

READ PARISH COUNCIL

12/02/2020

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 12th February, 2020 at 7.00p.m.**

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

In attendance: Lesley Foster (Clerk)

6 members of the public attended.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Councillors Bennett and Hanson
2. **Declarations of Councillors' Interest and dispensations**
 - 2.1 **To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda.** – Councillor Pollard declared an interest in the *Martholme Greenway group relating to item 11j.*
 - 2.2 **To receive requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)** – *none*
 - 2.3 **To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate** – *none*
3. **To approve the minutes of the previous parish council meeting held on 8th January 2020** – *Two minor amendments were made to the January minutes, and the amended version was approved.*
4. **Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda** – *None*
5. **Public participation:**
 - A resident mentioned that a couple of vehicles had appeared on the car park that didn't look roadworthy, and wished to make the council aware of this.
 - A representative of the Cricket Club thanked all the councillors who had met with her to discuss the Cricket Club's development proposal.
6. **Borough Councillor's Report** – Councillor Bennett was not present, and had not sent a report.
7. **Clerk's Report** - none
8. **Reports from external meetings** –

Parish Council Liaison Committee – Councillor Hacking had attended. There was a presentation about the Rotary Tree Challenge. The Rotary Club are hoping to plant 250 trees. They will provide the trees and materials, and all they need is landowner permission to plant them. Suitable places might include schools, footpaths, or farms, for example. Councillor Pollard suggested that the top of the kickabout area or near the Martholme Greenway footpath might be suitable.

There was also a presentation about Heritage Open Days, being held by the Civic Society of Clitheroe for four days in September.

There was information presented by Public Health Concerns about substance misuse in the Ribble Valley. The chief executive gave a report inviting related concerns and comments to be sent to the Committee Clerk or to the Head of Regeneration and Housing at RVBC.

Finally, there was an update on the Pendle Hill Partnership, which has awarded over £30,000 of grants in the last year to a variety of projects. Councillor Pollard, who is involved with the PHP, explained some of the recent activities of the group.

Simonstone Parish Council – Councillor McKelvey of Simonstone Parish Council reported that Simonstone Parish Council will consider contributing towards the road to the

allotments, and would like to see what the percentage split of allotment holders is between Read and Simonstone.

9. Playground:

a) To receive the playground inspection report – The ground is still sodden and there are still issues with litter. There are no new issues to report.

b) Repairs and maintenance – These are still waiting for the lengthsmen. It has been asked that the stile should be reinstated, but it may be better to hold off with this.

10. Allotment Management Committee report – There has been no committee meeting since the last meeting. Regarding the issue of rubbish that had been left on one of the plots, the previous holder has viewed the plot, and wrote a letter to the council, which was summarised by Councillor Anderson. Councillor Anderson is in email contact with them, and will remain so until the issue is resolved. Councillor Anderson also arranged for the disposal of some items that needed special disposal. Raising the allotment bond was discussed, but this would need to be an agenda item in order to be voted on.

It was reported that the allotment field tenancy agreement was now ready to be signed, and would be signed after the meeting.

11. Decision Items

a) Cricket Club proposal – Several of the councillors went to view the area for the proposed development and discuss the proposal. There was a discussion of outstanding concerns about the development. There was discussion of whether the Cricket Club would be prepared to contribute to the road repairs. No decision was made as yet.

b) Senior Citizen's Party – A subcommittee has been established for this, which also includes councillors from Simonstone Parish Council, as this year's party will be a joint venture. The notes from the communication meeting (11n) were referred to, and there was discussion of the subcommittee's suggestions.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council agree in principle to holding the next festive meal at the Higher Trap, along with the residents of Simonstone.

c) Car park/allotment road – The three quotes had all been circulated, and the councillors decided on their preferred proposal.

RESOLVED: To accept John Lofthouse's quote for the work on the road. The Clerk will write to the other people who provided quotes and thank them for their estimates.

d) Gin festival donation – The donation has now been received by the council. The cheques are in the process of being sent out by the Clerk.

e) Read Motor Bodies – There was discussion about the best course of action to take regarding the complaints received from residents. Councillors Hacking and Pollard agreed to take part in any visit to the premises taking place.

RESOLVED: To send a letter asking for a contribution of money towards the road, and also asking if councillors can visit to discuss the complaints received.

f) Finger posts – Councillor Pollard had talked to Duncan Armstrong, who claimed he would love to repaint one finger post and to install a new one at Cob Carnook. However, there are some reports of slow service. It would be necessary to check with LCC before installing the new one, as the location is in the middle of a traffic island. The Clerk will also write to Duncan to find out what the cost would be.

g) Dog bags and dog fouling – Councillor Hacking had seen a complaint on the website Nextdoor regarding dog fouling on Church Path, and had contacted the dog warden. The issue has been noted. There was discussion of the provision of dog bags.

h) Asset register – The Clerk requested that Councillor Anderson send a list of any

assets he is aware of that are not currently listed on the asset register, and once the list has been received, will then be able to look into adding any that should be listed but are not currently.

i) Obstruction of footpaths by foliage – Councillor Anderson suggested creating a note to be sent to people whose plants are blocking the pavement. If necessary, it is possible to call the county council to cut back the plants, and for the plant owners to be charged.

j) CPRE manifesto – The clerk of another council had circulated this manifesto. Councillor Pollard suggested writing to the MP regarding Martholme Greenway and the issue of landowners blocking the opening of the complete footpath, and also the new cycle funding announced. He had drafted a letter, which could be edited slightly by the Clerk, and included a map.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will send the letter on behalf of Read Parish Council to Nigel Evans MP.

k) Training – There was discussion of the LALC training schedule for 2020. The Clerk needs to do further research to decide on the most appropriate training course out of the different options. None of the councillors expressed an interest in training at the present time.

l) Table decorations – Read and Simonstone Village Hall has now taken these.

m) Christmas Tree for 2020 – The resident who had a suitable tree in their garden has agreed to keep the tree standing until shortly before the 2020 event, so that it can be cut down for use as a Christmas tree.

n) Communication meeting – A meeting was held on 3rd February 2020. The following report was included:

Present: Debbie, Sian and Marie

A sub-committee comprising of Debbie and Sian met up with Graham and Steve (Simonstone Parish Councillors) the previous week to discuss this year's Xmas Party. We are intending to join together for this year's event, and different options and venues were discussed.

Both Parish Councils provided buffet food and entertainment for their residents last year. It was agreed that this took a great deal of organisation in the preparation before, during and after the events. The attendance for both events was disappointing, many people saying they would attend but did not come on the day.

It was acknowledged that a substantial amount was being spent on these events, and how the money could be better spent by looking at different options

The Higher Trap was discussed as a venue, a successful Xmas lunch had been organised via the Community Café, it consisted of a 2 course meal, coffee and entertainment (bingo and quiz) the cost was £16 per person. It was felt if something like this could be organised it would be less work for the Councillors and hopefully enjoyed by all who attend and more cost effective.

To encourage people who put their names down but don't attend, it was suggested asking for a deposit that would be refunded at the venue when they attended the event.

It was felt that approx £500 from both PC would cover the cost of the event for 60 people. The bar would be open for anyone wanting to buy a drink, we could organise a quiz and raffle, and transport could be arranged but would hope that as many people as possible would car share.

We could have a flyer/newsletter covering both Read and Simonstone to advertise the event.

A date, numbers and cost would have to be discussed with the Higher Trap if we wanted to go ahead with the event there.

All the above are suggestions and ideas would be very much appreciated at the meeting...

o) VE Day (Friday 8th May) – It was suggested that an event could be hosted jointly with Simonstone, and perhaps delegated to the same people who are organising the Christmas party. It is possible that there will be grants available from RVBC for VE day events held by parish councils.

p) Road safety – There was a discussion regarding some recent road safety complaints. The issue was discussed at County Cabinet, as in the enclosed email

from David Peat:

Dear All,

As you know I raised the issue of local residents interest in speed control and road safety with CCllr Atkinson.

This was discussed by the County Cabinet last Tuesday and the gist of the discussion was as follows

1) Speeding is a Police matter

2) There will probably be a traffic survey

3) At present experience (incidents I think it means) indicates no need for roundabout

4) LCC Education will write to both schools to seek their views esp re crossing road etc.

Worth speaking to head/Chair of Governors?

Regards David

Councillor Pollard suggested writing to the Environment department at RVBC to see if they are following up with his previous enquiries about air quality monitoring.

q) Extra dog bin on Whalley Road/Straits Lane – There was discussion of this. It was noted that the end of the path without a bin already is in Simonstone. The bin is not being purchased by Read Parish Council at the present time. Simonstone Parish Council will discuss the relocation of an existing bin.

r) Low Wood – Nothing had yet been received from Councillor Bennett on this matter. A discussion took place. As no members of the public have yet complained about this, it will not be pursued at the present time.

12. Correspondence – Correspondence was received regarding road safety, and regarding VE Day. Both of these were discussed under the relevant decision items.

13. Planning Applications/Decisions/Enforcements – There were no planning applications received since the time of the last minutes.

14. Finance & Accounts:

a) Payments

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1/1/2020 | L Foster Salary December 2019 | £242.22 |
| 24/1/2020 | L Foster Salary January 2020 | £242.22 |
| 24/1/2020 | SLCC Membership | £83.00 |

b) Income

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------------|---------|
| 14/1/2020 | Donation from Ribble Valley Craft Gins | £500.00 |
| 20/1/2020 | Allotment rent | £16.50 |

c) Bank reconciliation as at 30th November, 2019

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|--|-------------------|
| Opening Balances 01.04.19 | | | |
| Community Account | £1,159.16 | | |
| Business Saver Account | £11,546.16 | | £12,706.04 |
| Add: Receipts | | | £28,306.01 |
| Less: Payments | | | £22,507.51 |
| Balance | | | £18,504.54 |

15. Items for the next agenda

- **Cricket Club proposal**
- **Senior Citizen Party**
- **Gin festival**
- **Football club**
- **Read Motor Bodies**
- **Finger posts**
- **VE Day**

The meeting ended at 9:08 pm.