

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read School, Straits Lane on Wednesday, 3 September 2008 at 7.30pm

1. **Present:** Mrs. D. Collinson (Chairman), Mr. B. Jeffery, Mr. C. Law, Mr. A. Mashiter and Mr. G. Nichols  
Apologies were received from Mrs. J. Forster, Mr. C. Pollard and Mr. D. Waterhouse  
Apologies were also received from District Councillors J. Hill and J. Waddington
2. There were no declarations of interest.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
4. **District Councillor's Report:**
  - a) Councillor Hill is urging LCC to resite the 30mph signs on Whins Lane, Turner Fold and Dudley Hill.
5. **Vehicle Obstruction - Straits Lane :**  
Concern continues to be expressed about parked vehicles on the Whalley Road pavement, the majority of cars belonging to Read residents unable to park on side streets. It was agreed that the installation of further yellow lines would not improve the site line for drivers exiting side streets and that no action can be taken. LCC to be informed of the Council's concerns.
6. **Proposed Double Yellow lines Victoria Lodge/Whalley Road:**  
The proposal to introduce double yellow lines on Victoria Lodge/Whalley Road was considered by the Parish Council. LCC to be notified that the Council recommends that the double yellow lines be extended as far as the Convenience Store/Garage as there is a bend in the road which impedes the drivers site line.
7. **Dudley Hill Well:**  
The top stone has been replaced by LCC. It was noted that water was no longer running through the well and it was agreed that an inspection be made to ascertain whether there was a problem.
8. **Christmas Celebrations, Simonstone:**  
An invitation to nominate a Read Councillor to join a sub-committee to make arrangements for Christmas celebrations around the Simonstone Christmas tree was declined by the Parish Council. The Council was not in favour of joint Christmas celebrations as the venue is not central to Read and Simonstone and an attempt to do this a couple of years ago was unsuccessful.
9. **Read United AFC Grass Cutting:**  
It was agreed that invoices for additional grass cutting on the football pitch could be sent to the Parish Council for payment provided that the service was paid for in advance by the football club.
10. **Representatives Reports:**  
**RVBC Parish Councils Liaison Committee:** Inspector Coulston addressed the meeting on policing in the Ribble Valley. There were no other items on the Agenda.
11. **Planning Applications & Decisions:**  
**Applications:**  
08/0568 - Demolition of existing garage and kitchen and remove chimney stack and proposed erection of a two storey side extension at 4 George Lane - no observations  
08/0658 - Proposed kitchen extension to side of property (Resubmission) at 2 Nowell Grove - no observations  
08/0514 - Proposed first floor side extension to form en-suite and dressing room at Rake Bottom - no observations

**Decisions:**

No planning decisions have been received

12. **Recreation Ground & Allotments:**

- a) The weekly inspections reported no faults
- b) The Parish Council solicitor has received a communication from the Cricket Club requesting that the termination of contract clause should be removed from the new lease. It was agreed at the meeting with the Cricket Club that this should remain and the Council solicitor was informed of the decision.
- c) It was suggested by Simonstone Parish Council that a joint committee be formed with Read Parish Council to oversee the children's playground. The Parish Council was not in favour of this proposal as the installation of new equipment has been mainly financed by the Borough Council and Read Parish Council with an annual contribution towards maintenance from Simonstone. Should a committee be set up Read would require assurance that future equipment replacement would be financed equally between the two parishes.
- c) A water leak on the Allotments has been repaired.
- d) A letter was received from an allotment holder requesting a skip facility and repairs to the allotment road. Arrangements were made to have the holes filled with rendering and it was agreed to wait until the Spring for a skip to be provided.
- e) It was agreed to remove the two sycamore trees adjacent to Allotments 1a and 3a as the roots are causing problems for the tenant.
- f) It was noted that Wicksteed Leisure is offering an annual playground inspection.

13. **Finance & Accounts:**

A. The following payments were authorised:

United Utilities - £171.78

BDO Stoy Hayward LLP annual audit - £158.63

A. Mashiter - grass seed, repairs to gate - £8.22

**Receipts:**

(i) Read Cricket Club - solicitors fees - £250.00

(ii) Bank Interest - £1.40

(iii) Simonstone Parish Council - playground refurbishment - £490.00

14. **Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2008:**

The Audited Annual Return was approved and accepted by the Parish Council. Following the audit report, it was agreed to raise the Fidelity Guarantee to £10,000 and to notify Allianz Cornhill and BDO Stoy Hayward of this decision.

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

- A. 72 Whalley Road
- B. RoSPA Inspection
- C. Victoria Lodge Hedges
- D. Martholme Viaduct
- E. Update Proposed Racecourse

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Monday, 6 October 2008 at 730pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm..