

BARROW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2017
AT BARROW PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMENCING 7.00PM

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

17/01. To receive apologies for absence and consider approval

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

17/02. To receive declarations of interest

It was noted that Cllr Brown and Cllr Chiappi would not be taking part in discussions regarding planning applications on land west of Whalley Road as they lived close by and had been consulted by RVBC as neighbours.

17/03. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2016

It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th December 2016 (previously circulated) as a correct record.

17/04. To adjourn the meeting for a period of public discussion

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

17/05. To receive a report on planning applications relating to Barrow

Cllr Brown discussed a planning report (previously circulated) on recent planning applications relating to Barrow.

17/06. To consider correspondence from residents regarding highway matters at Barrow Brook

Following correspondence from residents, the matter of inconsiderate parking by HGVs on Hey Road in Barrow was discussed. It was resolved to write to Lancashire County Council to request a review of highway safety on the Barrow Brook Estate, including the installation of yellow lines and enforcement of speed limits.

17/07. To receive a report on the appeal by New Barrow Ltd against Ribble Valley Borough Council's designation of Barrow Allotments as an asset of community value

The Clerk gave a report on the tribunal hearing she had attended at Blackburn Magistrates Court and the subsequent claim for costs by RVBC. The judge's decision is due in early March 2017.

17/08. To consider the financial update received from the Lengthsman scheme for 2016/17, decide on the payment of a further contribution and consider any extra work necessary in the village

Following a review of the financial position of the Lengthsman scheme, it was resolved to make a further contribution of £800 to cover work recently completed at Barrow Playing Field. The contribution would then be reclaimed from s106 funds held by RVBC. It was resolved to contact RVBC to request that repairs to the benches on Whalley Road are carried out as soon as possible.

17/09. To approve as a correct record the 2016/17 accounts to date and authorise payments

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 £10,652.53, expenditure of £7,054.58 leaving a balance in hand at 21st February 2017 of £6,060.66.

It was resolved to authorise the following accounts for payment:

022	P Hardman – Christmas tree at Trafford Gardens	£110.00
023	Mrs V Wilson – salary £810.81, use of home £51.99 and reimbursements £97.39 - November 2016, December 2016, January 2017	£960.19
024	RVBC – grounds maintenance 2016/17	£384.00
025	Sabden Parish Council – materials used in Lengthsman scheme	£775.93
026	Sabden Parish Council – extra contribution to the Lengthsman scheme for work carried out at Barrow Playing Field	£800.00
027	Sabden Parish Council – materials used in Lengthsman scheme	£134.01
028	Castle Sheet Metals – metal grate for culvert on Barrow Playing Field	£384.00

17/10. To consider issues arising from the Parish Council's audit for 2015/16

It was noted that the position regarding the reporting of funds from the Burial Committee was still unclear and our auditors, BDO, were awaiting the publication of a practitioners' guide. It was resolved to consider the position again before the audit process for 2016/17 begins in May 2017.

17/11. To receive an update on an application to RVBC for a Parish Grant for new play equipment on Barrow Playing Field

The Clerk reported that she had obtained Borough Councillor Robert Thompson's approval to submit a grant application for £3,000 for new play equipment on Barrow Playing Field and the application had been completed and approved by RVBC. The Clerk signed the legal paperwork in her capacity as Responsible Financial Officer and advised that the grant should be claimed before August 2017.

17/12. To consider the installation of new fencing on Barrow Playing Field

Following the approval of a grant by RVBC for new play equipment at Barrow Playing Field, the financial position regarding replacement metal railings was clarified and it was resolved that the Clerk would obtain further quotations to the agreed specification for consideration at the next meeting.

17/13. To consider action regarding the installation of defibrillators in the village

The Clerk reported that following a successful grant application, the British Heart Foundation had delivered three defibrillators and cabinets for use in Barrow. It was resolved that because of the risks of vandalism, the cabinets should be fitted with keypads. The Clerk would research suitable locations for the defibrillators and report back at the next meeting. It was agreed that once the defibrillators were installed, the parish council would consider holding a training event for residents to attend.

17/14. To consider matters regarding the flood risk in the village

The Parish Council noted their disappointment with the lack of detailed report and correspondence from LCC following their review of the flooding in Barrow in December 2015. It was resolved to write to LCC to express disappointment with the process and explain that the report to committee does not represent the experiences by residents in Barrow. Reference would be made to the inaccuracies in the report and concerns over the banking of the lodge and lack of maintenance at Pendle Fisheries.

17/15. To consider progress on designing a Parish Council logo and setting up a Parish Council website

The Clerk discussed ideas for the website and arranged to forward papers to Cllr Street for review before submitting them to Scruffy Monkey, the website designers. It was agreed that Cllr Street would arrange a short video for inclusion on the home page of the website to include a personal message from the Chair. The matter of a new Parish Council logo was deferred pending updated designs from Scruffy Monkey.

17/16. To consider the future production of newsletters

The draft newsletter prepared by the Clerk (previously circulated) was discussed and it was resolved that Members would distribute copies at the beginning of April, ahead of the Easter break.

17/17. To consider Barrow's entry to Lancashire's Best Kept Village Competition in 2017

It was resolved that Barrow would not enter the competition in 2017 because of the ongoing development in the village. The possibility of planting a strip of land on the Barrow Brook estate was deferred and it was agreed to ask the Lengthsman to arrange some colourful bedding plants at Trafford Gardens.

17/18. To receive a report from Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Joint Burial Committee from Cllrs Brown

As Cllrs Brown and McGregor had not been able to attend the previous committee meeting, there were no matters to report. It was noted that a tidy-up day would take place at the cemetery on 1st March 2017.

17/19. To receive a report from the Parish Council's Liaison Committee meeting on 26th January 2017 from Cllr Chiappi

Cllr Chiappi reported on items discussed at the last committee meeting, including a presentation on dog fouling, grants available for compliance with the Transparency Act, BT's consultation on the proposed removal of payphones and beacons to commemorate the end of World War I.

17/20. To receive an update on council tax referendum principles and the capping of parish council precepts

It was noted that the government had announced that they would not be extending council tax referendum principles to parish councils and precepts would not be capped for 2017/18. The announcement was made shortly after the last meeting, before the Clerk could write to Nigel Evans MP stating the parish council's opposition to the proposals.

17/21. To receive an update on the Parish Council's response to the Boundary Commission's consultation on warding arrangements in the Ribble Valley

The Clerk reported that, following Members' comments by email, she had responded to the Boundary Commission's consultation to support the recommendations put forward by RVBC that ward boundaries are revised to account for recent development in the village, the ward becomes a two-member ward and the name is changed to include Barrow.

17/22. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Monday 27th March 2017

This was confirmed.

17/23. To discuss any other business

Cllr Brown suggested inviting Borough Councillor Robert Thompson and County Councillor Albert Atkinson to future meetings and it was agreed to defer discussion until the next meeting.

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

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