of Trade about the repair works that they are able to fund this year. Last year one section in each of 5 displays was replaced

Martin had suggested on behalf of the Parish Council replacing the lights on the 2 displays that had failed and completing the replacement of lights on the 5 partially repaired last year.

1544/19 **To approve the date of the next meeting of the Parish Council as 7.30pm Thursday 17 October 2019**

It was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Parish Council on **Thursday 17 October 2019**.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

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