



## WHALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Church Yard Committee** held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 4.00pm in the Whalley Parish Church Yard

### **1. Prayers**

### **2. Present and apologies**

Present: Cllr C Ball (Chairman) Mr T Small Cllr M Fallon  
Cllr M Highton Cllr L Rimmer

Apologies:

In attendance Mr F Holland Clerk to Whalley Parish Council

### **3. To Confirm the Minutes of the Church Yard Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were a correct record and could be signed.

### **4. Chairmans Report**

The Churchyard Committee met on 3 occasions during the year.

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2016

The main topics discussed were the Tree Survey, repairs to the Churchyard gates and memorial safety. The Tree Survey recommended that the exclusion zone over the school playing area should remain in place. Lambert Walker have made a good job of repairing the West gate. It was resolved to repair the North Gate and wall. It is 2 years since the memorials were inspected. The MoJ recommends a 5 year period between inspections so no action will be taken for the present.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

There was concern regarding the condition of the path to the west of the church tower. It was resolved to Bati-clean the paths as a priority. Blackburn Diocese has written to all Parishes advising of an accident caused by a falling headstone. Parishes are urged to ensure that their Churchyards are inspected regularly, that inspections are recorded and appropriate action taken to rectify dangerous headstones. The PCC has requested confirmation that the Parish Council is fully insured against such an accident happening in Whalley Churchyard. The Chairman undertook to confirm that the Parish Council does have the necessary insurance at the next PCC Meeting. See Minute 7b for action to be taken.

Monday 12th March, 2017

- a. Brent Stevenson requested to undertake a full inspection of the memorials within the Churchyard. It was confirmed that the Parish Council has the necessary Insurance cover for the Churchyard. Brent Stevenson agreed to carry out a safety inspection late spring/early summer. However he advised that specific attention should be given to the safety of 'table monuments' and that advice given refers only to that moment in time of the inspection. Works on the North wall along Church Road are complete. There is an outstanding action to replace a yew and a laburnum tree in the Churchyard.

Chairman's Note: the North gate has now been repaired and re-fitted. The 'outer' gate will not be re-hung and is stored in the Bier House.

## Accounts

The Churchyard precept for 2016/7 is £7500.....Of that £7017.....has been spent on maintenance and repairs.

### **5. Matters Arising**

The intention was that the Church Lane Gate be invoiced and paid for in the financial year 2016/17 due to an underspend in financial year 2015/16. These works were not completed on time subsequently £2130 for the gate will be shown in financial year 2017/18

Brent Stevenson will be contacted to carry out a safety inspection on the headstones at the Church Yard.

### **6.To review spring/winter maintenance issues by Abbey Gardening and Lambert Walker.**

It was resolved that Lambert Walker would be paid for the works on the North Gate despite reservations that the work did not meet the same standard of the East Gate. Abbey Gardening Service will be contacted to:

- a. Remove the lime suckers on the one remaining tree
- b. Plant the Laburnam and Yew trees as directed
- c. Remove the rubbish by the Bier Gate and rebuild the stone wall

### **7.To consider future maintenance projects**

It was resolved that quotations would be sought from Lambert Walker and Fogarty Builders for refurbishment of the East Gate plus handrails. Following an examination of the costs the PCC would seek planning permission for the handrails

### **9. Date of Next Meeting**

It was resolved to hold the next meeting at 4.00pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 at the Church.

The meeting closed at 4.46 pm

Sign\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_