



NEWSLETTER

Winter 2022

Welcome

Welcome to the latest Barrow Parish Council's newsletter, written and delivered by your Parish Councillors. As a Parish Council, we are committed to producing a community publication to keep you updated and give you an opportunity to have your say on issues important to you.

Your Parish Council

There are currently 5 councillors serving the Parish. When Sarah Parry stepped down from the Council we advertised the position and are happy to report that Lucy Crook is our new councillor. We are seeking approval from Ribble Valley Council (RVBC) to increase the number of councillors to 7 or 8.

Parish Councillors are accountable to the Parish electorate and are voted in every four years. Each year councillor members elect a 'Chair' and a 'Vice-Chair'. To make us more efficient, we have recently allocated certain key responsibilities to each Councillor. This includes aspects such as Planning, Barrow Playing Fields, Trafford Gardens improvements and exploiting our new assets such as the Car Park.

Parish Councillors are not paid for their services; they volunteer their time for free to work on behalf of their community. Barrow Parish Council does have a paid officer, the Clerk, who organises meetings and helps to action the Council's decisions.

In early 2021 Vicky Wilson the Parish Clerk, decided to move on, we thank Vicky for her tremendous support and professionalism. Fortunately, we were able to recruit Mandy Richardson as Vicky's replacement, however in November 2021 Mandy also moved on, we have however been able to recruit a new Clerk who started in January this year. If you would like to get in touch with our Parish Councillors or Parish Clerk, see below:

Jean Brown (Chair)	01254 822851	Diane Chiappi	01254 822723
Lee Street (Vice-Chair)	07900 910563	Elizabeth Kinder	01254 824162
Lucy Crook	07710 413034	Parish Clerk	07582 670562

Funding the Parish Council

All Parish Councils receive funding through a parish precept, this is included in your council tax. We are committed to keep our costs under control and work with other agencies (including funding bodies), to maintain and improve life in Barrow.



Parish Council Meetings

Due to Covid-19 and the building works at Barrow School, Council meetings have taken place either on-line or at Whalley Grammar School. With the works at Barrow School largely complete, we have returned to hosting Council meetings at the school and we welcome residents to attend these meetings. We invite our RVBC Councillor David Birtwhistle and our LCC Councillor Ged Mirfin. We welcome all Barrow residents to these meetings and a section is set aside for issues that you would like the Council to consider. Copies of agendas and meeting minutes are available on our website and are also posted on the noticeboard at Trafford Gardens, and in the Bay Horse pub.

Meeting dates for 2022: February 28, April 4, and May 9. All meetings start at 19:00.

Planning Applications in Barrow

The Council is a statutory consultee on all planning applications affecting the Parish. We consider each application on its merits and respond to every consultation, however the final decision on whether an application is approved or refused is the responsibility of RVBC. A summary of the major planning applications in Barrow over the last six months will be published on our Parish Council website in due course.



Residents can comment individually on planning applications. The Parish Council always welcomes comments on relevant applications, particularly those that are more complex or have an impact on the area. Residents can email our Parish Clerk about these or attend one of our meetings. If you wish to view applications for planning in our area please visit:

www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/info/200361/planning_applications

Then click 'search' and type the word 'Barrow' in the location box.

Police and Crime

The local Police and Crime Together Team is unable to attend all our Council meetings, however they do attend from time to time if duties allow. We have continued to report issues raised by residents, such as speeding (in both the Village and Barrow Brook). Recently LCC undertook speed surveys in Barrow



(Clitheroe Road) and deduced that speeding was not a problem that justified any form of traffic calming or permanent

**Lancashire
Constabulary**

enforcement. Clearly, we disagree with this outcome and our Borough Councillor will seek to have this reconsidered and a better solution provided.

For details of recent police incidents in and around Barrow, you can check the 'crime map' on Lancashire Police's website at www.police.uk/lancashire/E38.

The anti-social behaviour around the Euro Garages site is something that we have complained to the Police about over several months. There have been incidents of speeding, late night noise and some safety issues for pedestrians. The Police report states that due to resources and priorities, it is difficult to police efficiently and therefore consider this a priority. They have however urged more residents to bring this to their attention and perhaps in this way more information can be obtained and issues can become prioritised. Call 101 with any relevant information.

Crime Statistics for January 2022

The crime statistics for the Wiswell and Pendleton/Barrow Wards.

Drugs	0	Information provided by the local PCSO.
Vehicle Crime	1	
Criminal damage (excluding cars)	0	
Public Order	0	
Anti-social behaviour	1	
Assault	1	
Theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle	0	
Burglary	0	
Road Related Offences	3	

If you have anything to report or need police assistance please call 101 or in an emergency 999.

Barrow Car Park

Late in 2020, RVBC purchased the land behind the Bay Horse pub and the Parish Council were given the lease of the car park area behind the pub. This area is intended primarily for residential and visitor parking and an agreement for specific other purposes may be applied for via the Parish Clerk. So far, we have allowed outdoor seating for the Bay Horse and issued permits for the sale of food and groceries from mobile units.

More recently the developers for the houses (Mulberry Homes) which are to be built on land behind the car park (behind Old Row) have requested use of the rear of the car park (fence line area) for their construction staff and plant. We are looking into this with a view to raise funds, whilst trying to reserve space for residents and visitors. The funds would improve the Barrow Playing Field, seating in the village and hopefully allow for the long-term surface improvement of the car park.

Walking in Lancashire

At this time of year, we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Lancashire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/lancs> has hundreds



of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said '*There is so much*

walking information on the web, but it is difficult to find. Walking in Lancashire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

Other Barrow News

- The maintenance of Barrow Playing Field is the responsibility of the Parish Council, and we pay RVBC for mowing and our lengthsman as well as specialist contractors for improvements and equipment maintenance. We use the precept and any other available funds to make the park enjoyable for all. We have followed RVBC policy and banned dogs from the park. This is largely due to fouling and the issues for children. The Council's Dog Warden carries out regular checks and they have stated that they will enforce the ban. We have also received complaints by residents of youths littering and generally being inconsiderate of neighbours on Trafford Gardens.
- We have had issues with the removal of waste bins which were supplied and emptied by McDonalds. Unfortunately, they have decided to remove most of their off-site bins from the Barrow Lodge area. As a result, remaining bins - particularly at the playing field, have been overflowing and we have seen more littering than usual. However, it has resulted in less parking by the Lodge since people eating takeaways seem to have gone elsewhere. We are in regular discussions with RVBC regarding public waste bins in the area.
- The mobile library calls in Barrow every three weeks. If you are interested in using this service, please call Jules on 07774 813452 (answer phone).
- We have donated and installed a defibrillator at Harris Gym on Barrow Brook, this is the second we have installed in Barrow. We are also looking to have another installed, if you could help us with this then please get in touch.
- Social Events: The Bay Horse Pub currently runs the following events weekly during the event seasons. Wednesday – Darts and Dominoes, Thursday – Pool. If you would be interested in any of the following, then please feel free to contact the pub directly.



Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Cemetery

Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Cemetery is set in a beautiful and secluded spot on Clitheroe Road between Whalley and Barrow. It is jointly owned by Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow Parish Councils and managed by a committee made up of councillors from all parishes. Councillor Jean Brown represents Barrow Parish Council on the committee and the day-to-day administration is carried out by a



Registrar. As a parish council owned cemetery, residents of Whalley, Wiswell and Barrow are entitled to a 25% discount on internment fees. Enquiries should be made through the Registrar or your appointed Funeral Director.

There are two distinct areas of the cemetery, one side for the Roman Catholic faith and the other for Church of England and other faiths. Work has been carried out to provide an additional woodland ashes burial area and to create a circular walk around the grounds. The cemetery also operates a scheme where people can adopt a tree and erect a memorial beneath. You do not need to have a friend or relative there to visit the cemetery and there are no restrictions on visiting times.

Barrow Brook Wood

The Parish Council has been approached by Rowland Homes to see if we are interested in taking over the woodland between Barrow Brook and Chestnut Close, which follows the brook from the wooden bridge to the gates at Whalley Road. Clearly this is a lot for the Parish Council to consider, mainly due to potential liabilities and the cost of woodland maintenance. We are in discussions with them and with other key stakeholders like insurers and legal experts to understand what this can give us and how we could make this work. Our priority would be to maintain the footpath and at the same time be clear on the safety and maintenance aspects. If you have any views or can offer some support or suggestions on this we would be happy to hear them.



Trafford Gardens

Work was recently carried out by Oaklea Gardening and Handyman Services to improve the flowerbeds at Trafford Gardens and is regularly maintained by our Parish Councillors' Diane and Elizabeth. Although we do get some help from residents and the Parish Lengthsman, we are always looking for ways to improve and get help with this. All plant costs and labour for our Lengthsman are paid for by the Parish Council. If you are interested and would like more information, please get in touch.



Highways and Lancashire County Council

The Parish Council regularly reports highway issues and defects to Lancashire County Council (LCC). We recommend residents contact LCC directly with problems, such as potholes, trip hazards, obstructed paths/highway, defective streetlights, and signs etc. LCC's contact details are shown below:

Telephone	0300 123 6780
Email	highways@lancashire.gov.uk
Website	www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads



Residents should report highway problems caused by new housing developments to the Planning Enforcement Officer at RVBC as well as the Highways Department at LCC. These issues may relate to excessive soil/debris from sites or very early/late deliveries which fall outside the agreed Construction Plan. Reporting problems to RVBC and LCC means they are more likely to act if they receive several complaints. Over the past two years, the Parish Council has made many complaints about traffic related to developments and we would urge residents to support the Council by making direct representation to increase the chances of compliance and enforcement action.

Barrow Brook has also seen issues with nuisance parking which has caused obstructions and led to safety concerns. Again, we would urge residents to report this to LCC in order that they send Civil Enforcement Officers to the area. Without this reporting we are considered a very low priority for dealing with parking issues.

Parish Council Website

The Council's new website (www.barrowparishcouncil.org.uk) has information on meetings, Parish Councillors, and relevant news. If you have suggestions for articles which you feel should be published, please get in touch. Additionally, we are looking for photographs of Barrow (new and historic), so if you have any printed or digital then please feel free to get in contact.

Useful Contacts

Police - Emergency	999
Police - Non-Emergency	101
Police – Clitheroe/Whalley	01200 458 766
Lancashire Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Lancashire County Council (LCC)	0300 123 6701
LCC - highway matters	0300 123 6780
Ribble Valley Borough Council	01200 425111
National Grid - Report Gas Emergency	0800 111999
United Utilities - Report Emergency	0345 6723 723
Environment Agency Floodline	0845 988 1188
Powercut (all electricity providers)	105
Electricity North West Ltd	0800 195 4141
NHS Non-urgent medical advice	111
Ribble Valley Citizen's Advice Bureau	0300 330 1182 / 01200 427 336
Ribble Valley Age UK	0300 303 1234
Nigel Evans: MP for the Ribble Valley	evansn@parliament.uk
Cllr. Mirfin: Lancashire County Councillor	gerald.mirfin@lancashire.gov.uk
Cllr. Thompson: Borough Councillor	cldr.thompson@ribblevalley.gov.uk
Cllr. Birtwhistle: Borough Councillor	cldr.david.birtwhistle@ribblevalley.gov.uk

Barrow Parish Council has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in this Newsletter and cannot in any circumstances accept responsibility for errors, omissions or advice given.