

# WHALLEY PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17 May 2018 at 7.30pm in the Old Grammar School, Whalley.

Present: Councillor M Highton (Chairman)  
Councillor J Brown  
Councillor M Fallon  
Councillor C Ball  
Councillor D Sleight  
Councillor L Rimmer

Apologies received: Councillors' P Elson, M Reid and J Threlfall

In Attendance: M Richardson – Clerk to Whalley Parish Council  
Members of the public – 4

## 1256/18 to receive declaration of interests

None.

## 1257/18 to approve as correct the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 April 2018

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 April 2018 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

## 1258/18 to adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion (information only)

M Wedgeworth, Chair of Whalley in Bloom was in attendance. He identified some key dates for the forthcoming Whalley In Bloom Competition for 2018/19 and welcomed support from the Parish Council. On the 4 July 2018 Regional Judging will take place and it was important that the area looked in the best condition possible. The National Judging visit will take place on the 2 August 2018.

Whalley in Bloom (WIB) was seeking help from partner organisations to prepare for the above dates. The WIB was busy cleaning lamp posts and signs on King Street. The railings outside the doctors appeared not be owned by Lancashire County Council. This was queried by the Parish Councillors who felt that it was County Hall's responsibility. Street cleaning was taking place daily by Ribble Valley Borough Council. The benches throughout the Centre are in need of maintenance and a target of 21 May 2018 had been set by WIB to repaint all of them.

The three-cornered bench at Vale Gardens required sprucing up and it was requested that the Parish Council undertook this work before 4 July 2018. Eric Ronnan commented that in his previous capacity as Chair of the Parish Council he was aware of 22 benches being located in the centre but the Council plan seemed to have gone missing. It was suggested by Tony Brown an

audit is needed to update records of the bench locations in Whalley both in the centre and in outlying areas.

Outside H20 problems still existed with broken glass and cigarette butts. Eric Ronan confirmed that the immediate area outside this bar at 3 Accrington Road was undadopted.

Tony Brown highlighted that many of the private hire taxis from BEEZ are behaving like Hackney Taxis and waiting outside Whalley Wine Shop and in the parking bays for passing trade. The Clerk agreed to report this to the Licensing Committee at Ribble Valley Borough Council.

#### **1259/18 to receive minutes of other Committees**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of the 19 April 2018 were received.

#### **1260/18 To receive reports of Councillors' from other committees (information only)**

Councillor Rimmer reported that the grass verges on George Street required cutting and were overgrown. She also pointed out just off footpath 49 at the side of the Spar Car Park is a small Electricity North West gated area that is heavily littered. This had been reported to Ribble Valley Council but because the area is gated, locked and owned by the electricity company it was difficult to access and clear.

Councillor Fallon stated that significant traffic congestion had been a problem on King Street during the week as temporary traffic lights had once again been installed. The Clerk reported that this was not scheduled work but Emergency works carried out Electricity North West (ENW) Lancashire County Council had reported that they were pushing ENW to complete the work as soon as possible. Pot holes on Abbey Fields were numerous and getting worse.

Councillor Ball reported that Adam Cottam Almshouse AGM had taken place. The refurbishment of the middle Almshouse was complete and ready for occupancy. Contact had been made to Ribble Valley Homes to seek suitable occupants and 2 application forms had been sent out to prospective tenants. He was hopeful that the vacant property would be occupied by the end of June 2018.

The Church Yard Committee had not met but he was hoping to call a meeting soon. There was an outstanding action to put hand rails at the East Gate.

The Armistice Commemoration Group was looking into the possibility of commissioning a permanent monument as part of the Whalley Remembers work. This would be based on the original drawings of Langshaws. A picture of the original monument was in George Hardman's book. He questioned whether this was something that should be paid for by public subscriptions?

He went onto add that he wished for the permanent monument to be located in Vale Gardens in the middle of the lawn. It would have no names but signage that would have the Whalley Remembers Logo, Whalley Crest and reference to what it is and reference to George Hardman.

The development of the Garden of Remembrance on Mitton Road continued to create a great deal of concern with the developer pushing ahead with building on consecrated ground. He was aware the Developer had applied to the Diocese to deconsecrate the land. He questioned what would happen to the development should the Diocese not support the DE consecration.

He went onto outline that the Post Box on Station Road had been vandalized and dumped in the hedgerow on Broad Lane. The post he had salvaged had been handed over to Royal Mail.

He noted that over the Early May Bank Holiday weekend most of litter bins were overflowing and questioned the need for increased capacity as the population grew.

Councillor Dave Sleight reported that Ribble Valley Borough Council had served notice on the private landowner following persistent fly tipping near Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Burial Ground on Clitheroe Road.

Councillor June Brown stated that she had attend the Annual General Meeting for Whalley residents on 3 May 2018 and turnout had been disappointingly poor. She also had attend the Adam Cottam AGM and Whalley Remembers Meeting. She had received complaints from a resident on Queen Street about the late-night disruption as people left Brady's Bar and reaffirmed earlier calls for this to reported to the Licensing Committee. As a Trustee of Whalley Educational Foundation there had been a problem with masonry bees in the wall that had been dealt with. In Philip Elson's absence she noted that he had been in touch with Street Pastors in Burnley who would be willing to co-work with volunteers in Whalley. He had also chased up the matter of overgrown hedge on Mitton Road with LCC that had been ongoing since May 2017.

Councillor Martin Highton reported that he presented his annual report at the Annual General Meeting on the 3 May 2018. He thanked Cliff Ball for agreeing to be the guest speaker and presenting the plans of 'Whalley Remembers.'

**1261/18 to approve the updated Whalley Parish Council Asset Register as at 31 March 2018.**

It was resolved to approved the updated Whalley Parish Council Asset Register for 2018/19.

**1262/18 to authorise the accounts for payments, receipts and balances for May 2018**

It was resolved to accept the accounts for payments and receipts for May 2018. This included Precept Payment of £640 for the Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Joint Burial Committee.

**1263/18 to approve and authorise payment of Annual Insurance Renewal with BHIB for 2018/19**

The Annual Insurance Renewal with BHIB is 2018/19- £1026.40 compared to 2017/18 - £1157.00.

**1264/18 to approve and authorise the Chairman and Reporting Financial Officer to sign Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement) 2017/18 being part of the Annual Audit for year ending 31 March 2018**

Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement 2017/18 was signed by Councillor Martin Highton (Chairman) and Mandy Richardson (Reporting Financial Officer).

**1265/18 to approve and authorise the Chairman and Reporting Financial Officer to sign Section 2 (Statement of Accounts) being part of the Annual Audit for year ending 31st March 2017/18.**

Section 2 of the Annual Governance Statement 2017/18 was signed by Councillor Martin Highton (Chairman) and Mandy Richardson (Reporting Financial Officer). It was noted that an internal auditor had yet to complete Part 3 of the Annual Audit form.

#### **1266/18 Clerks Report**

The Clerks Report for May 2018 was accepted.

#### **1267/18 resolved to accept expenditure for the removal of den/wooden boards at the rear of Vale Gardens and replanting**

Councillor Martin Highton reported that following a site visit with June Brown, Mandy Richardson and Jordan Szabo it was deemed necessary to remove the dense planting at the rear of Vale Gardens. This was potentially a hiding area for young people and could make the area susceptible to anti-social behaviour. The Parish Council's Lengthsman estimated that redesign and planting the area would cost up to a maximum of £1000.

#### **1268/18 Whalley Parish Council Newsletter – June 2018**

A draft newsletter was circulated for comment at the meeting with the intention of distributing in June 2018. The newsletter will be printed by Ribble Valley Borough Council who will invoice the Parish Council direct. Parish Councillors will distribute.

#### **1269/18 Armistice Commemoration 2018**

Councillor Ball stated that planning continued and the flyers, cups, poppies and silhouettes were in the process of being ordered.

#### **1270/18 Borough Councillors Report**

Councillor T Hill was in attendance and thanked the Chairman for allowing this item to be brought forward in the meeting. He stated that concerns raised by some residents regarding the development of Garden of Remembrance was now following the due legal process and was with the relevant parties including the Department of Justice.

The Planning Authority had taken enforcement action for failure of the Developer at Lawsonsteads to build the Attenuation Ponds and also held back £1.5m of house sales. The Developer had now agreed to begin the process of building the Attenuation Ponds. This will now mean that the proposed road development will now take place.

The ongoing dispute between Bellway and the Sidings Business Park regarding the use of a field drain to assist in surface water drainage was now a private legal dispute and not a Planning Authority matter.

Following earlier discussions about the overflowing litter bins in the center of Whalley and the Children's Play Area at George Street Councillor Hill said he would raise the matter with John Heap Director of Community Services at Ribble Valley Borough Council.

Councillor Hill noted that Lancashire County Council was beginning to repair the potholes but that many still existed.

**1271/18 to consider and approve the date of the next meeting of the Parish Council as 7.30pm Thursday 21 June 2018**

It was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 21 June 2018 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 10pm

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