

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read School, Straits Lane on Wednesday, 20 May 2009 at 7.30pm

1. **Present:** Mrs. D. Collinson, Mrs. J. Forster, Mr. C. Law, Mr. A. Mashiter, Mr. G. Nichols, and Mr. D. Waterhouse  
District Councillors J. Hill also attended the meeting  
Apologies were received from Mr. B. Jeffery, Mr. C. Pollard and District Councillor J. Waddington
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:**  
These appointments were deferred until the next Parish Council meeting.
4. There were no declarations of interest
5. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
6. **District Councillors' Reports:**
  - a) Parish Council representatives met Mr. Nugent, LCC, to discuss the provision of double white lines on the A671 west of Read. It was confirmed that the previous LCC calculations were correct and did not satisfy the criteria. However, it was agreed that a further survey will be carried out together with a speed count. LCC will continue to be urged to introduce measures to slow down traffic.
  - b) During the above visit Mr. Nugent and the Police observed activity outside the convenience store and will send a written report to Read and Simonstone Parish Councils.
  - c) RVBC is prepared to sell the Fort Street garage site for housing development. Mr. Gorton, RVBC is satisfied that the legitimate use is being made of the garages but 6 of these are in poor state of repair and letters will be sent to these residents.
  - d) Action has been taken to prune back several of the cherry trees bordering the garage site and one tree will be felled as it is in danger of falling.
  - e) Lord Zetland reported that the racecourse promoters are continuing to explore funding to commence preliminary studies and investigations into the feasibility of submitting a future planning application. However, there are complications and it will be at least two months before further information is available.
7. **RVBC Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment:**

It was evident from discussions prior to the commencement of the meeting that residents were totally opposed to the inclusion of Hammond Ground in the SHLAA.

  - a) It was suggested that the Parish Council employs a professional person for guidance on dealing with the issue.
  - b) Nigel Evans, MP, to be requested to address the matter urgently.
  - c) It was agreed to subscribe to the CPRE who will give advice.
  - d) It was agreed to contact the Lancashire Geological Unit for information concerning the coal mines.

**Observations on other identified sites:**  
067, Worthills Farm Yard; 073, Land off Tennyson Avenue; 229, Whalley Road/Church Street - no observations.  
307, Fort Street garage site - parking is already at a premium in Read and it is essential that this site is retained.
8. **Review of Council Assets 2009/10:**  
The Council assets were reviewed and agreed as correct.

9. **Martholme Viaduct:**  
Mr. Halliday, LCC, has confirmed that he will arrange a meeting with the landowners before the end of May to discuss the possibility of agreeing a concessionary right of way on a trial basis. It was suggested that this be for 6 months to be monitored by REMADE and the land owner.
10. **Provision of a Bus Shelter:**  
It was agreed to request Mr. Finch to survey the pavement outside Nos. 66/68 Whalley Road to determine whether this satisfies the criteria for the provision of a bus shelter.
11. **RVBC Parkwise Scheme:**  
Mr. Alker, RVBC, has been requested to place this item on the PC Liaison Committee Meeting agenda and representatives will report back to the Parish Council.
12. **Dog Waste Service Collection:**  
Mr. Bridge has advised the Council of his intention to retire on 26 June 2009. Efforts to find a replacement collector have not been successful and it was agreed to request the Borough Council to empty the bins on a temporary basis until the matter can be resolved.
13. **Representatives Report:**  
The Chairman reported that she had attended the Mayor's Civic Service.
14. **Planning Applications & Decisions:**  
09/0281 - the installation of a wind powered generator at New Hall Farm - no observations  
09/0286 - Loft conversions with 3 flat roof dormers and removal of rear apexes to accommodate loft living at 6 Hammond Drive - no observations  
08/0789 - Residential development (9 no. dwellings) at Read Motor Body Centre (amended) - no observations  
**Decisions:**  
09/0167 - Formation of car parking bays to front of Acremount Flats - approved
15. **Playing Field:**  
a) It was reported that the litter bin was broken and has not been emptied. It was agreed to write to Mr. Heap, RVBC, expressing the Council's concern that this is now a regular occurrence. Other litter bins in the village also remain unemptied.  
b) The Chairman thanked Councillors for assisting with litter picking on the recreation ground road.  
c) It was agreed to inspect the playground bark to determine whether this requires topping up.  
d) It was noted that the grass around the perimeter of the playground had been damaged when the Borough Council had recently weed-killed the area.
16. **Allotment Chairman's Report:**  
a) Four new tenants have taken the new plots and there are currently 2 still vacant.  
b) It was reported that there has been a burst pipe under the football pitch and arrangements are being made for the repair.
17. **Statement of Accounts & Annual Governance Statement 2009:**  
The annual return and statement of assurance for the year ended 31 March 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council.
18. **Finance & Accounts:**  
(i) It was agreed to purchase a copy of the revised 'Local Council Administration'.  
(ii) **Payments:**  
a) a) Supanames - website Hosting - £32.18  
b) F. Brewer & Son - allotments - £536.38

(iii) Receipts:

Ribble Valley Borough Council - precept - £7,000.00

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

- A. Appointment of Vice Chairman, Allotments Chairman and Council Representatives
- B. Hammond Ground
- C. Martholme Viaduct
- D. Bus Shelter
- E. Land adjacent to the car park
- F. Playground Bark

20. The date of the next meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 1 July 2009 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.