

## WHALLEY PARISH COUNCIL



### Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20 June 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

**Apologies received:** Councillor P Brown

**In Attendance:** M Richardson – Clerk to Whalley Parish Council  
Members of the public (5)

#### 1497/19 to receive declaration of interests

None received.

#### 1498/19 to approve as correct the Minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Meeting held on 16 May 2019

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting held on 16 May 2019 be approved as a correct record.

#### 1499/19 to approve as correct the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 May 2019

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 May 2019 be approved as a correct record.

#### 1500/19 receive minutes of other Committees

The minutes were received of the:

- Planning Committee meeting held on 16 May 2019
- Church Yard Committee meeting held on 18 February 2019

#### 1501/19 to adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion

James Pay attended the meeting and handed in a Whalley Anti Speeding petition to the Parish Council that was signed by 68 residents of Mitton Road/Station Road/Broad Lane Whalley that stated ‘We, the citizens of Whalley, petition Whalley Parish Council, Ribble Valley Borough Council, Lancashire County Council to investigate and install measures to reduce speeding within Whalley, especially around Mitton Road/Station Road/Accrington Road, Whalley Road and Clitheroe Road.’

He circulated a list of twelve Anti Speeding Initiatives action points that he asked for the Parish Council to support and adopt. These were as follows:

1. Formally receive residents' petitions to act upon speeding motorists in Whalley
2. For it to be an agenda item at a future Parish Council meeting
3. The Anti Speeding Group would report back progress/actions at future Parish Council meetings
4. To include an anti-speeding update on all future quarterly Parish Council newsletters
5. Formally record notes from monthly Police meeting that are held by PCSO Natasha Harris
6. Support residents of the anti-speeding group
7. Positively support funding of the anti-speeding group
8. Receive minutes of the anti-speeding group meetings
9. Lobby district, county councillors and MP on anti-speeding initiatives by formal letter/email, on behalf of residents
10. Support residents anti speeding group initiatives e.g. pledges of compliance from obvious speeding offenders – Beez taxis, D & D Wallbank tractors, No 5 bus
11. Support multi agency working with local Partners e.g. primary school, police, RVBC Councillors and officer, LCC, MP and RVBC Community Safety Partnership Committee (ensure debated at latter and all Whalley Borough Councillors encouraged to attend and contribute)
12. Any other ways the Parish Council can help support the local anti-speeding initiatives in the village.

James Pay outlined and referred to Road Traffic Accident Statistics that highlighted the problems are the worst on Mitton Road and Clitheroe Road. He went onto state the Lancashire County Council Road Safety Partnership had produced Tool Kit to help proactive residents take steps to encourage motorists to slow down in residential areas. Having lived on Mitton Road as resident over the past 4 years he felt that the organisations with the relevant powers to address the concerns had failed. The Police/Resident Community Speed Initiative have not been held regularly enough and the speed van was also not deployed regularly enough and at more sporadic times (i.e. rarely seen at weekends).

The Parish council has no authority with regard to speeding. There is no statute to cover this. The Parish Council is able inform the authorities (police and highways) that the council has received complaints about speeding. The Parish Council accepted the petition and agreed to pass it onto the relevant authorities. The Parish Council acknowledged that there is a particularly bad speeding problem on Mitton Road/Station Road.

Martin Highton stated the Parish Council did support the Anti Speeding Group and he pledged to get the Police Inspector at a future meeting to identify firm proposals. Borough Councillor Ged Mirfin stated that current way funding is allocated by Lancashire County Council for Road Safety is on fatalities. Sadly, he believed there was only a small possibility that future funding being allocated to the Whalley 'speeding hot spot.'

Tony Brown stated that Maureen Cookson had sadly died and wished that the Parish Council would place on record how much she did as an employer and business leader in the area.

Ged Mirfin raised the continuing problems of anti-social behaviour. He questioned whether the Parish Councillors would consider becoming a Town Council if this would lead to greater resources and influence on other statutory services. Paul White stated that young people had recently vandalised the map of Whalley at the railway station. Martin Highton suggested that Clerk report the matter to Midas Touch. June Brown stated that if changing the name of the Parish

Council to a Town Council would result in more money coming into the area and more powers to tackle the growing problems associated with the exponential growth of residential new build she would support the proposal. The Clerk suggested she would contact the Lancashire Association of Local Authorities to clarify the matter and report back.

### 1502/19 Councillor Update

Councillor Martin Highton stated he had attended the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of Kosovo and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of organized by Ribble Valley Railways. The Bridging Loan of £11,000 from Whalley Parish Council to Queen Elizabeth Playing Fields Trust had yet to be repaid but this was anticipated soon. He requested that the following the completion of the drainage works and MUGA that the Parish Council pay for a public Notice Board to be erected on site. This was term and condition for making the final claim for LEADER Grant funding and suggested that this is placed on the f]agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillor Dave Sleight as Chair of the Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Joint Burial Committee reported that there is to be a Memorial Safety Inspection in the next month or so. The Committee has spent a lot of money over the last few years addressing this problem. The foundations for the new Memorial Garden have been completed. This includes a memorial wall, a circular garden and woodland path. There is still much to do completing the ‘appearance’ of the garden and deciding how it will be administered. Consequently, there will be a further meeting specifically to address these issues. The fence and gates are to be stained and 10 benches repaired and stained. A new noticeboard had been ordered. It will be identical to the Parish Council noticeboard in the Centre of Whalley but green in colour.

When a Cemetery user wishes to proceed with a DIY ashes internment it normally results in the Registrar spending a significant amount of time advising, and more or less acting as funeral director. The Committee had decided they would now increase administration charges for this service. A number of plots in the Cemetery are historically, ‘reserved plots’ which were bought for £2. This causes a substantial loss for the Cemetery when compared to the present (£560 district price).

Councillor June Brown reported that she had received complaints from residents near the Sands and Broad Lane that the drug dealing was still taking place near Whalley Abbey. The residents had observed cars being parked and packages being exchanged. Dog fouling on Broad Lane had been reported by a resident. The latter contacted the dog warden and was unhappy with the response putting the onus on them to gate their private property more securely rather than use enforcement or prosecution of the irresponsible dog owners. She noted that Lancashire County Council had recently installed car charging points with allocated parking spaces. She felt this put pressure on already limited parking and was frustrated when these spaces remained empty and underutilized.

June Brown went onto thank the Chairman of Whalley Parish Council, Eric Ronnan, Mersey Care Trust, Borough Councillor Mark Hindle, Whalley Local History Society, Whalley Educational Foundation, the Co-op, Whalley Methodist Church (Reverend Sally Radcliffe) for all participating in the twentieth Celebratory Event. She requested that letter be sent out the relevant organisations expressing thanks on behalf of the Parish Council. 5 Kosovan families attended the celebrations it was a great event.

Councillor Cliff Ball stated there was nothing to report from the Adam Cottam Almshouses Trust . A Church Yard Committee meeting had been held on the 10 June 2019. Following advice from Ribble Valley Borough Council and Fogartys the Committee had decided that they

would not progress the wish to put a handrail at the East Gate. This would require Listed Building Consent and Planning Permission but this was unlikely to be granted because level access was already provided from the Church Lane entrance. Work would begin in dead wooding trees in the Parish Church Yard. The public litter had still not been removed at the West Wing despite it being reported to the contractor Abbey Gardening Services Limited. The Clerk agreed to chase this action up with them. The Committee would also be looking to undertake a further memorial safety inspection and come up with Schedule of Works.

He reported that he attended the meeting called by Borough Councillors regarding the recent planning application to build a further 125 houses at Wisewell. He stated his concerns that Whalley had already exceeded its allocated quota of house building and a further development of this scale would put even more pressure on an increasingly struggling infrastructure in terms of health, education and highways. He requested that the Clerk endeavors to ascertain from Royal Mail if the Railway Station post box will be reinstated. He disagreed with Ribble Valley Borough Council policy to allow dog excrement in the public litter bins. This created a hideous odour and led to bin becoming full and overflowing very quickly. Finally, he felt that junction protection was required at the entrance to the sidings. It was unclear whether this was adopted highway or private road. The Clerk to try and ascertain its legal status.

Parish Councillor John Threlfall reported his attendance at the public meeting called to discuss the Wisewell Planning application to build a further 125 houses. He noted that pruning of brambles was necessary around the George Hardman bench on Mitton Road.

**1503/19 To Review and Adopt Standing Orders**

The Council went through a pre-circulated copy of the Whalley Parish Council Standing Orders and accepted to make some minor changes.

**1504/19 Authorisation of Accounts. Payments and Receipts and Balances for June 2019**

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

Payments	£
Web Maintenance	(24.00)
Salary	(539.43)
Home office	(43.33)
Internet	(10.00)
14 miles @0.65 -mileage	(9.10)
Mobile rental	(5.00)
Vale Gardens Maintenance 2667	(273.00)
Whalley Church Maintenance 2668	(291.00)
De Fib Maintenance 5319	(108.00)
Christmas Lights electricity	(7.36)
Donation De Frib 2018/19	(1,008.00)
Room Hire May JM1369	(30.00)
Vale Gardens Electricity	(18.76)
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	<b>(2,336.98)</b>

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

**1505/19 To Appoint 2 additional signatories to Skipton Building Society and 2 Additional Signatories to the Nat West Current Account**

Following the Parish Council Elections in May 2019 the Parish Council agreed that the signatories to the above bank accounts would need updating as follows:

**Skipton Building Society** – Removal of Mike Fallon and appointment of Martin Highton and David Sleight

**Nat West Current Account** – Removal of Mike Reid and appointment of Clifford Ball and John Threlfall

**1506/19 Clerks Report**

The Clerks Report for June 2019 was accepted.

**1507/19 Multi Agency Meeting 22 May 2019 to discuss Anti-Social Behaviour and Young People**

The Council reported a meeting took place and it was agreed that the Police and Partnership Officer at Ribble Valley Borough Council put together a draft action plan. It was agreed that the Clerk would request an update on progress for the next meeting.

Meeting with Director of Community Services Ribble Valley Borough Council 21 June 2019

The Parish Council had called for a private meeting to discuss; public litter bins and frequency of collections, maintenance of the public toilets at Whalley Bus Station, Licensing

**1508/19 To approve the date of the next meeting of the Parish Council as 7.30pm Thursday 18 July 2019**

It was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Parish Council on **Thursday 20 June 2019**.

The meeting closed at 9.02pm

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