



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 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 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.

<b>1.</b>	<b>Attendance &amp; Apologies</b>	
	Present: Cllr Allen, Cllr Ball, Cllr Brown, Cllr Carlton, Cllr Highton (Chairman), Cllr Mirfin, Cllr Smith, Cllr Threlfall, Cllr Vickers. In Attendance: Liz Haworth, Clerk, Borough Cllr Atherton, Borough Cllr Hindle, 7 members of the public.	2463/24
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declaration of Interests</b>	
	There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary, other registrable and non registrable interests in items for discussion on the agenda.	2464/24
<b>3.</b>	<b>To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Parish Council Meetings</b>	
	It was resolved to approve and confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024.	2465/24
<b>4.</b>	<b>To Receive the Minutes of other Committees</b>	
	It was resolved to receive the minutes of 4.1 The Churchyard Committee 3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2023 4.2 Planning Committee Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024. 4.3 WWBJBC Meeting 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2024.	2466/24
<b>5.</b>	<b>To Adjourn the Meeting for Public Discussion</b>	
	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)  Residents of Wiswell Lane commented on the danger of lack of pavement, street lighting, and speeding vehicles. The 20mph sign outside of Oakhill school was also discussed as to whether the 20mph sign could be extended to cover the full school hours of appx 7.30am-6pm.	2467/24  2468/24

	<p>The planning in respect of Accrington Road and a public carpark was discussed. This has not yet been decided, but the Parish Council has already agreed to accept ownership and responsibility of the carpark should it come to fruition.</p> <p>Cllr Mirfin announced an important advance notice of a <b>public meeting</b> to be held by Whalley &amp; Billington Flood Action Group (W &amp; B FLAG) <b>at Whalley Primary School Hall on Thursday 23 May</b>. Please feel free to arrive from 6:40pm for a <b>prompt 7:00pm start</b>. Agenda to follow but to discuss Environmental Agency failure to support the Village flooding since 2015.</p> <p>Train station – no strikes planned. Driver training is taking place on Dales Rail. Planting is to commence this month.</p>	<p>2469/24</p> <p>2470/24</p>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Partnership Meetings</b>	
	<p>To receive reports from Borough/County Councillors and partnership meetings Councillors have attended <b>which impact on the Parish</b> e.g., LCC, RVBC, Parish Liaison, Police Partnership meeting updates.</p> <p>Borough Cllr Hindle informed the Parish Council of a Golden Jubilee Fund to acknowledge the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the creation of the Ribble Valley Borough Council. £1m of funding is available throughout the Ribble Valley. A £125k funding pot has been provisionally allocated to Whalley, Billington &amp; Barrow. Borough Councillors have been tasked with providing funding to projects with longevity to acknowledge the RVBC and have asked for ideas to be forwarded to Cllr Hindle before the end of April 2024.</p> <p>A few suggestions for the village were CCTV, Children Play Equipment, Church Bells, Electric Charging Points, Revamp of War Memorial area, Whalley Community Sports Hall.</p> <p>There is also an initiative to commemorate this milestone and the Council would like to plant 50 Redwood trees across the borough. RVBC will provide one redwood tree per parish for planting on land owned either by the parish council or RVBC.</p> <p>80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D Day. Clitheroe are lighting a beacon. Consideration of a suitable location in/around Whalley was discussed. WPC have said that they will support village organisations with any planned commemorations.</p> <p>Borough Councillor John Atherton commented that as part of the £1m for the RVBC 50<sup>th</sup> Funding, as the funding must go through the Parish Councils, it could support locals with their ideas of social days, farmers market, open gardens project and recommends contact via the Parish Council.</p> <p>Cllr Threlfall &amp; Highton reported that the Parish Liaison meeting covered the above-mentioned anniversary initiatives, and Community Safety Projects, LEVI Pilot funding and Ribble Valley in Bloom grants and that Ribblesdale Pool has been assessed as being in good order but with outdated systems.</p>	<p>2471/24</p> <p>2472/24</p> <p>2473/24</p> <p>2474/24</p> <p>2475/24</p>

<b>7.</b>	<b>Speeding Awareness Initiative/Joint Working Group</b>	
	<p>Cllr Threlfall reported on the SpID installed on Clitheroe Road from 28/3/2024-10/4/2024. Reports are available on the Parish Council website.</p> <p>Observations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 85th percentile speed is below 30 mph and thus would not be a priority for the Road Safety Partnership.</li> <li>• Perhaps not surprisingly, the number of vehicles exceeding the speed limit was highest on Fridays to Sundays, with Sundays the highest.</li> <li>• Although the speeds at this point are overall well within the limit, congestion and parking on the stretch from Station Road to Hayhurst Road causes pinch-points which on the one hand reduces speed but could also lead to Road Traffic Accidents.</li> <li>• Councillors will be aware that when we met with the Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner, we were advised to collate as much data as we could.</li> </ul> <p>A rolling programme of SpID installations has been contracted throughout the village to monitor vehicle and speed data.</p> <p>The next SpID will be erected on Accrington Road.</p>	2476/24
<b>8.</b>	<b>Planning Permission Whalley Sports Park</b>	
	Cllr Smith updated on the preparation of the planning application for the Sports Park and funding.	2477/24
<b>9.</b>	<b>Bench Update</b>	
	<p>Cllr Highton updated on the latest bench audit. Since the bench audit review in 2019, many of the benches have been refurbished or replaced. Vale Gardens and the bus station have 13 benches and the Jessica Lofthouse benches have been replaced to maintain safety and standards. Six new benches have been installed this year and there are up to four replacements planned in this year's budget 2024-25. Cllr Mirfin commented on the poor state of the benches in Riddings Lane and these are to be investigated for consideration.</p>	2478/24
<b>10.</b>	<b>OGS Lawns</b>	
	It was resolved that the Parish Council would support the cost of cutting the OGS lawns up to a cost of £70 per month from May – October 2024, on a reviewable contract basis. Clerk to liaise with OGS and contact grounds maintenance contractor and implement contract.	2479/24
<b>11.</b>	<b>Community Noticeboard Policy</b>	
	It was resolved to adopt the Community Noticeboard Policy.	2480/24
<b>12.</b>	<b>Clerks Salary</b>	
	It was resolved to review the clerk's salary hours from 16.6 hours a week to 20.6 hours per week and to agree the annual increment of the Clerks salary from scale point 19 to 20 as of 1/4/2024.	2481/24

**13. Monthly Financial Report**

It was resolved to Authorise Accounts, Payments, Receipts & Balances for April 2024.										2482/24		
Whalley Parish Council												
Cash Book												
APRIL 2024												
Chq No.	Date	Inv no.	Payee / Payer	Description	NW	Curr	NW	OE2	Skipton	Total	VAT	Net
					£		£		£	£	£	£
BGC	08/04/2024		RVBC	Precept 2020	76,675.00					76,675.00		76,675.00
DD	01/04/2024		Easy Web	Website/Email Services	(90.71)					(90.71)	(15.12)	(75.59)
Bankline	22/04/2024		E Haworth	Salary	(888.12)					(888.12)		(888.12)
Bankline	22/04/2024		E Haworth	Office Expenses	(58.33)					(58.33)		(58.33)
Bankline	22/04/2024		HMRC	ITE£223.40 NIES.52 ENIE£49.55	(278.47)					(278.47)		(278.47)
Bankline	22/04/2024		E Haworth	Reimbursement Norton	(94.99)					(94.99)	(15.83)	(79.16)
Bankline	22/04/2024		E Haworth	Reimbursement Cartridge World	(71.98)					(71.98)	(12.00)	(59.98)
Bankline	22/04/2024		E Haworth	Reimbursement Stationery	(18.47)					(18.47)	(3.08)	(15.39)
Bankline	22/04/2024	1.7E+08	EON	Vale Gardens Electricity	(18.02)					(18.02)		(18.02)
Bankline	22/04/2024	435	Abbey Gardening Services Ltd	Parish Churchyard (March)	(349.20)					(349.20)	(58.20)	(291.00)
Bankline	22/04/2024	406	Abbey Gardening Services Ltd	Vale Gardens (Feb)	(405.60)					(405.60)	(67.60)	(338.00)
Bankline	22/04/2024	1138	Ark Plastics Ltd	Refurbished benches (3)	(774.00)					(774.00)	(129.00)	(645.00)
Bankline	22/04/2024	JM2559	WEF	Room Hire	(26.00)					(26.00)		(26.00)
Bankline	22/04/2024	25	Altham Parish Council	Supply of 8 back plates	(440.00)					(440.00)		(440.00)
Bankline	22/04/2024	1054	Stately Lighting Ltd	Installation of back plates	(384.00)					(384.00)	(64.00)	(320.00)
Bankline	22/04/2024	2425121	LALC	Membership Fees	(653.19)					(653.19)		(653.19)
Movement in Month					72,123.92		0.00	0.00		72,123.92	(364.83)	72,488.75
Cash Book Balance at START of Month					8,803.43		1,095.00	54,819.15		64,717.58		
Cash Book Balance at END of Month					80,927.35		1,095.00	54,819.15		136,841.50		

**14. Reports by Cllrs & Clerk as INFORMATION only – Not for debate**

Items arisen, correspondence received since the last meeting for information only, that may result in future agenda item.										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural Bulletins</li> <li>• RAG Updates</li> <li>• Trading Standards/Consumer Alerts</li> <li>• RV Updates</li> <li>• Neighbourhood/Stay In The Know updates/Crime Figures</li> <li>• A Boards Update – JT- Clean Streets</li> <li>• Calderstones Cemetery</li> <li>• LCCLlr Mirfin – Press Releases-Bishop of Blackburn</li> <li>• LCCLlr Mirfin – Flood Resilience Motion</li> <li>• LCCLlr Mirfin – Press Release - Local Conservative Councillors in Whalley call-out Environment Agency</li> <li>• PNFS</li> <li>• License Representation</li> <li>• Email from Cllr Atherton re Co-op frontage – WPC to write in support of addressing the poor state of the frontage of the Co-op in Whalley.</li> </ul>										2483/24
Cllr Ball updated the Council with plans to improve the Churchyard Path via the Churchyard Committee. The overgrown shrubs at the bottom of the churchyard have been removed and has much improved this area. The matter of the sign hanging off the railway bridge remains outstanding and needs addressing. Clerk to contact LCC & Network Rail.										2484/24
Cllr Vickers reported on the virtual RV LALC committee meeting. Cllr Swarbrick and Cllr Rigby were in attendance. The Champion Grant Funding pot of £10,000 2024/25 is available. Champions Grants can be used to fund projects that benefit the community and support a Champion's area of work. Organisations can apply for a grant from one of our Champions, and the councillor will decide how to award the money from their budget. <a href="https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/grants/champion-grants-scheme/?page=1">https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/grants/champion-grants-scheme/?page=1</a>										2485/24

	Cllr Brown, Cllr Threlfall & Cllr Vickers attended the opening event of the Ribble Room at The Old Grammar School which was a success with the HM Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire Amanda Parker JP in attendance.	2486/24
	Cllr Highton gave an update on WWB Joint Burial Committee.	2487/24
	A discussion was had about the condition of the cemetery at Calderstones and it was felt that the council needed to investigate further.	2488/24
<b>15.</b>	<b>Next Meeting Dates</b>	
	It was resolved to approve the date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.00pm followed by the Planning Committee Meeting and then the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting at Whalley Old Grammar School.  Note: Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024 - 7pm at The Calder Room, Whalley Old Grammar School.	2489/24

The Meeting Closed at 9.40pm

Signed by Chairman:

Date:

Councillor Martin Highton