A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read School on Wednesday, 12 April 2006 at 7.45pm.
Before the meeting commenced Mr. Nichols was welcomed as a member of the Parish Council.

1. **Present:** Mr. C. Law (Chairman), Mrs. D. Collinson, Mr. W. Greenhalgh, Mr. A. Mashiter, Mr. Nichols and Mr. C. Pollard
Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. T. Clarkson and Mr. D. Waterhouse.
District Councillors J. Hill and C. Bartrop and County Councillor A. Atkinson also attended the meeting.

2. There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

4. **Matters arising:**
a) Mr. Nugent, LCC, will visit Read next week with Mr. Porter to determine whether the installation of bus boxes would be possible on Whalley Road.
b) LAPTC has advised that formal notice to withdraw a subscription must be received before the end of November in the year prior to renewal of the subscription. Notice to withdraw to be sent with the current subscription.
c) It was agreed to donate £25.00 to Childline North West.
d) ECSO Elliott has advised that he is unaware of any restriction to locate speed cameras on main roads.
e) Read School has confirmed that the Parish Council can run a stall on Fun Day and hold a 5-a-side Football Tournament but nothing has been decided about profits or donations.

5. **District Councillor's Report:**
a) Councillor Hill has asked for clarification on the 5 minute waiting rule on cars parked on double yellow lines. This is a police matter which is causing major problems and is a potential danger to pedestrians and other vehicles.
b) Councillor Hill confirmed that under new legislation the Borough Council can purchase both properties on Whalley Road. The money spent on renovation will be recovered from the property owners and the properties will be rented out for a period of 5 years.
c) Mr. Jagger, RVBC, has viewed Tennyson Avenue and is not satisfied that the responsibility for remedial action is that of the Borough Council as there is a street light on the area which is maintained by the County Council.

6. **Clerk's Report:**
a) A letter was received from a resident concerning Gala Day and the Senior Citizens' Party in a which the Parish Council was asked to explain the reason for discontinuing the former which raised funds towards the cost of the latter. The Clerk had spoken to the resident and advised him the cost of the party had not been increased by engaging outside contractors. A query concerning the cost of care of foster children in the Ribble Valley has been passed to the County Council for attention. Councillor Atkinson has received a copy of the complaint which he passed to Nigel Evans, MP, and is currently awaiting a response.
b) The RVBC Grounds Maintenance Service has advised that the cost of grass cutting on non Borough Council owned land has risen by 3% on last year's charge.
c) A consultation document on the North West Plan - submitted Draft Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West of England - has been circulated to Councillors. Observations to be made before Monday, 12 June 2006.

7. **Simonstone Parish Council - request for joint provision of a Christmas Tree:**
A letter was received from Simonstone Parish Council inviting Read to provide a joint Christmas tree for the two villages. Possible sites were mentioned and estimated costs given. Councillors were in favour of the suggestion it was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting when additional quotations for the provision of electricity would be reviewed.

8. **Church Path lighting :**

A further letter of complaint was received from a resident concerning the completion of the church path lighting. It was agreed that many residents in Read had street lights situated near to their property and had overcome the problem with heavy curtains or window blinds. The Parish Council is opposed to the installation of a dimming device and is not prepared to enter into further correspondence regarding this matter.

9. **Land adjacent to Read Car park:**

It was brought to the Parish Council's attention that the land behind the Motor Body Centre was in urgent need of attention where rubbish is accumulating and the fence is broken. It was noted that this has already been drawn to the attention of the owner without success and a copy of the recent letter to be sent to the Motor Body Centre with a request to clear the area as a matter of urgency.

10. **Request from Read Cricket Club to purchase land:**

A further request to purchase land was received from the Cricket Club who are exploring the possibility of the provision of nursery facilities and new changing rooms in partnership with another interested party. It was agreed that the Parish Council did not wish to sell any land and that the request be refused.

11. **Sale of land for the development of Affordable Housing:**

An further emergency meeting was held at 26 Straits Lane prior to the Parish Council meeting to discuss an offer made to the Parish Council through Pallisters, Land Agents, for the sale of land adjacent to the car park. The offer was rejected as it did not reflect the current value of the land and Pallisters had been requested to inform the developer of the Council's decision.

12. **Planning Applications & Decisions:**

The following Planning Applications have been received:
06/0178 Formation of single storey store to yard, 118 Whalley Road
06/0210 Proposed single storey extension to existing kitchen and dining areas at 38 Berkeley Drive
06/0221 Detached Garage at 19 Woodhead Road
06/0228 Proposed extension and replacement garage at 1 Turner Fold (Resubmission)
06/0264 Provision of porch entrance and ground and first floor extension at 8 Victoria Lodge

Decisions:
No planning decisions have been received

13. **Playground:**

The monthly inspection has been made and the equipment was found to be satisfactory. The age restriction sign has been repaired.

14. **Finance & Accounts:**

The following payments were authorised:
a) Ribble Valley Borough Council - £599.42
b) LCC - use of room - £120.00
c) LAPTC - Annual Sub. - £231.60
d) D. Bridge - Dog Bins - £117.00
e) G. Lambert - internal audit - £25.00
f) Allianz Cornhill Ins. - £443.20
g) Childline North West - S137 - £25.00

Receipts:
HM Customs & Excise - VAT repayment - £411.14

15. **Reports from Councillors:**

a) A Whalley Road resident has requested that RVBC removes the wheeled bins from her property as she does not require them and has made alternative arrangements for the disposal of her rubbish. Councillor Hill will explain the situation to Mr. McGeorge.

b) The Chairman has received a letter from a resident concerning the Ribble Valley Borough Council Annual Meeting. It was felt that the responses given by the Borough Council had been misunderstood and the Chairman agreed to visit the resident to clarify the points raised in her letter.

14. The date of the Annual Parish Council meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 17 May 2006 at 7.30pm. This will be preceded by a PACT Meeting at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.