

READ PARISH COUNCIL

13/01/01

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read United Reformed Church on **Wednesday 13th January, 2016 at 7pm.**

Present: Chairman: Councillor Doreen Collinson
Councillors: Rostron, Harrison and Hanson
In attendance: Shirley Bridge (Clerk)
28 members of the public attended.

1. **Apologies for absence** – apologies were received from Councillors Bennett and Collinge
2. **Declarations of Councillors' Interest and dispensations**
 - 2.1 **To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda** – none received.
 - 2.2 **To receive requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests** – none received.
 - 2.3 **To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate**
3. **To approve the minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting (held on 25th November 2015)** – the minutes were approved.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda** – there were no matters arising.
5. **Public participation:**

28 residents attended the meeting and raised the following points in connection with a proposed planning application 3/2015/0974 - 50 dwellings (including 30 bungalows for the over 55s) with associated roads, public open space and a new pond – Hammond Ground, Read.

Comments/Questions included:-

- This application goes against RVBC's Core Strategy
- Increased traffic onto Whalley Road – feels traffic is already a problem due to the shelving of the by-pass plans
- Asked what views the Parish Council have of this application
- Again, this proposal seems to go against recommendations in the Core Strategy, the quota for housing has now been reached.
- This proposed development is outside the settlement boundary
- Retirement homes have been identified as a requirement within the village.

Councillor Hanson (Chair of Read Parish Council's Planning Committee) responded by outlining the process involved. A planning application has not, as yet, been submitted and once this is submitted nearby residents and the Parish Council will be asked for their comments. Any comments/objections will need to be well thought out and will need to have specific and valid reasons for objection. We are still awaiting a formal planning application from RVBC.

**6. Borough Councillor's Report –
Report from Borough Councillor Graves**

As you know since June last year at the request of many residents, I have been in contact with Royal Mail regarding potentially changing the post code for Simonstone and Read to a Ribble Valley post code. I was aware that there had been petitions and requests over the years sent to Ribble Valley Borough Council regarding this matter.

After looking into this and discussing the matter with Royal Mail they informed me that there was only one way that this could be achieved. There had to be an error found in the system.

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After hours of speaking to residents and delivering leaflets on this matter it became apparent that there were streets in Simonstone and Read which had the same street name as streets in Padiham and Burnley. These street names have and are still problematic for some residents as post is still being sent to the wrong town/village.

Residents were asked to email reference numbers of complaints which were provided by Royal Mail, then forwarded on to me so I could log the amount of complains made by residents to Royal Mail. Unfortunately, there have only been two since June last year. I can only think that either people are not willing to complain or the Royal Mail has sorted the issue of wrongly delivered post.

This is the only route that residents can go down in order for the post code to be changed to a Ribble Valley post code. Unfortunately, Royal Mail cannot justify changing a post code if there have only been two complains in six months. I have done the best I can with this matter and feel that we cannot go any further with it.

If there is anyone that wants to discuss this matter with me, I am more than happy to explain it in further detail.

7. Clerk's Report – no report this month

8. Reports from external meetings:- none

9. Playground:

a) **To receive the playground inspection report** – no report at this time

b) **Repairs and maintenance** – the gate closure is not working correctly and the Clerk was asked to have this repaired. There was also a large puddle of water under the swings during the recent bad weather but this has now drained away.

10. Allotment Chairman's report – the Chairman had requested that Simonstone Parish Council consider that there several residents from Simonstone on the waiting list for an allotment and unlikely to rise to the top of the list as Read residents take preference. Simonstone Parish Council have considered this issue and are unable to identify an area for allotments at this time.

11. Decision Items

a) Review of Senior Citizens' Party

Review of SCP December 2015		
53 attended		
Expenditure		
Catering 55 @ £4 per person	£	220.00
Refreshments	£	33.20
Sundries	£	27.85
Raffle prizes	£	58.05
Entertainment - Secret Singers	£	70.00
Gratuity for Caretaker	£	20.00
TOTAL	£	429.10
Income		
Donation	£	20.00
TOTAL	£	20.00

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This event was very successful and the Chairman has received letters of thanks from residents.

RESOLVED: To book a provisional date for the 2016 event on Saturday 3rd December. The Clerk was requested to make a provisional booking with the caterer.

b) Review of Christmas switch on event

Expenditure	
LCC providing infrastructure for electricity supply (ex	£ 4,060.00
Lengthsman time - awaiting December timesheet - €	£ 120.00
Electrical goods	£ 7.13
Lights (excluding VAT)	£ 610.00
	£ 4,797.13
Income	
Grant from RVBC- Lights - grant received	£ 310.00
Grant from RVBC - Parishes Grant - applied for £3,000 - approved in principal but still awaiting final sign off	£ 3,000.00
	£ 3,310.00

All councillors were pleased that this event had proved to be a success and hope to hold this event next Christmas and to perhaps extend the festivities.

c) Casual Vacancies

The Parish Council are still encouraging applications for co-option to the 2 current vacancies.

d) Planning Application 3/2015/0974 – Land at Hammond Ground, Read – this agenda item has already been discussed under Public Participation.

e) Possible withdrawal of subsidies for bus services

The Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation with regard to possible withdrawal of bus subsidies and the impact that could have on bus services in Read and surrounding areas.

f) Casual Vacancies – duplicate agenda item

g) Flooding in the village

During the recent bad weather there was flooding in several areas of the village with the junction of Woodhead Road/Straits Lane being quite badly effected. This was due exceptional levels of rain and the situation will be monitored.

h) Church Path –this item to be carried forward to the next meeting.

12. Correspondence

- Martholme Greenway leaflet drop
Martholme Greenway Group had recently delivered a leaflet to approx. 500 households in the village asking for support for the group. The group had given out details of the Chairman and the Clerks addressed and had asked respondent to deliver their replies to the Chairman and the Clerk. To date 52 replies have been received. Dr Barker apologised to the parish council for not informing them of the group's plans for this circulation.

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13. Highways Matters – no report this month
14. Planning Applications & Decisions/Enforcements
a) Applications

Planning Application No: 3/2015/0949
Proposal: Upgrade to existing telecoms site to include 20.23m mast, new cabinet and relocation of existing cabinet
Location: Friendship Mill, Whalley Road, Read BB12 7PN
Response required by: 25th December 2015
RESPONSE No objection but the parish council would like to ask if it would be possible for the height of the mast to be kept the same and just have the extra dishes added so as to limit the effect on neighbouring properties.

Planning Application No: 3/2015/0529
Proposal: Proposed detached triple garage
Location: Mr N Wilkinson, Old Malleys, Straits Lane, Read BB12 7RA
Response required by: 11th December 2015
RESPONSE There was a previously approved double garage on this site and although it is located outside the settlement boundary in visual terms we do not think the works will be prominent given the landform and in terms of neighbouring amenity the garage would back on to an adjacent property's garage and for these reasons we do not think there would be any significant harm to either visual or residential amenity and so have no objections.

15. Finance & Accounts

a) Payments

24/11/2015	John Pallister – work on Football licence	£180.00
24/11/2015	Petty Cash	£40.00
24/11/2015	Youth Council donation	£50.00
29/11/2015	G Rostron SCP	£61.05
29/11/2015	D Collinson SCP	£58.05
29/11/2015	United Utilities – allotment water	£141.72
29/11/2015	Lisa Varo – catering SCP	£220.00

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4/12/2015	Secret Singers – SCP	£70.00
14/12/2015	Diane Malley – payroll services	£24.00
14/12/2015	SLCC membership	£77.00
21/12/2015	General admin and printing	£151.35
21/12/2015	Clerk salary – Oct-Dec 2015	£566.37
21/12/2015	HMRC Paye Oct-Dec 2015	£141.60
4/1/2016	URC Hire of room	£133.25
b) Income		
25/11/2015	Allotment rents	£187.51
14/12/2015	Allotment rents	£975.44
6/1/2016	SCP donation to Chairman's Fund	£20.00

c) Bank reconciliation as 31st December 2015

Opening Balances 01.04.15		
Community Account	£10,858.55	
Business Saver Account	£2,519.96	£13,378.51
Add: Receipts		£13,590.02
Less: Payments		£20,677.72
Balance		£6,290.81

d) Finance report

Cost centre		Budget 2015 2016	Expenditure to date
100	Clerk's Salary	£2,828	£2,124
101	General Admin	£2,392	£1,405
102	Grass cutting	£647	£646
103	Lengthsman Scheme	£800	£600
104	Dog Bin Collection	£1,065	£1,040
105	Allotments water + maintenance	£765	£673
106	Playground ROSPA + maintenance	£94	£407
108	Senior Citizens Party	£500	£396
109	Donations S137	£315	£557
110	Audit	£160	£160
111	Training	£130	£0
112	Legal Fees	£204	£570
113	Contingency	£700	£385
		£10,600	£8,963
199	VAT	£1,717	

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200	Capital Replacement	£4,439	£3,526	
201	Whatmore Funding	£11,284	£6,200	
202	SCP donations and fund raise	£314	£33	

16. Items for the next agenda

- Flooding
- Church Path
- Planning at Hammond Ground
- Casual Vacancies – co-option

The meeting ended at 8.30pm