

# READ PARISH COUNCIL

09/04/01

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read United Reformed Church on Wednesday 9 April, 2014 at the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting.

**Present:** Chairman Councillor Doreen Collinson  
Councillors Councillors Davies, Nichols and Pollard

**In attendance:** Shirley Bridge (Clerk), Borough Councillor John Hill

6 members of the public attended

1. **Apologies for absence** – apologies were received from Councillors Bennett, Wilkinson, Snape and Rostron
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**
  - 2.3 **To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate**
3. **To approve the minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting (26 February 2014)** – the minutes were approved
4. **Matters arising**
  - **10c Church Warden's Way** – *The Chairman has met with the Head teacher at school and he has confirmed that he will look into the possibility of widening of the path.*
  - **10i Best Kept Village Competition** – *Councillor Davies asked what arrangements are planned for tidying of any grot spots within the village. The Chairman made a request in the recent Spring Newsletter for residents to keep their own area tidy. It was reported that the white milestone on Whalley Road needs cleaning.*
  - **10l – Planning consent for Friendship Garage site** the Clerk has reported this matter to RVBC Planning Department and the matter is under investigation.
5. **Public participation:**
  - Residents have reported that the site on Tennyson Avenue/Greenacres is under development as per the planning consent but that the site has become very untidy. This matter to be reported to RVBC Planning Department.
6. **Borough Councillor's Report – no report.**
7. **Clerk's Report** – in support of Items 10e, 10g, 10h, 10i
8. **Reports from external meetings:-**  
*See attached reports*
9. **Playground:**  
*The Clerk will now be responsible for carrying out the playground inspections.*
  - a) To receive the playground inspection report – **no issues reported**
  - b) Repairs and maintenance – **no issues reported**

## 10. Decision items

### a) Footway – Tennyson Avenue

The footway which was damaged earlier in the year by stone thieves has now deteriorated and has become very uneven.

**RESOLVED: To request that the Lengthsman makes a more permanent repair to the footway.**

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**b) Change to start times of future meetings** – it was suggested that an earlier start time for meetings would be preferred - (current start time 7.30pm).

**RESOLVED: To start all future Parish Council meetings at 7pm.**

## **c) Footpath review**

Following a full review of all the footpaths within the parish the following actions were recommended.

**RESOLVED:**

- **The Clerk to contact the Footpath Officer at LCC to request a meeting with Parish Councillors regarding Footpath No 14 – this path is waterlogged in the field North of New Hall Cottage and at the stile at the corner of Shady Walks.**
- **To write to the occupier of New Hall House regarding Footpath No 17. The true course is fenced across at the southern end of New Hall House garden. There is an alternative route across the bottom of garden but the Parish Council would like to request a stile is put in to enable the true course of the path to be opened.**

**d) Read Motor Body** – the legal representative of the Parish Council is continuing in his efforts to get the lease for land at Read Motor Body finalised.

**RESOLVED: The Parish Council will follow the legal advice given in this matter and are hopeful that this matter can be resolved.**

**e) Culture Grant RVBC** - following our recent application to this fund, we have been informed that we have been successful and have been awarded a grant of £1,000 in support of our purchase and installation of two springie toys for the playground.

## **f) Diocese of Blackburn – proposed name change for Read St John’s Church**

A letter from the Diocese of Blackburn to the Parish Council regarding this matter had been circulated to all Councillors.

**RESOLVED: The Parish Council have no strong feelings on this matter and agree to allow the proposals to proceed.**

## **g) Lengthsman’s Scheme Review**

– following the yearend review of our hourly usage the coordinator has provided the following information.

Interim contribution for 2013/2014	£600 + 30% added value	£780
Actual usage	124.25 hours @ £12 per hour	£1,491
Agreed additional contribution for 2013 2014 £200		
Agreed additional contribution for 2014 2015 £800 (budget £700)		

**RESOLVED: To approve an additional payment of £200 for 2013-2014 and to increase the proposed budget allocation to £800 for 2014-2015**

**h) Allotment Committee AGM** - this is to take place on Thursday 17 April 7pm-9pm at Read Cricket Club . All Councillors are welcome to attend – tickets are on sale for £2.50 - this includes a pie and pea supper.

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**i) End of Financial Year arrangements** - the financial year ended on 31 March 2014. The Clerk is in the process of preparing the end of year accounts and has invited the internal auditor to inspect these once complete. The annual return and supporting documentation will be prepared and submitted to the external auditor within the required timescales. The end of year VAT return will be completed and submitted. The end of year payroll procedures are being prepared by our payroll services provider

**j) Church Street Gardens – Trees** – a bough on one of the trees has a large crack in it and although not dangerous a tree surgeon was asked to inspect it. His advice is that it should be inspected again during the summer to monitor any further damage. Councillor Pollard also reported that four sycamore trees which are sited at corner of the kick-about area are causing shade on the bowling green and the Bowling Club have requested two of the small trees be removed.

**RESOLVED: Councillors to inspect the trees and report back for further discussion.**

## 11. Correspondence

- The Chairman read out letters from several school children regarding the work of the parish council and their thoughts and ideas for improvements to the village. The comments were noted.*
- Mr Birchall – Mr Birchall had sent a letter of thanks for the Senior Citizens Party and had also enclosed a donation to the Parish Council. The Clerk was instructed to send a letter of thanks.*
- Mr Shaw – Mr Shaw has contacted the Clerk to outline has some concerns regarding the parked cars around Read Motor Body centre and also that the rear gates are left open and children are entering the storage area. There is also a lot of rubbish around the building. The Parish Council noted Mr Shaw's concerns and have suggested that he should report these matters to the PACT meeting.*

## 12. Planning Applications & Decisions

Planning Application No: 3/2014/0137

Proposal: Single storey extension and additional external landscaping

Location: Hammond Field, Read BB12 7RE

Response required by March 2014

### RESPONSE

The Parish Council have no observations to this application.

## 13.

### Finance & Accounts

a)

#### Payments to be authorised

Payee	Type of expenditure	Amount
Diane Malley	Payroll services	£10.00
Sabden Parish Council – additional contribution to Lengthsman's Scheme 2013 2014		£200.00
Sabden Parish Council – materials for 2013 2014		£263.50
Nu-age Print & Copy	Spring Newsletter	£95.00

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<b>09/04/04</b>		
S Bridge	Allotment Padlock	£19.99
S Bridge	Petty Cash	£40.00
Best Kept Village Competition entry fee		£25.00
HMRC Jan-March	PAYE	£133.60
S Bridge	Salary Jan-March	£534.58
S Bridge	Expenses	£125.65

### **b) Income**

Donation	£600.00
Book Sales	£12.00
Allotment AGM ticket sales	£10.00
Donation	£25.00

### **14. Items for the next agenda (Wednesday 14 May 2014 at 7pm)**

Approval of Financial Statements and Annual Return

Review of Governance Documents

Appointment of Internal Auditor 2014-2015

Gratuity for Internal Auditor 2013-2014

Planning enforcement:

-*The Whins*

-*Bridge Heywood Caravan Site*

***The meeting ended at 9.10pm***

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### Item 8

#### Reports from external meetings

<b>Meeting: Simonstone Parish Council</b>
<b>Date: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b>
<b>Attended by Shirley Bridge, Clerk</b>
Agenda items of interest
14/44 e Martholme Link/Padiham Greenway meeting on 25 February 2014
<p>The Chairman attended this meeting and met with Richard Hanson at Dunkirk Farm to see the site regarding Martholme Viaduct and the connections along the former Railway Line. Matters seem to be at an impasse at present and the concerns around risk, damages and possible effect on business are well made.</p> <p>From Simonstone PC point of view it would be helpful to extend the Greenway from the Bypass to the business premises on Simonstone Lane.</p> <p>Options for the lead organisations would seem to be to press on with the intended proposal, possibly necessitating some Compulsory powers or to divert around the problem possibly parallel to Whalley Road or via Altham.</p>
<b>Meeting: Parish Council Liaison Meeting – RVBC</b>
<b>Date: 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b>
<b>Attended by Shirley Bridge, Clerk</b>
Agenda items of interest
3. Matters arising – 592 – Proposed withdrawal of subsidised Bus Services – The Chief Executive advised that although this issue has been resolved in the short term councillors should be vigilant in reviewing this situation as when bus contracts are due for renewal they may then be reviewed and withdrawn.
4. Sandra Fox, Public Health Co-ordinator, LCC Public Health gave an overview of the recent changes to health service delivery and the new roles and responsibilities within public health. She talked about the priorities and strategies that would be engaged in the future. Her presentation will made available for parish councils.
5. Superfast Rural Broadband – report by the Chief Executive on progress to date. This project is being rolled out across Lancashire between 2013 and the end of 2015. The network will be delivered in seven phases and the first phase has now been delivered. Padiham exchange is due for completion late 2014.
6. Matters brought forward by Parish Councils – the Chief Executive outlined plans for commemorating the anniversary of World War 1. RVBC will be donating an oak tree to each Parish in the year. Letters to parishes will be going out soon and parish councils will need to decide on a site for the donated tree. RVBC will also be donating poppy seeds for village schoolchildren to plant.