

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read School on Wednesday, 17 May 2006 at 7.30pm.

1. **Present:** Mr. C. Law, Mrs. T. Clarkson, Mrs. D. Collinson, Mr. W. Greenhalgh, Mr. A. Mashiter, Mr. C. Pollard and Mr. D. Waterhouse.
2. There were no declarations of members interests.
3. **Appointment of Chairman:**
Mrs. D. Collinson was appointed Chairman for the next 12 months. Mrs. Collinson signed the Chairman's Declaration of Office and took the chair.
4. **Appointment of Allotments Chairman, Vice Chairman and Representatives:**
Mr. C. Pollard was appointed Vice Chairman.
Mr. A. Mashiter was appointed Allotments Chairman
Other Representatives:
PC Liaison Committee - Mr. A. Mashiter and Mr. C. Law
LAPTC - no representatives
Police Forum - Mrs. D. Collinson and Mr. W. Greenhalgh
5. **Appointment of sub-committees:**
Senior Citizens' Party - Mr. A. Mashiter, Mr. D. Waterhouse and Mrs. T. Clarkson
Planning - Mrs. D. Collinson, Mr. A. Mashiter and Mr. C. Law
6. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
7. **Matters arising:**
 - a) Mr. Jagger, RVBC, is on leave and Councillor Hill has been unable to make any progress concerning Tennyson Avenue. He advised that before action can be taken it will be necessary to determine a means of securing the retaining wall adjacent to the Greenacre properties.
 - b) A further letter concerning the provision of a joint Christmas tree was received from Simonstone Parish Council. It was agreed that Mrs. Collinson, Mr. Mashiter and Mr. Waterhouse form a sub-committee to discuss this with Simonstone.
 - c) Due to illness, Read Motor Body Centre has been unable to clear the land adjacent to the car park. It was agreed that there was concern for children's safety and that the Motor Body Centre be requested to take action within one month or the Parish Council will make arrangements for the land to be cleared and the Motor Body Centre invoiced for this.
8. **District Councillor's Report:**
 - a) Councillor Hill is discussing the provision of a hedge on the east side of Church Street with Mr. Hewitt, RVBC.
 - b) A committee is being set up to discuss the problem of concurrent functions which has previously been discussed without success at the RVBC Parish Council Liaison Committee Meetings. Councillor Hill will chair the committee and has agreed that anomalies must be addressed.
 - c) **Lancashire Locals:**
 - (i) The first meeting of the Lancashire Locals was well attended. Two items will be put forward at each meeting and LCC engineers will report back on what action has been taken to resolve these. The Parish Council has received a letter from Mr. Nugent advising that there is insufficient justification to examine any alterations to the existing Speed Limit on Dudley Hill as there has only been one reported accident involving personal injury. It was agreed that anomalies with speed restrictions on Dudley Hill and Straits Lane should be brought to the attention of Lancashire Locals as requests for action to be taken had not been treated sympathetically by the County Council.
 - (ii) Councillor Hill will raise the 5 minute 'waiting time' on the Straits Lane double yellow lines with Lancashire Locals.

- d) Councillor Hill was requested to ascertain the Borough Council's criteria for letting the Fort Street garage site as it had been noted that several garages were not being used.
- e) There have been serious problems with the new wheeled bins which include staffing problems due to sickness and longer working hours. Non-recyclable waste is currently being taken to Whinney Hill and recyclable waste to Darwen and a back-up vehicle is necessary for the volume of waste collected.

9. **Clerk's Report:**

- a) A cheque for £170 towards the cost of playground equipment repairs in 2005 was received from Simonstone Parish Council.
- b) LCC has received a number of responses to the initial consultation on the proposed diversion of public footpath No.19 and is awaiting further information from Openreach (BT) regarding access to their apparatus before discussing the modification of the proposal with interested parties.
- c) LCC is considering the provision of a disabled parking place on Campbell Street and has advertised this on site and in the local press. The Parish Council had no objections to this proposal.
- d) A copy of a letter and petition sent to the Borough Council concerning an application for premises licence at 114 Whalley Road was passed to the Parish Council for information. Councillor Hill advised that the RVBC Legal Department will arrange a hearing to consider the objections received. The owner of the business must submit full details of the intended business to be transacted and this information should be circulated to all nearby residents.
- e) It was agreed to provide a new lining for the Parish Council notice board and to paint the outside.
- f) The Clerk reported on matters raised at the recent Parish Council Clerk's Forum. These included Training Evenings for Councillors at the Borough Council Offices and Mentoring Projects in Parishes which could be carried out by youths under the supervision of skilled persons.
- g) CPRE will hold an open day at Bibby's Farm Outdoor Activity Centre on Thursday, 22 June 2006 from 10.00am - 4.00pm.
- h) Information has been placed in the Notice Board concerning the recently formed Ribble Valley Seniors Action Forum.
- i) Local Authority Byelaws in England: A Discussion Paper has been circulated to Councillors.

10. **Proposed Lease for Read Cricket Club:**

Read Cricket Club has requested the Parish Council to grant a lease for a period of 30 years as this will assist the club when applying for sports grants. The Cricket Club has agreed to pay the legal costs of this. The Parish Council is concerned that the land is to be used for a commercial business and it was agreed that representatives meet the Cricket Club to ascertain its intention before taking legal advice from Pallisters in relation drawing up an appropriate document.

11. **Read Fun Day - Parish Council Participation:**

It was agreed that the Parish Council will have a coconut shy on the school field. Readstone United to be approached concerning a donation from the 5-a-side Football Tournament if there was sufficient interest in the event from local schools to run the event.

12. **Senior Citizens' Party:**

It was agreed that the sub-committee meets soon to discuss arrangements for the party to be held on Saturday, 02 December 2006.

13. **Joint purchase of a SpID for Read, Sabden & Simonstone:**

It was confirmed that the LCC Highways Department has no objections to a SpID being placed on major roads. Sabden Parish Council to be advised that Read will consider including an amount for this in the precept for 2007/08.

14. **Sale of Land adjacent to the Car Park:**

An invoice for £587.50 was received from Pallisters for their advice concerning the sale of land. It was agreed that Pallisters had been extremely helpful in this matter and that the Parish Council

should request guidance on drawing up an agreement with the Cricket Club. As the Football Club licence and Motor Body Shop leases are also due for renewal the Parish Council will take legal advice from Pallisters in relation to these.

15. **Planning Applications & Decisions:**

Application:

06/0219 - Loft conversion including roof lift and the addition of three dormer windows to rear elevation and two dormer windows on the front elevation. Extension to front/side, addition of front porch and pitched roof over existing single storey extension at rear at 121 Whalley Road. A letter was received from a nearby resident expressing concern that such a large extension be approved by the Borough Council as the number of small bungalows available for purchase in the Ribble Valley is becoming a cause for concern. RVBC to be requested for information about its policy for considering extensions relating to bungalows.

Decisions:

Approval has been granted for the following Planning Applications:

06/0076 - 14 Berkeley Drive

06/0093 - Certificate of Lawfulness, Bridge Hey Wood Caravan Park

06/0178 - 118 Whalley Road

06/0210 - 38 Berkeley Drive

06/0221 - 19 Woodhead Road

06/0228 - 1 Turner Fold

15. **Playground Report:**

a) The playground report was received. Repairs have been carried out on the small children's apparatus where gaps in the drawbridge had become wider causing a possible safety hazard.

b) The playground report noted the above.

16. **Allotment Chairman's Report:**

a) There has been a change of tenant on Allotment 8a.

b) A skip to be arranged for the weekend 03 June - 05 June.

c) The Allotments Chairman recommended that the rules of tenancy be reviewed and any amendments circulated to tenants with the request for payment in November.

17. **Finance & Accounts:**

The following payments were authorised:

a) J. Pallister - legal fees - £587.50

b) Playground Safety Surveys - £45.00

c) United Utilities - £39.52

Receipts:

(i) Ribble Valley Borough Council - £6,000.00 (ii) Simonstone Parish Council - £170.00

18. **Councillor's Reports:**

a) It was noted that trees were overhanging on George Lane but no action could be taken as there was no footpath obstruction.

b) LCC to be requested to view the footpath between Worthalls Farm and Goose Leach Wood where surface water is accumulating causing a serious obstruction to walkers.

19. The date of the next meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 12 July 2006 at 7.30pm