

BARROW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2016
AT BARROW PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMENCING 7.00PM

Present:	Cllrs Jean Brown (Chair), Paul Street (Vice Chair), Diane Chiappi
In attendance:	Mrs Victoria Wilson (Clerk)

16/114. To receive apologies for absence and consider approval

Apologies were received and approved from Cllr McGregor due to a holiday.

16/115. To receive declarations of interest

None were received.

16/116. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2016

It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th July 2016 (previously circulated) as a correct record.

16/117. To consider the co-option of a new Member for the Parish Council

It was noted that one response had been received to the notices for co-option of a new Member for the Parish Council. It was resolved to co-opt Elizabeth Kinder of 11 Chestnut Crescent, Barrow to the parish council and the Clerk would contact her regarding completion of the necessary paperwork for RVBC and advise her of the date of the next meeting. As Elizabeth is out of the country from January to March, it was agreed to review the meeting date in March so that she can attend.

16/118. To approve as a correct record the 2016/17 accounts to date, authorise payments and receive an update on the Parish Council's audit for 2015/16

It was resolved that the accounts to date for the year ended 31st March 2017 are approved and accepted. These show an opening balance of £2,462.71, receipts of £10,241.07, expenditure of £2,624.82 leaving a balance in hand at 14th September 2016 of £10,078.96.

It was resolved to authorise the following accounts for payment:

009	Mrs V Wilson – salary and reimbursements, July and August 2016 <i>Reimbursements include noticeboard brass plate £48.99 and goal nets £77.84</i>	£898.14
010	Play Inspection Company – 2016 annual playground inspection	£75.00
011	Sutcliffe Play Ltd – replacement swing seats at Barrow Playing Field	£152.40

The Clerk reported that the external audit process was ongoing and BDO had requested further information regarding the parish council's internal audit and financial controls.

16/119. To receive a report from Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Joint Burial Committee from Cllr Brown

Cllr Brown reported on the recent incidents following the routine safety inspection carried out on headstones at the cemetery which identified 175 stones as being unsafe. The social media reaction to the use of safety tape resulted in the resignation of the Committee's Chair and had been a very unsettling time for everybody concerned. It was noted that Cllr Thompson, as Borough Councillor has liaised with RVBC to carry out a second safety inspection and advice letters were being sent out to the plotters involved. Members of the Parish Council gave their unanimous support to the Burial Committee and recognised that urgent action has been necessary because of the Committee's duty of care to all visitors to the cemetery and there had been no intention to cause distress.

16/120. To receive a report from the Parish Council's Liaison Committee from Cllr Brown

Cllr Brown reported on the closure of local libraries, the review of constituency boundaries by the Boundary Commission and RVBC's consultation on the housing and economic development plan for the borough.

16/121. To receive a report on planning applications relating to Barrow and consider application 3/2016/0818 regarding land off Clitheroe Road

Cllr Brown discussed a planning report (previously circulated) on planning applications relating to Barrow, including an application to build new fast food outlets at Barrow Enterprise Park. Application 3/2016/0818 was also discussed and there were no objections as planning permission for 9 properties already exists on this site. However, the Clerk would express the parish council's concerns on changes to the types of properties and new site access.

16/122. To receive a report on the recent appeal hearing by Admiral Taverns for 167 houses behind Old Row

It was noted that Cllr Brown and the Clerk had attended the recent appeal hearing and were awaiting a decision from the Planning Inspectorate. It was resolved to contact Nigel Evans MP to ask if there was any last-minute action he could take within the Department for Communities and Local Government to protect RVBC's Core Strategy and the highways in Barrow.

16/123. To consider RVBC's consultation on its Housing and Economic Development plan document and draft proposals map

RVBC's consultation was discussed and reference papers were circulated for Members to consider further. It was agreed that comments would be forwarded to the Clerk by email.

16/124. To consider submitting a request to RVBC for increased public open spaces in Barrow

Cllr Brown expressed concerns for public open spaces in the village in view of future housing developments and suggested a meeting with RVBC. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mr John Heap, Director of Community Services at RVBC to request a short meeting where Members could discuss the needs of the village and potential s106 claims.

16/125. To consider the application for an increased number of HGV licences by Total Foods

It was resolved not to take any further action with this application as the parish council is not a statutory consultee. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain further information on the licenses currently held by Total Foods.

16/126. To discuss Barrow Playing Field:

i. To consider the purchase of new play equipment

Following a review of play equipment catalogues, price lists and quotations (previously circulated), it was resolved that the parish council would order a basketball net and a rotating climber from Proludic. However, the order would be placed on hold until the position regarding the grant application to RVBC to replace the metal railings is clarified in case extra funds are available for further equipment.

The equipment from Proludic was chosen because of the quality and excellent customer service received following the installation of their equipment in 2013. Any future orders from Proludic would be viewed as an extension to this original contract as the parish council wishes the playing field to have a coherent look and all the equipment to match.

ii. To consider the use of a bench from Whalley Road bus shelter

It was resolved to re-use the bench previously located in the bus shelter on Whalley Road on the playing field, near to the IXO playframe, and the Clerk would ask the Lengthsman carry out the work.

iii. To consider work required under the Lengthsman scheme

It was noted that the Clerk had spoken to the Lengthsman to ask him to carry out several jobs on the playing field, including clearing out the culvert and replacing the sheep netting fencing and this work was ongoing.

iv. To receive an update on a grant application under RVBC's Parish Grant Scheme for new fencing

The Clerk and Cllr Brown reported that they had not yet received a response from Borough Cllr Robert Thompson regarding the parish council's request to authorise a grant application to RVBC for new metal railings on the playing field. The deadline for submission of the application is 30th September 2016 and it was resolved to contact the Chief Executive of RVBC if Cllr Thompson does not respond before the deadline.

v. To consider action following the annual play inspection report

The Clerk circulated a report showing the findings of the annual play inspection on the playing field and it was noted that there were no high or medium risks identified. It was agreed that the Clerk would approach Rowland Homes' management company, the Lengthsman and Proludic to carry out the necessary repairs.

vi. To consider requesting a maintenance visit with Proludic

It was resolved that the Clerk would contact Proludic to request they carry out a maintenance visit on their equipment on the playing field (replacing lost screw caps, tightening loose screws etc.) at a cost of £250 plus VAT.

16/127. To consider the production of a Parish Council logo for use on correspondence, website, newsletters etc

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting as the Clerk had not had chance to obtain an updated logo due to pressure of work.

16/128. To discuss progress on setting up a Parish Council website

It was resolved to approach a website design company called Scruffy Monkey who had been recommended by local community groups to design a parish council website. The Clerk agreed to set up a meeting with them to arrange for a draft website to be prepared for review by the parish council.

16/129. To receive an update on fly-tipping on Whalley Road and at Barrow Brook

The Clerk reported that RVBC did not intend to take any further action as the resident who had allegedly been fly-tipping was the owner of the strip of land on Whalley Road and was entitled to leave his garden waste there. It was resolved that the Clerk would ask RVBC to check the land ownership and also write to the original complainant to confirm the action taken.

16/130. To consider matters regarding the flood risk in the village and lack of report by LCC

It was noted that LCC had not yet produced their report into the flooding in the village in December 2015 despite correspondence from Nigel Evans MP and County Cllr Ian Brown. It was resolved that if no reply was forthcoming within the next four weeks, the Clerk would write to LCC's Chief Executive Jo Turton to request her assistance.

16/131. To consider highway matters, including residents' requests for parking restrictions on Washbrook Close, protection of the public footpath near the railway line and action regarding overgrown vegetation on Whalley Road

Following a complaint from a resident regarding cars parked on the pavement at the junction of Paynter Close and Washbrook Close, it was resolved to contact the local PACT Officer to ask her to patrol the area. It was noted that the overgrown vegetation on Whalley Road had been cut back.

16/132. To consider action regarding the installation of defibrillators in the village

It was noted that the North West Ambulance Service had not yet replied to the parish council's correspondence regarding their decision to reallocate the defibrillator previously offered to Barrow Primary School and it was agreed to defer this matter until the next meeting.

16/133. To receive the results of 2016 Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition

It was noted, with disappointment, that Barrow was not placed in the top eight of the small village category for 2016.

16/134. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Monday 21st November 2016

This was confirmed.

16/135. To discuss any other business

- i. It was agreed that Members of the parish council would attend the annual Remembrance Service held in Wiswell and the Clerk would order a wreath.
- ii. It was noted that New Barrow Ltd had appealed against RVBC's decision to approve the parish council's application to list Barrow allotments as an asset of community value. It was agreed that the parish council would request to join the appeal proceedings and submit a written representation.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

Signed by Chair..... Date.....