

SIMONSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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SIMONSTONE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

MINUTES

The Chairman and members of Simonstone Parish Council invited residents to attend the Annual Parish Meeting held at Read & Simonstone Village Hall, East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Thursday, 18th May 2023, Meeting at 7pm

1. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 12th May 2022

The minutes were read and accepted.

2. Matters arising

none

3. Chairman's report for the year ended 31 March 2023

Chairman David Peat read the following report;

Simonstone Parish Council has met on 10 occasions during 2022/3 municipal year albeit with one meeting suspended and reconvened following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second.

The Parish Council commenced the year having appointed a new Parish Clerk, Miss April Collinson, following the retirement of Mr I R Hirst after 25 years service. During the year changes in banking, emails, a new PC and using Professional Payroll Services were a part of our considerations and action.

We also celebrated Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee with a bench on the Village Green, and a donated blossom tree (thanks to Cllr Pollard and Family).

In September the Parish Council contributed to a combined Parish Celebration Sunday for the second time the presence of the Borough Council Deputy Mayor and Mayoress Cllr M Hindle and Ms Tracy Whistlecraft.

We issues an Autumn /Winter Newsletter, as in the previous year, to outline events and plans for the coming seasons.

Throughout the year a number of work streams continued involving groups of Councillors, some in conjunction with Read Parish Council members;

Road Safety (with input from C.Cllr Ged Mirfin)

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Parish Plan

Footpaths and Bridleways.

These remain as work in progress for the next year.

We also received requests for financial assistance from Citizens Advice, the Little Green Bus, Readstone Environment Group (REG) towards a heat monitor camera, all granted and a defibrillator (still unresolved).

The Parliamentary Boundary Commission revised report was received and although surprised and disappointed that Simonstone Parish was to be included in a proposed Clitheroe and Pendle, the Parish Council accepted the proposal with regret.

At Christmas time, the Parish Council shared funding of a senior citizens lunch at the Higher Trapp in December; whilst we provided a Christmas Tree as usual, the turnout for lighting was disappointing.

We also agreed to the planting of a Commemorative Tree in the Parish Garden, in memory of Mr Peter Jelley a long term resident of this village and husband of Mrs Pam Jelley, a former Parish Council Chair.

Remembrance Sunday was commemorated with the laying of two wreaths in November.

As we prepare for 2023/4 we are anticipating a local celebration of the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles the Third.

In conclusion I would like to thank all Parish Councillors for their efforts and support on the year and to wish Councillor Graham Meloy, every success in the future following his move out of the area. I welcome back other Councillors and newly elected Members.

I also thank our Clerk for her efforts in the new post.

I present this report to the Parish Council

4. Matters raised by residents

none