

The Annual Parish Council Meeting was held in Read School, Straits Lane on Wednesday, 09 May 2007 at 7.30pm.

1. **Present:** Mrs. D. Collinson , Mr. C. Law, Mr. G. Nichols, Mr. A. Mashiter, Mr. C. Pollard and Mr. D. Waterhouse.
District Councillor J. Waddington, PC Sherratt and PCSO Williams also attended the meeting.
Apologies for absence were received from Mr. B. Jeffery
2. **Election 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.
3. **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. D. Waterhouse
Police Forum - Mrs. D. Collinson
Planning Committee:
Mrs. D. Collinson, Mr. G. Nichols and Mr. A. Mashiter
Senior Citizens' Party Committee:
Mrs. D. Collinson, Mr. A. Mashiter, Mr. G. Nichols and Mr. D. Waterhouse
4. There were no declarations of members interests.
5. **District Councillor's Report:**
Recently elected District Councillor John Waddington was welcomed to the Parish Council meeting.
Report from District Councillor John Hill:
 - a) The Church Street hedge was planted on 26 April 2007
 - b) There will be two further Racecourse meetings on 16 and 18 May 2007 in Read School at 7.00pm.
 - c) A cheque for £1000 has been received from Lancs. County Council and has been passed on to RVBC requesting urgent attention to Tennyson Avenue.
6. **Read Motor Body Centre Complaint:**
A letter was received from a resident concerned about the council owned land adjacent to Read Motor Body Centre which has become a safety hazard and is in an unacceptable condition. It was agreed to write to Mr. Abbott requesting urgent attention to the removal of the car, to clear remove rubbish from the site and to repair the fence to prevent debris from entering adjacent properties. Pallisters to be contacted for a progress report on the possible development of the site for affordable housing.
7. **Parking on Victoria Lodge:**
A letter was received from a resident concerned that vehicles were frequently using Victoria Lodge as a car park while visiting the launderette and other shops on Whalley Road. It was agreed that parking was a problem throughout the village but unless there was actual obstruction to a resident's property no action can be taken. It was suggested that the resident contacts the Borough Council for information about 'resident's only' parking.
8. **Summer Event:**
Read School will not hold a Fun Day this year and it was suggested that the Parish Council considers a fund raising event. After discussion it was agreed that it was too late to organise an event for this year.

9. **Clerk's Contract:**
NALC has revised the Clerk's Contract of Employment. The alterations are minor taking into account statutory changes, new case law decisions and some anomalies in the 2004 Agreement. It was agreed that a committee meets to draw up a new contract of employment and job description.
10. **Review of Parish Council Assets:**
There were no alterations to the register of Parish Council assets.
11. **Risk Assessment Schedule:**
The LAPTC subscription was withdrawn from April 2007 and this was removed from the 2003 register. There were no further amendments.
12. **Internal Audit:**
There were no matters arising from the Internal Audit which required the Parish Council's attention. It was agreed to increase the internal audit fee to £50.00.
13. **Playground:**
a) Wicksteed Leisure has agreed to honour the original quotation for the installation of the new playground equipment and this will be done within the next two weeks.
b) The double gates have been replaced.
c) PC Sherratt will make enquiries about the possible installation of CCTV cameras on the playground and recreation ground areas. It was suggested that the Cricket Club be approached to liaise with the police and parish council as there have been problems with youth nuisance, particularly in the play area, and with alcohol abuse. District Councillor Waddington will make enquiries about the possible loan of equipment from the Borough Council.
14. **Statement of Accounts & Annual Governance Statement 2007:**
The annual return and statement of assurance for the year ended 31 March 2007 were approved and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council.
15. **Planning Applications & Decisions:**
a) Two Planning Applications have been received:
07/0395 - Demolition of existing detached garage and construction of new attached garage extension at Spencer Farm, Whins Lane - (Resubmission)
07/0397 - Construction of two storey extension to rear of existing 3-bed detached dwelling at 14 Victoria Lodge
b) No planning decisions have been received.
c) Councillor Hill's attention to be drawn to the size of the Hammond Field development which is not in accordance with the approved planning application and to be requested to consult the Borough Council for an explanation. The Parish Council is not satisfied that the Borough Council is aware of anomalies in planning applications and that developments should be more closely monitored.
16. **Allotments:**
a) Plots 9a and 11a are now separate quarter plots with new tenants.
b) The purchase of 6 new posts and a gate was approved.
17. **Finance & Accounts:**
The following payments were authorised:
a) Supanames.co.uk - web hosting - £32.88
b) Cattermoles Ltd. - Playground repairs - £112.80
c) G. Bentley - bench refurbishment - £180.14
d) D. Bridge - Dow Waste Bins - £117.00

e) G. Lambert - internal audit - £50.00

Receipts

(i) LCC - Tennyson Avenue - £1000 (ii) Simonstone PC - playground grant - £1000

18. **Items for the next Agenda:**

- A. Revision of Code of Conduct
- B. Clerk's Contract
- C. Co-option of Member
- D. Dudley Hill Speed Limit Report

19. The date of the next meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 20 June 2007 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.