

## READ PARISH COUNCIL

27/11/19

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read Con Club, Whalley Road, Read BB12 7PB on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 at 7.30p.m.**

**Present:** Chairman: Councillor Hacking  
Councillors: Anderson, Greenhough, Pollard, Ridge

**In attendance:** Lesley Foster (Clerk)

5 members of the public attended.

1. **Apologies for absence** – apologies for absence were received from Councillor Peter Collinge, Councillor Richard Bennett, and Councillor Richard Hanson.

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 (if any) – none received

2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate – none received

3. **To approve the minutes of the previous parish council meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019** – the minutes were approved.

4. **Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda** – *There was a proposal from Martholme Greenway presented by Councillor Pollard on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 regarding the moving of a footpath (item 11g from 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019). This will be included as an agenda item for the meeting planned for 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020.*

5. **Public participation:**

- A resident representing Read United Football Club would like to thank the council for allowing RUFC to lock the gate during the bonfire event that was held at the cricket club. The arrangement worked well with no issues, and permission was requested to repeat the same practice on future occasions. The allotment tenants that were present suggested that this would be acceptable to them provided that several weeks' notice was given in advance.
- A member of the public with an interest in hiking brought up their concerns regarding the lack of road signage making motorists aware of pedestrians and cyclists on rural roads. They wanted to know whether it was possible for parish councils to provide this signage. It was explained that signs are generally the remit of Lancashire County Council. Councillor Pollard summarised his experience in the Martholme Greenway Group regarding getting similar signs, which took over six months. Several suggestions were made to the member of the public regarding paths they might pursue from here. LF will write to LCC to express that this road safety concern has been brought up.
- The same member of the public also wished to know whether planning permission was required for a cattle grid on private land.

6. **Borough Councillor's Report** – Councillor Bennett was absent, but had sent a report to Councillor Hacking via email, presented here:

*On the 28<sup>th</sup> November I am representing the interests of the residents of Read and Simonstone and The Save Hammond Ground Committee who have expressed concerns over Ribble Valley BC proposal to increase their build target to build 280 houses per year to 2028 despite recent Government guide lines which suggest the minimum build per year could be reduced to 148 per year. Ribble Valley BC have undertaken a consultation on this and I am opposing this proposal as it may have repercussions for our village.*

7. **Clerk's Report** – none.

8. **Reports from external meetings – PCLC** – Councillor Pollard attended the Parish Council Liaison Committee meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November. The main item of interest was a talk

given by Sue Sinclair from Homewise, which provides mobility assistance and similar services. It was suggested that they may be able to give a talk at the community cafe.

#### **9. Playground:**

**a) To receive the playground inspection report** – There are currently no new major issues to report.

**b) Repairs and maintenance** – The council is still waiting on the lengthsman to fix the issues he is able to that were highlighted in the ROSPA report.

**10. Allotment Management Committee report – update** – Councillor Anderson provided a brief update on the allotments. Currently there are no active applications for allotments, and there is a quarter plot vacant.

#### **11. Decision Items**

**a) Precept setting** – The Clerk had provided a suggested budget and precept, and a discussion was held as to whether this was suitable or whether some categories needed to be increased further. It was decided that due to the upcoming repairs planned for the car park and the allotment road, it was necessary to increase the precept further, to a total of £10,449.

**RESOLVED: To set the precept for the year beginning 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020 to £10,449.**

**b) Car park** – There have so far been two quotes received for the cost of resurfacing the car park. A member of the public suggested that it may be possible to get a public works loan in order to spread the cost over a number of years. This option will be investigated.

**c) Seating on Church Street Garden** – the previous quotes were thought to be too expensive.

**RESOLVED: Not to buy the seating at the present time.**

**d) Cricket Club** – The Cricket Club had not yet provided detailed plans for their proposal for the kickabout area, and no representative was present to discuss it. Due to concerns about the nature of the proposal, more detailed discussion is needed with a representative. RUFC are also concerned about some health and safety aspects of the proposal, and requested that they might be party to any discussions. Councillor Pollard provided a draft email, which the Clerk will adapt and send to the Cricket Club, along with simultaneously asking if they might contribute to the road repairs.

**e) Logo design** – A discussion was held regarding the designs, and one was agreed to be preferable to the others, though still in need of some amendments. Councillors Pollard and Anderson agreed to meet the design company to discuss this further. It was agreed that regardless of the outcome of any discussions, no further money should be spent on this issue.

**f) Music festival donation** – the Councillors had submitted their suggestions for recipients to the Clerk before the meeting, and a tally created of the number of times each body was suggested. All councillors agreed to split the donation into five lots of £100. The five bodies that were suggested most were Read and Simonstone Village Hall, Read United Football Club, St John's Church, Martholme Greenway, and the Read and Simonstone Scout Group.

**RESOLVED: To give £100 to each of the above mentioned bodies.**

**g) Read Football Club** – The Clerk will investigate a source for the purchase of a sturdy fixed bin for the Football Club, which the club agreed to empty.

**h) Power washing** – A discussion was held regarding the necessity of power washing the playground and also Church Street Gardens. It was thought that this was generally not necessary, and that these areas should be observed and only cleaned this way when needed, rather than on a regular schedule.

**i) Dog bags** – Discussion was held regarding the speed with which the dog bags are removed from the dispensers after refilling. Councillors Hacking and Pollard, who are currently in charge of refilling, will continue to observe the situation. It was noted that, regarding the suggested location for the new dog bin which it was agreed that the council would purchase, one end of the path is actually within the boundaries of Simonstone Parish, so the location would need to account for that.

**j) Off lead dogs in Shady Walks** – The complaint received from a resident regarding off lead dogs in Shady Walks was discussed. There is little that the Parish Council can do about this within their powers. The relevant department of RVBC has already been made

aware of the issue.

**k) Read Motor Body Centre** – A response had been received from HSE, but it appeared that the HSE had misunderstood the issue, as they had classified it as young people’s antisocial behaviour. The Clerk will write again to the HSE to clarify the ongoing issue. The Clerk will also write an apology on behalf of the Council to the resident who originally brought up the issue regarding a data protection issue, and update that resident on the progress with the health and safety issue.

**l) Bus stop waste bins** – This issue was briefly discussed. The new bin will be paid for next year.

**m) Christmas Party and Parish Christmas Tree final arrangements** – The current attendance at the Christmas Party is expected to be 30 people. The cost for the party will be significantly lower than last year.

**n) Parish Council Trestle Tables** – A resident had moved ten of the seventeen trestle tables owned by the Council from the school to the village hall without acquiring prior permission. Currently, seven tables are in the school and ten are in Read Con Club. A discussion was held regarding the best location to store the tables. The present representative of the Village Hall agreed that it would be possible to store some tables there, given some conditions regarding the hall being able to use them for their own events, and will write a letter to the Council expressing these conditions.

**RESOLVED: To store five tables at Read Con Club and five tables at Read and Simonstone Village Hall.**

**o) Refurbishing of fingerposts** – Councillor Pollard had attended the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership meeting, and discovered that PHLP is presently offering to fund 50% of costs for the renovation of fingerposts by a particular renovator known to do a quality job. One fingerpost in Read has been renovated relatively recently and is already in good condition, but the fund will be investigated regarding the other fingerpost in Read.

**p) Lunch Clubs Christmas Grant** – This grant has been applied for, but no response has been received yet.

**q) Increasing allotment rents** – A discussion was held regarding the amount to increase the rents by.

**RESOLVED: To increase the allotment rents to a total of £72 for a full size allotment, and proportionally smaller amounts for smaller allotments.**

**12. Correspondence** – An email had been received from the Cricket Club thanking Councillor Greenhough for her help cleaning up after the firework display.

A letter had been received from Ribble Valley Borough Council providing notification that the Ribble Valley Housing and Economic Development Development Plan Document has been officially adopted.

**13. Planning Applications & Decisions/Enforcements** – There were three planning applications received since the time of the last minutes, as follows:

**Application 3/2019/0911 13 Greenacres, Read BB12 7PT**

*Single storey extensions to side and rear.*

*Read Parish Council Planning Committee*

*No objections to this application.*

**Application 3/2019/0905 33 Beaufort Close, Read BB12 7QF**

*Demolition of existing single-storey extension and replacement with new, flat-roof, two-storey extension to side. Porch to front.*

*Read Parish Council Planning Committee*

*No objections to this application.*

**Application 3/2019/0927 Land between 34 and 40 George Lane Read BB12 7RH**

*Application for outline consent for one new dwelling.*

*Read Parish Council Planning Committee*

*No objections to this application.*

**14. Finance & Accounts**

**a) Payments**

21/10/19	S Bridge October Salary	£201.61
----------	-------------------------	---------

21/10/19	October exps	£80.42
21/10/19	Lengthsman scheme 2018/2020	£1698.00
21/10/19	Lengthsman scheme materials	£579.09
21/10/19	L Foster Salary October 2019	£237.48
23/10/19	Nu-Age Print & Copy – newsletter	£95.00
06/11/19	Water plus November 2019	£188.38
06/11/19	Poppy wreath – British Legion	£17.00

#### b) Income

2/9/19	Bank interest	£8.25
12/9/19	Traffic mirror – repayment of payment made in error	£114.00
14/10/19	Allotment deposit	£50.00
24/10/19	Allotment rent	£44.00
25/10/19	Allotment rent	£16.50
25/10/19	Allotment rent	£16.50
25/10/19	Allotment rent	£33.00
18/11/19	Allotment rents	£614.00

#### c) Bank reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> September, 2019

<b>Opening Balances 01.04.19</b>			
Community Account	£1,159.16		
Business Saver Account	£11,546.16		£12,706.04
Add: Receipts			£27,079.01
Less: Payments			£18,501.09
Balance			<b>£21,283.96</b>

The Clerk was thanked for her hard work so far in her new role.

#### 15. Items for the next agenda

- Senior Citizen's Party
- Tree Light Up event
- Logo design
- Car park
- Asset register
- Footpath diversion at Dunkirk Farm

The meeting ended at 9:30 pm.

