

## SIMONSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

14/07/2022

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 14th July 2022 at 7.00p.m.**

**Present:** Chairman: Councillor Peat  
Councillors: Barker, Finn, Hampson, Hargreaves, Meloy.

**In attendance:** April Collinson (Clerk)

2 members of the public attended.

**1. Apologies for absence** – Councillors McKelvey and Pollard apologised for their absence.

**2. Declarations of Councillors' Interest and dispensations**

**2.1 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda.** – *none.*

**2.2 To receive requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)** – *none*

**2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate** – *none.*

*By way of full disclosure councillors Barker, Hargreaves and Meloy declared non-pecuniary interest in the Martholme Greenway.*

**3. To approve the minutes of the previous parish council meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022** – *some revisions were made to the minutes for clarity.*

**4. Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda** – *the previously discussed memorial tree is being placed in Read Church Street Gardens as those who have requested it are residents of Read.*

**5. Public participation** – *none.*

**6. Borough Councillor's Report** – Councillor Peat reported that the bin on Simonstone Lane is now being emptied regularly by Ribble Valley Borough Council. A presentation had been made by local residents recently which focussed on issues in Whalley involving the nightlife, noise and antisocial behaviour in the area. Councillor Peat has been placed upon the Lancashire County Council NHS & Adult social care scrutiny committee which gave a presentation on the priorities for public health and for adult social care within Lancashire. There was a further presentation from the lead of the intubated care commissioning board which represents all NHS trusts including Mental health, Acute care, community care and all social care services but does not currently have a presence from borough councillors on it. Councillor Peat put forward that as this is a key issue the involvement of borough councillors should be considered.

Ukrainian families have been settling in to the Ribble Valley as part of the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

For complete clarity Councillor Peat is on committees for Personnel, Health & Housing, Policy & Finance, Budget working Party and Audit & Accounts for Ribble Valley Borough Council.

**7. Clerk's Report**

a) A new cheque book has been received and online banking is being set up by Barclays, the clerk is now able to view the accounts online and his is in the process of being set up for Councillors Peat and Finn to enable payments to be made online.

The local PCSO has changed from Sian Coffey to Katie Ferguson who will be in the area and has been invited to attend local coffee mornings to engage with residents. Local crime statistics have been provided for the month of June as follows;

Road Related Offence- 0

Criminal Damage Excluding Vehicles- 1

Vehicle Crime- 0

Assault- 3

Anti-Social Behaviour- 1

Drugs- 0

Theft-5

Councillors remarked that the 5 thefts may be connected with the theft of some monitors from a vehicle outside Fort Vale.

After reviewing current prices for laptops a minimum budget of £350 for the new clerk's computer was agreed.

The Audit documentation has been sent to the external Auditors and they have acknowledged receipt of this.

Air quality monitoring data has been received for the monitoring station located on Whalley Road as follows;

September'21- 25.6 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

October'21- 29.0 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

November'21- 28.9 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

December'21- 30.0 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

January'22- 35.6 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

February'22- 23.0 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

March'22- 19.5 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

April'22 -20.6 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

## **8. Parish Plan work Group to report**

The questions for the questionnaire have been agreed and are in the process of being formatted into the full questionnaire for distribution.

## **9. Reports from external meetings**

*Martholme Greenway – A dry stone walling course is being arranged, this will be a 2 day course which can be booked on to and is likely to take place over a weekend. This course will teach others how to dry stone wall.*

*There is a map of the footpaths and the cycleway along the Martholme greenway, the group aim to connect 39km of footpaths however this is currently blocked by some land owners, the Martholme Greenway Group are in contact with Lancashire County Council in regards to this.*

*Parish Council Liaison Meeting – Climate Action Network (CAN) has been setting up in the Ribble Valley, this is a volunteer lead group working to connect other environmental groups Council for Voluntary Services has been spreading awareness and is looking to do more social prescribing, further information has been requested.*

*Police – a presentation was given on CCTV and how this can track criminals following a crime as well as helping gather evidence to lead to convictions. A meeting with further details and costs was to be arranged.*

## **10. Facebook and Website Report**

A meeting took place with the person who set up and manages the website, details have been provided to the clerk and to Councillor Finn for logging in to make edits. Currently fees are paid to him to cover the hosting fees, it was discussed that if this could be invoiced to us directly payment could be made directly.

## 11. Decision Items

### a) Footpaths and Bridleways

All footpaths and bridleways must be registered to prevent them being lost to time, the deadline for registering is 2026. It was noted that this could be done in more manageable sections over time rather than a rushed effort in 2025.

Upon reviewing a map of local footpaths it was noted that footpath 30 is in need of some repair and footpath 12 has been diverted.

**RESOLVED: Councillor Hampson will liaise with Councillor Pollard to discuss issues and how best to engage the community to ensure all footpaths and bridleways are registered.**

### b) Celebration Sunday/Christmas meal

The Celebration Sunday is planned to take place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September, it was noted that at the event last year attendees had offered money towards the event however this was refused as the Parish Councils hosted the event for the benefit of the community. It had been suggested that this year the offer of donations may be accepted and given to a local charity or two such as Pendle side hospice. The deputy Mayor has been invited to attend.

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December is planned to be the date for the seniors Christmas meal, last year this has taken place at the Higher Trapp with the Parish Council bearing part of the cost. Quotes from the Higher Trapp for a similar function are being obtained, it is likely that the cost will have increased over the last year.

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed that donations would be accepted at the Celebration Sunday event and given to a local charity.

### c) Extension of Whins Lane Speed Limit

It has been proposed that we should ask to extend the 30 mph speed limit along Whins lane to the junction with Trapp Lane, the stretch is currently de-restricted.

This has been raised previously and saw a lot of resistance from residents as changing the area to 30mph would require the installation of street lights. It was suggested that this should be added into the Parish Plan Questionnaire to gauge public opinion on the matter.

### d) Defibrillators

The BBC have recently reported on unregistered defibrillators. Defibrillators which the Parish Council have installed are registered with the North West Ambulance Service.

### e) Banking Signatures, Cheques & e-banking

A new cheque book has been received so payments can be made. Internet banking is in the process of being set up.

### f) Overgrown Hedges

The residents of houses with overgrown hedges have been contacted requesting these are trimmed. Some further address appears to have become overgrown and letters will be sent accordingly.

**RESOLVED:** The clerk will write to the addresses in question.

### g) Simonstone sign on A671

An offer to paint the sign was received from Duncan Armstrong to paint the sign for £50.00

**RESOLVED:** Councillors voted to accept the offer

## 12. Correspondence

The form for concurrent functions Grant applications has been received. This allows the Parish Council to claim some funding towards maintenance including Lenghtsman

work, parks, play areas, litter collection and footpaths. The amount awarded is based on the spend in the previous financial year and is 25% of money spent.

**13. Planning Applications/Decisions/Enforcements – There was one planning application received since the time of the last minutes, as follows:**

**Planning Application No. 3/2022/0507 – Norden, Turnstead Avenue, Simonstone, BB12 7NR**

**Proposed single storey extension to rear.**

Planning Committee

No Objections to the above application.

**14. Finance & Accounts:**

**a) Payments to be made**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Audit  | £ 70.00  |
| CPRE Membership Renewal                            | £ 36.00  |
| Jubilee Bench                                      | £ 529.20 |
| Clerks Wage (Roger Hirst – April & May)            | £ 290.91 |
| HMRC (Roger Hirst Tax)                             | £ 72.60  |
| Clerks Wage (April Collinson – April & May)        | £ 366.08 |
| HMRC (April Collinson – Tax March)                 | £12.60   |
| Grant to Environment Group towards Thermal Cameras | £150.00  |

**Cheques cashed**

|            |        |             |        |
|------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| 28.06.2022 | 101469 | A Collinson | £50.58 |
|------------|--------|-------------|--------|

**Unresented Cheques**

|        |                         |         |
|--------|-------------------------|---------|
| 101444 | Burnley Hire            | £36.00* |
| 101470 | IR Hirst – Boston Seeds | £46.99* |
|        |                         | £82.99  |

\*indicates included in accounting for 2021/2022

**b) Income**

No income for this period.

**c) Bank reconciliation as at 31 June 2022**

|                                  |            |  |                   |
|----------------------------------|------------|--|-------------------|
| <b>Opening Balances 01.07.22</b> |            |  |                   |
| Community Account                | £13,129.97 |  |                   |
| Business Saver Account           | £11,272.45 |  | £24,402.42        |
| Add: Receipts                    |            |  | £8,400.00         |
| Less: Payments                   |            |  | £2,069.39         |
| Less: Unpresented Cheques        |            |  | £82.99            |
| Balance                          |            |  | <b>£30,733.03</b> |

**15. Items for the next agenda**

- Road Safety
- Noticeboard by the Stork Hotel

**The Next Meeting will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022.**

**The meeting ended at 8.03 pm.**