

**Simonstone Parish Council  
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on 12th April 2018  
in the Old School Simonstone.**

**Present Councillors**, Graham Meloy, David Peat, John Barker, Geoff Hodbod and Elisa Hargreaves.

**In attendance** –RV Coun. Lesley Graves & Parish Clerk Roger Hirst,

**Apologies-** None

**18/ 59 Minutes of the meeting** held on **8<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**It was resolved** to approve the minutes.

**18/ 60 Declaration of interests-** None.Coun. Peat. Item concerning dangerous footpaths on Haugh Avenue estate.

**18/ 61 Public Participation.** (Open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 mins. 3mins per speaker). none

**18/ 62 Decision items;**

a. **Meeting dates for the Civic year 2018-2019**

b. **Joint Civic Sunday** with Read Parish Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> June to be held at St Peter's Church followed by a reception at Read Cricket Club. The Clerk reported that he had been assured that the arrangements would be on the same terms as last year and that they were in place to accommodate the Parish Council and its guests. All that is required are numbers who will be attending.

**It was resolved** to note the report.

c. **Govenance matters**

i **Review Risk Register.** A Copy had been emailed to members and was available at the meeting.

**It was resolved** to approve the Risk register

d. **Asset register** review. A copy was distributed to members prior to the meeting. It was resolved to approve the amended register.

e. **Review of the Parish Council's** Code of Conduct. The current standards follow the current Ribble Valley model standards. Members had been emailed a copy and a copy was available at the meeting.

**It was resolved** to approve the Parish Council's Code of Conduct.

**18/ 63 Matters raised from previous meetings**

**18/ 64 URC development –**

a. **The Clerk reported** that progress on the Business Plan has been phenomenal and there is to be a public meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> April to discuss the Plan as part of the public consultation. The progress of the Business Plan has been driven from people both within the parish and from abroad who have connections through living in the community or by connections with families living in the area.

As has been previously reported to the Parish Council, there is a shortage of Trustees to enable progress towards meeting the goal of the RSVH committee and the Elders of the Church, some of whom have given much of their lifetime toward retaining the

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building, both as a mission and community centre for the benefit of the local people. The are offering the building to the community and hoping to achieve a seamless transfer to a local Committee. When the Parish Council was approached it supported an initiative by 2 members who went on to form the Read and Simonstone Village Hall Committee. Currently there are only 4 Trustees who are from the area and one from Pendle. They have achieved a great deal in the short time since the trust was established with professional help and assistance from others to reach the current position. They have £12,000 + in hand cash and assets in the form of income for the next 30yrs and commitments given towards making a total of £60k+. Currently the Church Authorities (Synod) are in the process of carrying out a review of the sale price, as they are bound to do under charity law and they have been assisting in drawing up parts of the Business plan which is necessary to raise funds to assist the transfer of the complex to the community based charity.

As previously mentioned at the Parish Council meeting, one of the main problems that the RSVH Trustees face is that there is a lack of volunteers who will become part of the Trustee team to assist in developing and managing the facilities for future generations. It is hoped that anyone who would be willing to consider becoming a Trustee contact any parish councilor or the Clerk.

**It was resolved** to note the report.

**18/ 65 Spot On.** The performance of Sam Brady in St Peters Church was attended by over 40 People and it was pleasing to see many local people and members supporting the event. Feed back forms were handed out. 19 were returned and gave an excellent or good rating. Only 1 rated the performance as awful.

The Autumn menu of performances has been received and distributed to both council and RSVH members and it was agreed that another show should be arranged.

**It was resolved** to book The Haunted Man to be performed on either 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> October.

**18/ 66 Meeting of Read Parish Council,** Couns. Barker and Hargreaves to report. No report.

a. **A report was given on** the condition of the highways on Haugh Avenues and Carleton and Harewood Avenues. There had been many requests for repairs to be carried out on previous occasions. The roads and pavements are continually getting worse particularly on Haugh and Harewood Avenues. The cause is due to traffic running onto the pavements, which mainly occurs when children are being picked up from school causing the surfaces to break up. There is a need for urgent repairs to be carried out.

**It was resolved** that the Clerk write to County Councillor Atkinson to complain about the conditions of the roads requesting that the necessary repairs done as a matter of urgency.

**18/ 67 Planning Application** 3/2018/0019 08/03/2018 Development Address: Land off Whalley Road Read BB12 7RS

Change of use of agricultural land to D2 (Assembly and Leisure); construction of a new sports changing room facility including showers, changing rooms and associated car parking with new inclusive access road and development of the surrounding fields to form three full size football pitches and two undersized training pitches.

**It was resolved** that an objection be made concerning this proposal as the location would obstruct the route from Ribble Valley to the motorway which is the only route for a bypass to be built to relieve the congestion on all the roads from the South Eastern Ribble Valley to the conurbations to the South.

**18/ 68 Martholme Greenway.** Councilors Barker and Hargreaves reported on progress. Despite numerous attempts to get Lancashire to install the signposting which the Greenway had paid £600 for, the county had failed to carry out the work after numerous requests from the Parish Council.

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It was also reported that there was every possibility that further works would be continuing due to additional funding being made available from Asda and personal businesses.

**It was resolved** that the Clerk write to Councillor Atkinson in an attempt to get the matters resolved.

**18/ 69 Correspondence –**

- a. **Dog Fouling Fountains Ave.** RVBC Dog Wardens have visited the area and placed Warning Notices in the vicinity. A further letter of complaint had been received concerning the thoughtless Dog Owners who failed to clean up after their dogs had fouled the area particularly on the grass area where children play. Members thoughts on the matter were requested.

**It was resolved** that the Clerk respond to the complainant advising him that the Parish Council had reported his complaint to the responsible Authorities and that they had addressed the problem by installing additional notices. Should he have any evidence regarding the people responsible he should report his observations to the Dogs Wardens direct as the Parish Council doesn't have the responsibility or the resources to deal with his complaint.

**18/ 70 LALC-**

- a. **Spring Conference** 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018  
**It was resolved** that the Clerk should attend the conference.
- b. **Grant funding** for Printer Scanner has been applied for from the Transparency Fund and £80 had been received.  
**It was resolved** to note the donation and this would be used for the purchase of a printer.
- c. **Consultation** on proposed changes to disabled persons NoWcard scheme see attached.  
**It was resolved** that a letter of objection be sent to the County Council on the grounds of discrimination and cost.

**18/ 71 Finance.**

- a. **Annual accounts** are being prepared and as a result the Parish Council needs to approve the appointment of the internal Auditor for the year 2018-19.  
**It was resolved** that L Pickering be appointed as internal auditor for the year 2018-19.
- b. Approval of the Asset register for the year 2017-8.  
**It was resolved** to approve the amended register
- c. To Approve the Annual Governance Statement 2017/18 the statement which was read out at the meeting.  
**It was resolved** that the statement be approved

**d. Payment of Accounts.**

i	LALC	Subscription	£185.50
ii	ICO	Annual fee	£35.00
iii	Mrs Starkie	Rent	£50.00
iv	Read Parish Council	Play area	£320.00
v	St Peters Governors	Hall cont.	£185.00
vi	RVBC	Litter bin	£405.59
vii	Sabden P.C	Lengthsman	£850.00
viii	Martholme Greenway	Grant	£500.00
ix	Spot on	Sam Brady	£500.00
x	LALC	Spring Conference	£35.00
xi			

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**18/ 72 Borough Councillor's report.** Coun Lesley Graves told the meeting that she was meeting Diane Rice to discuss the condition of the Greenway bridge on the A671.

**18/ 73 Items for reporting to other Authorities.**

- a. Public Right of Way- footpath to the Tennis Court from Whins Lane has been washed away.
- b. Ribble Valley parks and open spaces – it was requested that the Grass on the green opposite the Stork hotel be cut shortly before the village fete on the 16th June.

**The next Parish Council meeting** is on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7pm.

Chairman's Signature.....

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