

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read School, Straits Lane on Wednesday, 09 April 2008 at 7.35pm

1. **Present:** Mrs. D. Collinson (Chairman), Mrs. J. Forster, Mr. B. Jeffery, Mr. C. Law, Mr. A. Mashiter, Mr. G. Nichols, Mr. C. Pollard and Mr. D. Waterhouse  
District Councillors J. Hill and PC Sherratt also attended the meeting
2. There were no declarations of interest
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
4. **District Councillors' Reports:**
  - a) Concern was expressed about the condition of the land at Westfield Avenue. This matter had been discussed at the November meeting and Councillors noted that there were other unadopted areas in the village which would also benefit from remedial work.
5. **Annual Insurance Review:**

It was agreed to remove 'Property Damage' from the insurance cover. Most items had been written off by depreciation and the excess was now £125.00.
6. **Purchase of Chairs for Read School:**

50 chairs have been purchased and additional ones donated and it was agreed to contribute £95 towards the cost of these.
7. **Playground Resurfacing:**

Quotations for clearing the bark, filling the area with sand and top soil, and laying turf had been received. It was agreed to accept the quotation from G. Bentley at £980 and to request that the work be carried out at the earliest opportunity.
8. **Straits Lane Traffic:**

Parking on Straits Lane is inconsistent and inconsiderate and concern has been expressed by residents that it is often impossible to park their own vehicles. The problem is mainly created by school staff who the Head is encouraging to park on one side of the road and in the school yard. Letters have been sent to parents and PC Sherratt has had 3 cars towed away. The Vicar to be requested to allow parking at the church and the matter to be placed on the May Agenda for further discussion.
9. **Lancashire Local - Highways Budget Allocation 2008/09:**

Parish and Town Councils have been invited to consider two possible schemes for funding from the £43,000 Ribble Valley allocation for 2008/09. It was agreed that Lancashire Local be requested to (i) provide a further light on back Whalley Road between No.72 and the Launderette and (ii) to paint the Read sign at the Devil's Elbow.
10. **Representatives Reports:**
  - a) **RVBC Parish Councils Liaison Committee:**

Matters discussed included the Naming of Street in the Ribble Valley and a Standard Issues report from the Borough Council Legal Services Manager.
  - b) **Lancashire Local:**

Matters concerning Read and Simonstone were the junction of Fountains Avenue/Whalley Road; Local Gateway Grants - an application has been made for after school equipment for Read Cricket and Bowling Club. It was also reported that funding for remedial work to the Stork path was also discussed.
11. **Planning Applications & Decisions:**

Applications:

08/0176 - Construction of out building to house swimming pool and garages at White Hill Back Lane - no observations

08/0186 - Redevelopment of site with ground floor retail unit and four apartments at Friendship Garage, Whalley Road - no observations

08/0195 - Single Storey extension to rear to form kitchen (resubmission) at 27 Jubilee Street - no observations

08/0209 - Erection of single storey side extension with pitched roof and two Velux windows at 2 Nowell Grove

Observations:

The extension will severely restrict light to the adjacent property; building work must be accessed either through the property or the roof, there will be loss of privacy.

Decisions:

No decisions have been received

12. **Playground Report:**

The monthly inspection found no faults with the equipment but it was noted that the catch on the gate adjacent to the allotment road requires attention.

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

There are no problems on the allotments.

14. **Finance & Accounts:**

The following payments were authorised:

a) D. Bridge - £117.00

b) Allianz Cornhill - £343.42

c) Read School - £95.00

d) Ribble Valley Borough Council - £633.89

e) Mr. G. Lambert - £60.00

Receipts:

There were no receipts.

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

A. Straits Lane Traffic

B. Parking at Read Church

C. Obstruction of Footpaths

D. Risk Assessment Review

E. Register of Assets Review

16. The date of the Annual Parish Council Meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 21 May 2008 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.