

MINUTES

FOR THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13 December 2021 AT WHALLEY OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL COMMENCING 7.00PM

Present:	Councillors: Jean Brown (Chair), Lee Street (Vice-Chair), Diane Chiappi, Elizabeth Kinder and Lucy Crook.
In attendance:	Committee Clerk and David Birtwhistle (Borough Councillor)
Apologies:	None

21/145 To receive apologies for absence and consider approval.
None

21/146 To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other registrable and non-registrable interests.
None

21/147 To consider the minutes from the previous meeting.

- The minutes of the meeting held on 08/11/2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- The Chair made Committee aware of possible financial discrepancies with previous minutes and members authorised the Committee Clerk to investigate any discrepancies and report back to this Committee at a future meeting.

21/148 To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation.

- There was no public participation.
- Borough Councillor David Birtwhistle informed Members that Mrs Hindle's planning application had been successful.

21/149 To consider and agree accounts to date.

- As stated above (minute 21/147), the Chair noted that there may be discrepancies with the figures, and that they would need to be checked thoroughly and if appropriate adjustments made. It was noted that this would be conducted on the appointment of a new Parish Clerk.
- It was also noted that a contract with Oaklea Gardening and Handyman Services for the maintenance of Trafford Gardens had been entered on the terms as shown in the table below.

Contract start	December 2021
Hours of work	45 hours spread over a 12-month period
Charges	£15 per hour. £56.25 per month. Total charges over 12 months = £675
Work covered	General maintenance/weeding pruning etc. of the centre main flower/shrub bed and the two-side shrub/flower beds.

- It was resolved that the accounts, payments and receipts for the period 1 November 2021 to 1 December 2021 as set out in the table below are approved and accepted.

Statement/ Stub Date	Payee	Cheque no.	Net £	VAT £	Gross £
01/11/21	Easy Web Sites – Direct Debit	DD	23.00	4.60	27.60
11/11/21	Clerk – final claim	100214	207.54	0.00	207.54
11/11/21	Clerk - mileage	100215	4.50	0.00	4.50
12/12/21	Clerk – HMRC Income Tax	100216	41.60	0.00	41.60
13/12/21	Poppy appeal wreath donation	100218	25.00	0.00	25.00
13/12/21	Purchase of Christmas tree	100219	200.00	0.00	200.00
13/12/21	Purchase of Christmas lights	100221	99.98	0.00	99.98
13/12/21	Power consumption for Christmas lights	100222	4.26	0.00	4.26
13/12/21	Oaklea Gardening & Handyman Services	100223	56.25	0.00	56.25
	Totals		662.13	4.60	726.13

Receipts: RVBC Grant for celebrating The Queens Platinum Jubilee. = £500

Bank Balance: As of 24 December 2021, = £15,389.53

21/150 To consider and agree a Precept for 2022

The Committee discussed a proposed precept of £23,000 that had been calculated by the Committee Clerk.

Members were reminded of the factors that had been considered when agreeing the Council's budget for the precepting period are as shown below:

- There would be no extra financial support in the form of grants from the local authority.
- There would be no income from Mulberry Homes or Redrow Developments.

It was noted that the Parish Council could look to reduce the proposed precept of £23,000 next year, if additional support or income was received during this precepting period.

Councillor Street stated that by reducing certain budgets, a precept of £21,000, which equated to an average levy of £28.65 per household, could be achieved. The proposed precept of £21,000 was agreed by Members.

21/151 Vacancy for Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

The Chair informed members that she had spoken with applicant Mike Hill for the position and that an interview would take place on 14th December at 4pm. In attendance would be the Chair and Councillor Crook .

21/152 Borough Councillor update/report

Please see update from Councillor Birtwistle above (minute 21/148). There were no additional updates.

21/153 Councillor Street's update on Mulberry Homes land

Councillor Street advised that he needed to send the agreements and contracts to Mulberry Homes Legal department. On receipt of this a meeting would be arranged to discuss the details within the proposed contract and ensure all relevant details were included appropriately.

21/154 Councillor Street's update on Rowland Homes land

Councillor Street noted that he is awaiting feedback on his previous email which he had followed up prior to this meeting.

21/155 Trees on Trafford Gardens

The Chair advised that all the trees on the green on Trafford Gardens needed checking plus a few on the small strip of land off Washbrook Close. The Chair advised that the Parish Lengthsman had carried out checks in the past but was not an expert and had stated that we needed an arborist to check. Members were reminded that three quotes were required before any contract could be awarded. Councillor Kinder asked for Oaklea Gardening to be approached. It was agreed for the Chair would contact them.

21/156 To receive an update on the Parish Council Newsletter

It was agreed to leave this to the new year.

21/157 New Commercial unit and adjacent protected Oak Trees – Barrow Brook

The Chair stated that the developers on Heys Lane had raised an issue regarding the space required between the building and the trees. Borough Councillor Birtwhistle said he would investigate this dispute and contact the developer as well as the relevant persons at the local authority. Councillor Chiappi noted that the said trees are protected under a preservation order and therefore cannot be touched. The Chair said she would also contact RVBC regarding the matter and contact Mr Schofield regarding the trees he had removed without permission earlier in the year.

21/158 RVBC Grounds Maintenance Contract

Members agreed to continuing with the RVBC Ground Maintenance Contract under the condition that they don't cause damage to the flower beds borders with their lawn mowers or equipment on the wooden frame edges.

21/159 Any Other Business

Councillor Chiappi proposed looking into getting a planted Christmas Tree for future years, a note was made to raise this matter at the August/September 2022 meetings.

Exclusion of the Press and Public

By virtue of paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government ACT 1972 the press and public are excluded from the next item

21/160 To receive an update on Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Cemetery.

The Chair informed members that she had attended a meeting in her capacity as Chair of Barrow Parish Council with the Chairs of Whalley and Wiswell Parish Councils on 25/11/21. This meeting discussed issues relating to the Cemetery.

The date of the next meeting is Monday 24 January 2022 (at Barrow Primary School to be confirmed) at 19:00

Signed by Chair:

Date: