



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY 13 MAY 2019
BARROW PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMENCING 6.30PM**

Present: Cllrs Mr Alan Scholfield (Chairman), Mrs Maureen Robinson (Vice-Chairman), Mr Robert Thompson, Mrs Susan Stanley and Mr Stephen Houghton.

In Attendance: Ms Lynne Olesinski (Parish Clerk).

2019/05/001 To receive apologies for absence

None.

2019/05/002 To approve the minutes of the Open Parish Council Meeting held 14 May 201

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the Annual General Parish Meeting held on 14 May 2018 (previously circulated) as a true and correct record.

2019/05/003 To receive the Chairman's Annual Report

The Chairman reported as follows:

Thinking of words to describe the last year I think of high activity overall, sincere commitment of everybody associated with the Council, frustration at the quantity and quality of information we are asked to consider, challenges in communicating with larger organisations as they centralise even further and try to use technology with varying degrees of success, achievements such as the first finger-post sign restoration to heritage standards, a return to good performance in the Best Kept Village competition helped by so many residents, pride that Ribble Valley Borough Council supports us with an excellent weekly collection of domestic waste and free garden and paper collections and also in other ways, realisation that contact can still be established with some individual Lancashire County Council Highways staff, the successful village events - the Garden Party, courtesy of Robert Thompson, the Christmas Carols with a significant donation to two charities and finally the very moving and complete Centenary service around the War Memorial.

Planning has again been a source of much comment and discussion during the year as we learn to understand and challenge the application of relaxed requirements, particularly in relation to the Wiswell Conservation Area. The repercussions of the 'demolish and rebuild' projects and the extension of commercial activities have been predominant.

The effects of developments around the Ribble Valley are being seen in Wiswell, as anticipated, with increased traffic on the rat-run or short cut and the extra congestion at the Wiswell Shay/A671 junction. We have endeavoured to liaise with LCC on these and other issues.

We are all volunteers with lots of other things to do as well and not everything goes as quickly as originally envisaged but, generally, we get there in the end. Sadly bureaucracy, legislation and the associated sometimes unreasonable requirements have to be

accommodated and overcome. We will continue to block Pendleton Road once a year, but in a reasonably safe manner.

Wiswell has a Neighbourhood Watch scheme and is also officially a 'No Cold Calling' zone. The value of Neighbourhood Watch scheme has been demonstrated during the year and thanks are due to Nigel Bentley who distributes the information. We sensitively discourage all cold callers, not just sellers.

Our meetings have been held as scheduled and the attendance by all has been very good. There has been some public interest in our meetings, and we encourage that. Issues raised by residents have been followed up with the concerned authorities when possible.

Finally, I thank all those residents and friends who have supported us during the year in practical terms including tidying up the village, gardening and helping with events.

2019/05/004 To receive the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019

The accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019 (previously circulated) were presented, approved and accepted. These showed an income of £5,162.07 and expenditure of £5,943.38 (as per the cash book), leaving a balance in hand of £900.15.

2019/05/005 To hold an Open Forum

No matters were raised.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 18.40pm.

SIGNED
CHAIRMAN..... DATED.....