

# BARROW PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

### FOR THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017 AT BARROW PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMENCING 7.00PM

Present:	Cllrs Jean Brown (Chair), Paul Street (Vice Chair), Stuart McGregor, Diane Chiappi, Elizabeth Kinder
In attendance:	County Councillor Albert Atkinson, Mrs Victoria Wilson (Clerk)

**17/69. To receive apologies for absence and consider approval**

Apologies were received from Borough Cllr Robert Thompson, PCSO Katie Ferguson and Bill Wilkinson (Chair of Barrow Brook Community Group) who had all been invited to attend.

**17/70. To receive declarations of interest**

None were received.

**17/71. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

It was resolved to accept and sign the minutes of the annual meeting of the Parish Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (previously circulated) as a correct record.

**17/72. To adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion**

No adjournment took place as there were no members of the public present.

**17/73. To hold an open forum with County Cllr Albert Atkinson**

County Councillor Albert Atkinson attended the meeting at the Parish Council's invitation and discussed various issues relating to Barrow:

- i. The Parish Council's disappointment with LCC's response to flooding in Barrow in December 2015 was discussed and CC Atkinson agreed to pursue the matter with officers at LCC. It was noted that LCC were working with the Environment Agency and United Utilities across the county and had changed its policy to clean gullies every six months to mitigate future flooding.
- ii. The problems caused by HGV parking at Barrow Brook Enterprise Park was discussed and Cllr McGregor showed photographs of vehicles parked inconsiderately and manoeuvring in residential areas. It was noted that there was nowhere for HGVs to park at the services and this had the potential to cause accidents for other vehicles and pedestrians. CC Atkinson agreed to raise the matter with LCC's Highways Department.
- iii. Highway safety on the A59 near to the roundabout at McDonald's was discussed. CC Atkinson advised that LCC were unlikely to take any action as their records show that no serious accidents have taken place.
- iv. CC Atkinson advised that LCC was making funds available to repair potholes and would be visiting the Ribble Valley shortly with Highways Officers to identify the problem areas. It was agreed that the Clerk would forward a list of the worst affected roads in Barrow.
- v. The reinstatement of Whalley Library was welcomed.
- vi. The proposed increase in school places in Barrow and the possibility of a second primary school was discussed and CC Atkinson advised that no decisions had been made.

*The Parish Council thanked CC Atkinson for his attendance and he left the meeting at 7.45pm.*

**17/74. To approve as a correct record the 2017/18 accounts to date and authorise payments**

It was resolved that the accounts to date for the year ended 31st March 2018 are approved and accepted. These show an opening balance of £4,753.53, receipts of £8,570.00 and expenditure of £2,806.29, leaving a balance carried forward of £10,517.24.

It was resolved to authorise the following accounts for payment:

006	Scruffy Monkey - website development and domain hosting <i>Cheque was signed on 04/07/17 as liability had been previously agreed and was paid from grant funding received in April 2016</i>	£385.00
007	Mr W A Butt- internal audit for 2016/17	£60.00
008	Mrs V Wilson - Clerk's salary £784.55, mileage £18.00, reimbursements £5.99, use of home £34.66 (May and June 2017)	£843.20
009	Proludic – annual maintenance visit for 2017	£300.00

**17/75. To consider matters arising from the parish council's audit for 2016/17**

The internal audit report prepared by Mr Alan Butt was discussed and it was noted that the accounts had been approved without any amendment. However, the report highlighted a minor issue that a receipt for the purchase of computer equipment in October 2016 had not been addressed directly to Barrow Parish Council and VAT had been reclaimed. It was resolved to accept the actions taken and ensure that all future receipts are addressed to the Parish Council in order to reclaim VAT.

The Clerk reported that the Annual Return for 2016/17 had been submitted to BDO for the external audit and they had raised a query regarding an increase in salary costs. It was noted that, after discussions with Whalley and Wiswell Parish Councils and the Local Association of Local Councils, details of the accounts from Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Joint Burial Committee had not been included in the Annual Return.

**17/76. To consider the financial update received from the Lengthsman scheme for 2016/17 and 2017/18 and consider further work necessary in the village**

Correspondence received from the scheme administrator regarding County Council cuts to funding was discussed. However, it was agreed that the scheme still represented good value for money and the Parish Council resolved to continue their participation.

Repairs to the bench at Trafford Gardens by Ribble Valley Borough Council were noted and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact them to ask when repairs to the surfacing below the bench and to the second bench on Whalley Road would be completed.

**17/77. To receive a report on planning applications relating to Barrow and consider the parish council's response to planning applications 3/2017/0603 and 3/2017/0627**

Cllr Brown discussed a planning report (previously circulated) on planning applications relating to Barrow. The Parish Council's response to current planning applications was discussed:

3/2017/0588 – no objections to the retention of an unauthorised sign at Hansons.

3/2017/0627 – objections to the proposed 9m high totem sign at the Eurogarages site and questions raised on its size and suitability next to residential developments and close to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

3/2017/0603 – no objections to the application for 9 houses off Whalley Road as planning consent has previously been granted but comments made on flooding and footpath issues.

**17/78. To consider correspondence received regarding the removal of hedgerow on Whiteacre Lane**

It was resolved to contact the Enforcement Officer at RVBC to query the removal of hedgerow on Whiteacre Lane. It was also resolved to query the removal of hedgerow on Whalley Road where work had begun on the new housing development and the cleanliness of the roads at Barrow Brook due to the building work on the Eurogarages site.

**17/79. To consider matters regarding the flood risk in the village**

It was noted that LCC had not yet responded to the Parish Council's letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 regarding its disappointment with their lack of action to mitigate the flood risk in Barrow. Following discussions with CC Atkinson earlier in the meeting, it was hoped that a full reply would be issued shortly.

It was resolved that the Clerk would contact Bloor Homes once again to ask when they would begin work to reinstate the banking alongside Barrow Brook. Correspondence from HML Guthrie regarding ownership of the brook and responsibility for clearing the bund was noted.

**17/80. To consider PACT issues (Police and Communities Together)**

PCSO Katie Ferguson was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report detailing recent police action in the village to deal with speeding, inconsiderate parking, opportunist thefts and anti-social behaviour.

A consultation on the proposed closure of the front desk at Clitheroe Police Station was discussed and it was resolved that the Clerk would write to support RVBC's objections to the closure.

**17/81. To consider correspondence received regarding speed limits on the A59 and adjacent highways**

Following an earlier discussion regarding highway safety with County Cllr Albert Atkinson, it was resolved that the Clerk would respond to residents to say the matter had been considered and LCC's response would be closely monitored.

**17/82. To consider Ribble Valley Borough Council's consultation regarding Public Space Protection Orders**

RVBC's consultation on Public Space Protection Orders was discussed and it was acknowledged that dogs were becoming more of a problem on Barrow Playing Field with many dog owners failing to keep dogs on a lead or pick up their waste. After a lengthy discussion and examination of the issues from all sides, it was resolved to enforce RVBC's regulations that dogs should not be allowed on children's play areas and the Clerk would advise RVBC accordingly. The Parish Council would wait for the findings of the consultation before taking any further action. It was agreed to publish details of RVBC's consultation on the Parish Council's website.

**17/83. To consider the recent orders made for metal railings and play equipment at Barrow Playing Field, review the financial position for s106 funding and consider future works and Open Day**

Following discussions at a working party meeting, it was resolved to approve orders with Proludic for play equipment and Landscape Engineering Ltd for replacement metal railings on Barrow Playing Field. It was noted that a meeting with Proludic was scheduled for Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017 to discuss a timetable for installation of new equipment. The Clerk reported that Proludic had been instructed to carry out their annual maintenance visit and consider repairs to the hiphop and rowing machine. Due to a shortage of time, it was resolved to defer discussions on future works until the next Parish Council meeting.

**17/84. To consider matters regarding the installation of defibrillators in the village**

The Clerk reported on her ongoing conversations with the management company for the Printworks office building regarding siting a defibrillator cabinet in their car park and with an electrician regarding installation at Trafford Gardens. It was resolved to go ahead with the installation at Trafford Gardens and fitting costs of up to £300 were authorised.

**17/85. To consider matters regarding the parish council's completed website**

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's website was now live and it was agreed to advertise details on the village noticeboard.

**17/86. To receive a report from Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Joint Burial Committee from Cllrs Brown and McGregor**

Cllr Brown reported on the recent meeting, including the resignation of Cllr Edmund Sandham, annual memorial inspections, approval of new beams and the possibility of acquiring additional land.

**17/87. To receive a report from the Parish Council's Liaison Committee meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017 from Cllr McGregor**

Cllr McGregor reported on the recent meeting, including the election of Chair and Vice Chair, a talk given by victim support services and a request for volunteer drivers for medical appointments.

**17/88. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and consider invitations to other parties**

The meeting date was confirmed and it was resolved to invite Borough Councillor Robert Thompson and PCSO Katie Ferguson to the next meeting. As Bill Wilkinson is unable to attend Parish Council meetings on Monday evenings, it was agreed to contact him regarding dates for an informal meeting to discuss issues affecting Barrow Brook.

**17/89. To discuss any other business**

None was discussed.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

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