



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 18th September 2025 in the Calder Room, Whalley Old Grammar School at 7.30pm

Signed: *EKHaworth*

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 Ball, Cllr Duckworth, Cllr Highton (Chairman), Cllr Mirfin, Cllr Smith, Cllr Threlfall, Cllr Vickers. Apologies: Cllr Allen, Borough Cllr Hindle. In Attendance: Liz Haworth (Clerk), 7 members of the public.	2754/25
2.	Declarations of Interest	
	No councillors declared any personal or prejudicial interests in relation to the business of the meeting.	2755/25
3.	To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meeting	
	It was resolved to approve and confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 21 st August 2025.	2756/25
4.	To Receive the Minutes of other Committees	
	It was resolved to receive the minutes of the Planning Committee Thursday 21 st August 2025.	2757/25
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) A member of the public expressed their gratitude to the Parish Council for its support with Whalley in Bloom and the Best Kept Village competition. They shared their thoughts on the upcoming Devolution changes and encouraged the Council to play an active role in shaping its position ahead of any reorganisation of district councils into unitary authorities. It was also discussed whether the future role of Town and Parish Councils had been clarified, and if smaller councils might be merged with larger neighbours, what support in terms of funding, resources, and training would be provided. As the White Paper is currently at the	2758/25

	<p>committee stage, the Parish Council’s RVLALC representative will seek further details regarding Parish Council’s potential involvement.</p> <p>Consultation is underway to ask for public and council comments. https://www.givemyview.com/lancashirestakeholderlgr/surveys</p> <p>A representative reported that the railway is running as normal. Still no Sunday trains from Whalley until Blackburn station. The Yorkshire Dales Explorer rail service is still well supported.</p> <p>A discussion was had about the proposed new CCTV camera to be installed on Accrington Road by RVBC. Further information to be requested by the Clerk.</p>	2759/25 <
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9.	Speeding Awareness /Traffic Matters	
	<p>9.1 Updates were given on speed awareness and prevention measures in Whalley.</p> <p>9.2 Members of the Council received the SPID report data for 15 Accrington Road, LC87, 7-21 August 2025. Reports are available on the parish council website.</p> <p>9.3 SpID plate locations are still under review. Next SpID location is at Mitton Road Outbound LC17.</p>	<p>2764/25</p> <p>2765/25</p> <p>2766/25 2767/25</p>
10.	Planning Permission Whalley Sports Park/QEII Playing Fields and Land	
	<p>10.1 Work is ongoing for the pre-planning application for the Sports Park.</p> <p>10.2 No update on the potential development of an all-weather pitch on the QEII land.</p> <p>10.3 JS is to contact the current trustees to recommend the Parish Council taking over as sole Trustee of the QEII Playing Fields charitable trust.</p> <p>10.4 A letter was sent to the homeowner to remove the hardcore deposited behind 18 Mitton Road and to reinstate the boundary fence. MH to follow up.</p>	<p>2768/25</p> <p>2769/25</p> <p>2770/25</p> <p>2771/25</p>
11.	Consultation - Revised Statement of Licensing Policy 2026-2031	
	The Parish Council will respond to the consultation which includes a request for to provide all councils with weekly licensing application updates in the form of a spread sheet.	2772/25
12.	Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Lancashire and Devolution – Stakeholder Engagement	
	The Council will respond to the consultation launched as will individual Councillors as residents of the area.	2773/25
13.	Whalley Parish Council Casual Vacancy	
	<p>A casual vacancy is available for the role of Parish Councillor. As no election was requested under the Representation of the People Act 1983, the Council may fill this position by co-option.</p> <p>WPC intend to fill the vacancy and encourages residents who care about their community to consider applying. Being a councillor is a chance to make a positive difference and help shape the future of our parish. Co-option Policy and Applications are available from the website or via contact with the clerk.</p> <p>Vacancy Notices will be posted on the Parish Council website, Facebook, and the notice board.</p>	2774/25
14.	Partnership Meetings	
	<p>To receive reports from Borough/County Councillors and partnership meetings Councillors have attended which impact on the Parish e.g., LCC, RVBC, LALC, Parish Liaison, Police Partnership meeting updates.</p> <p>LCC Cllr Mirfin attended a Community Partnership meeting which focused on Domestic Abuse Charities, Refugees in Hyndburn and R.V. and Money Laundering Establishments and looked at RV Crime figures which Cllr Mirfin will share with the Council.</p>	2775/25

	<p>LCC Cllr Mirfin also attended a meeting at the Whalley LCC Depot to discuss a range of issues, including overgrown undergrowth and hedges around the village, particularly on Station Road and Accrington Road. LCC has issued second letters to several landowners on Accrington Road requesting action to clear the overgrown footpath. If no response is received after a third letter, LCC will carry out the necessary works and recover the costs from the landowners.</p> <p>The Council requested to LCC Cllr Mirfin that LCC prioritise areas posing a public safety risk and take prompt action especially on the and they are responsible for by the Cloisters.</p>	<p>2776/25</p> <p>2777/25</p>
15.	Reports by Cllrs & Clerk as INFORMATION only – Not for debate	
	<p>Items arisen, correspondence received since the last meeting for information only, that may result in future agenda item.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood Alerts/Stay In The Know/Crime Figures July • Whalley Queen St RAG Reports • NALC Executive Bulletins and newsletters • CPRE News Bulletins • Lancashire Parish and Town Council Conference Saturday 1 November 2025 • Community Engagement - News items on Websites/Facebook • RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS RELEASE AND PIC: HAVE YOUR SAY ON FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN LANCASHIRE • The King's Award for Voluntary Service closing date 1/12/2025 • Station Road Railway Bridge Sign – verbal update • Hedges on Accrington Road – verbal update • Hedges on Station Road – verbal update • Procter's Field – Wildflower Area – verbal update <p>Cllr Ball reported that the Quinquennial on the Alms Houses is to be done this week. Further discussions have taken place with WIB to improve the gardens. With regards to the Churchyard, we are awaiting the removal of the multi-stem tree and updates on the actions to be taken from the Tree Risk Assessment Report, although no areas were flagged as high risk.</p> <p>Cllr Ball updated that Whalley Day at Whalley Old Grammar School was a success and the heritage of the building and history of Whalley was on display.</p> <p>Cllr Threlfall updated and shared correspondence on the RAG & RJ consultation process.</p>	<p>2778/25</p> <p>2779/25</p>
16.	Next Meeting Date	
	<p>It was resolved to approve the next meeting date of Thursday 16th October 2025 to be held at Whalley Old Grammar School at 7.30pm in The Calder Room.</p>	2780/25

Meeting Closed at 9.15pm.

Draft Minutes Subject to Confirmation