



WHALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE GROUNDS & GARDENS COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 March 2019 AT 7.00pm at
THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

1. To accept apologies: None

Councillors in attendance:

J Brown D Sleight J Threlfall
M Fallon L Rimmer M Highton

In attendance: M Richardson, Clerk to Council & Eric Ronnan toward the end of meeting.

2. To accept as correct the Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 29 January 2019.

It was resolved to accept as correct the Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 29 January 2019 – with correction of attendance.

3. Report Back from Councillors (Information Only)

Cllr June Brown:

- a. Reported that Ribble Valley Council had undertaken works to improve the condition of Toilets on Whalley Bus Station. The Clerk had request whether budget allocation could be made to repaint the toilets in the next financial year but the recent spate of vandalism has meant most of the budget has been spent on repairing damage.
- b. Mike Fallon declined to accept the spare Rowan Trees from the S278 works on King Street. June suggested we ask Jordan if they can be planted elsewhere in the Parish
- c. John Threlfall stated that he had received complaints from resident on Mitton Road about the state of the pavement and litter. Ribble Valley Borough Council do send litter pickers to the area and these have been seen very recently. Recent report reports received from Ian Lloyd about increasing amounts of litter at the entrance of Calderstones Park – a mixture of young people and possibly staff rom Mersey Care Trust could be responsible.
- d. The continuing theft of York Stone at Vale Gardens led to the Lengthsman suggesting selling off the highly valuable stone and replacing it with cheaper Indian Stone. Following further discussion, it was agreed that Abbey Gardening Services Limited would source a quotation for to fix the stone work.

4. Awarding of 3 Contracts for Grounds Maintenance

The Clerk advised that only one tender had been received for the 3 contracts that had been advertised for retendering.

Slight increases had been noted on the Vale Gardens and Church Yard Contracts. The Committee resolved to approve the retendering of the contracts to Abbey Gardening Services Limited. The new contracts will commence on 1 April 2019 for an initial period of 12 months with an option to extend for a further two years.

5. Lengthensman Priorities

The priorities were agreed as follows:

- Repainting/Staining of benches
- Bulb Planting on Accrington Road
- Replacement of York Stone at Vale Gardens – full quotations to be obtained

6. Financial Update

A financial update was presented to the meeting. In the 2018/19 budget £5000 had been allocated for Vale Gardens. The end of year spend was £7299.93. The overspend was due to two main contributing factors – the replanting of Vale Garden at the rear of the site and additional watering costs incurred during the hot Summer 2018 for the planters on King Street. **The Committee agreed that in 2020/21 at the November 2019 budget/precept meeting the allocation would need to be increased.**

7. Kosovo – 20th Anniversary Celebrations – Eric Ronnan attended for this item and outlined proposals to celebrate the anniversary with a low-key ceremony at the end of May 2019. This would include a gathering around the Tree planted many years ago on Mersey Care Trust land. Eric suggested that 4 trees are decorated with crochet pieces in bright colours (a tradition in Kosovo). He circulated pictures of this. June Brown provided Mandy with details of Mark Hindle to ensure the relevant permissions are granted from Mersey Care Trust to carry out this plan. The proposal is to skype/facetime the event in real time to those individuals that had returned to Kosovo. Those families that had settled in Britain will hopefully attend the event.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on **Tuesday 4 June at 7.00pm** at the Old Grammar School. The meeting ended at 8.10pm.

Signed.....Date.....

