

READ PARISH COUNCIL

24/02/01

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read United Reformed Church on **Wednesday 24th February, 2016 at 7pm.**

Present: Chairman: Councillor Doreen Collinson/Councillor Peter Collinge
Councillors: Rostron, Harrison, Bennett
In attendance: Shirley Bridge (Clerk)

28 members of the public attended.

1. **Apologies for absence** – apologies were received from Councillor Richard Hanson who is currently on holiday.
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 13th January 2016)** – the minutes were approved.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda** – there were no matters arising.
5. **Public participation:**

Meadow View - one resident brought to the attention of the Parish Council the very untidy state of the building site at Meadow View, Whins Lane. The Clerk will ask the Enforcement Officer at RVBC to look into the matter.

Hammond Ground – Councillor Richard Bennett read out a statement from Ribble Valley Borough Council regarding the possible development on Hammond Ground:-

Dear Cllr. Bennett,

I am sending this email following our telephone conversation this afternoon.

As I advised you, the Council gave advice to a Planning Consultant in January 2015 on the possibility of housing development on this site. That advice, (which refers to a previous enquiry in 2010 for a development of 64 retirement dwellings) is as follows, with red highlighting by me for your benefit:

Please bear in mind that the following content of this email amounts to “free” pre-application advice and that, as such, it is obviously entirely “without prejudice”. Also, if you require a more detailed response, you would need to submit a formal pre-application enquiry with the appropriate fee.

The Council's Strategic Housing Officer confirms that there is a need in general in the Borough for elderly person's dwellings. In order for her to give a more detailed response in relation to this specific proposal, she would need details of the number/precise type etc. of the units to be provided; and would need to consider this in relation to whether it would meet an identified need in this locality. This could only really be done through a new formal pre-application enquiry.

READ PARISH COUNCIL

24/02/02

Having said this, any development (even a development to provide elderly people's accommodation) would need to be considered within the context of the recently adopted Core Strategy.

Read & Simonstone are defined in the Adopted Core Strategy as a Tier 1 settlement – one of the more sustainable of the defined settlements in the Borough. However, in terms of the level of development that would be considered in this location, the overall housing requirement is considered against the number of permissions and completions to date and as a result, there remains only a requirement of 18 units in Read and Simonstone (as stated in our more recent publicised figures dated 30 June 2014) to be provided until the end of the plan period (2028). With this in mind it is extremely unlikely that a scheme of the scale previously proposed in 2010 (i.e. 64 units) would be acceptable.*

A consideration of any proposal based on a smaller number of units would have to be done through a formal pre-application enquiry.

Until I received an invitation to the public meeting to take place this Thursday (that I will not be attending) I had had no further contact on the matter and no further pre-application enquiry has been received. So, in short, the Planning Authority has not offered ANY encouragement for housing development on this site.

**The residual requirement is still approx. 18 units*

I trust that this will be of assistance.

*Regards,
Colin Sharpe
Ribble Valley Borough Council*

6. Borough Councillor's Report – as above concerning Hammond Ground.

7. Clerk's Report – no report this month

8. Reports from external meetings: -

PARISH COUNCIL'S LIAISON COMMITTEE 28th January 2016

Attended by the Clerk

- Presentation from the War Memorials Trust – setting out the criteria for grant applications for conservation of War Memorials
- Community Land Trust – Chipping – Case Study – delivering affordable housing on land that is gifted to or bought by the community. There are grants available for set up costs.
- Presentation by Wiswell Parish Council – LCC Highways website to report highways faults – Read already use this system but other parishes were not aware of the online system.
- Update on Bus Service provision – strong debate regarding the proposed budget cuts by LCC and the devastating effects on communities who may lose their bus service completely. The Chairman – David Peat – proposed the following: -

The Parish Council Liaison Committee, at its meeting on 28th January, passed a resolution noting their extreme concern in relation to the termination of bus services during and prior to the conclusion of the formal consultation

READ PARISH COUNCIL

24/02/03

process, bringing the process into disrepute, noting that no Parishes in the Ribble Valley have accepted the proposal put forward by C Cllr Fillis and urging the County Council to reconsider the loss of the vital links for the community, particularly those left with no service. A letter setting out the resolution has been sent to C C Fillis, by post as well as email (please see attached).

Please see below the reply from C C Fillis, setting out his position.

Whilst we will arrange a meeting specifically to consider the impact on bus provision, following the LCC budget meeting but before the consultation period expires in late March, we do consider that the Parishes should be aware of the response of the County to the resolution at this stage.

SIMONSTONE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 11th February 2016

Attended by the Clerk

- Community activities

5th June – Civic Sunday – refreshments to be served by the Scouts
Parish Walk on 30th April to commence at the Parish Garden at 2pm

20th May -Play

3rd December 2016 Parish Christmas Party

- Highways matters
Large lorries are using Simonstone Lane and then are unable to make the tight turn onto Whalley Road. To be reported to LCC
- **Parish Council Liaison Meeting**
- **Simonstone Parish Council**

9. Playground:

a) To receive the playground inspection report - the gate closure has now been repaired.

b) Repairs and maintenance – no repairs or maintenance

10. Allotment Chairman's report

The Allotment Committee met on 9th February and are arranging for the Allotment Holder's Annual General Meeting to be held on 21st April.

11. Decision Items

a) Resignation of existing Chairman and election of new Chairman –

Councillor Collinson had already informed Councillors of her decision to resign as Chairman of Read Parish Council as from 24th February 2016. Nominations were sought for a new Chairman.

RESOLVED: *It was resolved that Peter Collinge be appointed as the new Chairman from 24th February. Councillor Collinge signed the Declaration of Office and took the Chair.*

b) Casual Vacancies – Co-option – 3 applications received

Three applications for the two casual vacancies had been received and duly circulated to all Councillors.

This was the result of the voting, each Councillor present having two votes.

READ PARISH COUNCIL

24/02/04

Peter Gandy 5 votes
Lisa Snape 5 votes
Dr Barker none

RESOLVED: *It was resolved to invite Peter Gandy and Lisa Snape to serve as Councillors for Read Parish Council. The Clerk to make arrangements for the relevant forms to be signed and for the basic induction to take place.*

c) Flooding – Councillor Collinge reported on the floods that had occurred in the Straits Lane/Woodhead Road area of the village on Boxing Day 2015 as a result of heavy rain and the stream which runs through the neighbouring field flooding onto the road.

RESOLVED: *To ask if the landowner was able to give assurances that the path of the stream is not blocked.*

d) Church Path – Councillor Collinge requested that Lancashire County Council be approached to look into the possibility of having the Church Path widened at the Straits Lane end.

RESOLVED: *The Clerk will approach Lancashire County Council, Highways Department to ask if this is possible.*

e) Public Consultation event 25th February 2016 – Councillors were made aware of the invite from the Trustees of Hammond Ground to attend the Public Consultation event on Thursday 25th February regarding the proposed development of Hammond Ground.

f) New Audit arrangements – the Audit Commission ceased to exist on the 1 April 2015 and a new company – Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd has been created to take over the appointment of external auditors from 2017 All Councils with an annual turnover of less than £6.5 million are automatically part of the scheme unless they decide to opt out and appoint their own auditors.

RESOLVED: *Councillors elected to automatically become part of the scheme.*

12. Correspondence

- *Letter from resident concerning Planning Application 3/2012/0910
A letter dated 23 November 2015 had been passed to the Parish Council by Councillor Collinson. After further consideration of this matter Councillors decided that there were no additional points to be considered.*
- *E-mail from British Heart Foundation – Councillors noted that their recent application for a public access defibrillator had been unsuccessful.*

13. Highways Matters – no report this month

14. Planning Applications & Decisions/Enforcements

None received

15. Finance & Accounts

a) Payments

26/01/2016	Lancashire County Training Partnership	£50.00
------------	--	--------

b) Income

26/01/2016	Allotment Rents	£45.84
25/01/2016	Book Sale	£4.00

c) Bank reconciliation as 31st January 2016

Opening Balances 01.04.15			
Community Account		£10,858.55	

READ PARISH COUNCIL

24/02/05		
Business Saver Account		£2,519.96
Add: Receipts		£13,378.51
		£16,411.01
Less: Payments		£23,727.72
Balance		£6,061.80

d) Finance report

Cost centre		Budget 2015	2016	Expenditure to date
100	Clerk's Salary		£2,828	£2,124
101	General Admin		£2,392	£1,664
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	£409
109	Donations S137		£315	£557
110	Audit		£160	£160
111	Training		£130	£50
112	Legal Fees		£204	£570
113	Contingency		£700	£385
			£10,600	£9,285
199	VAT		<i>£1,717</i>	
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 – Straits Lane
- Hammond Ground update

The meeting ended at 8.20pm