

READ PARISH COUNCIL

10/06/2020

A meeting of the Parish Council was held held digitally on Zoom on **Wednesday 10th June, 2020 at 7.00p.m.**

Present: Chairman: Councillor Hacking
Councillors: Anderson, Bennett, Collinge, Greenhough, Hanson, Pollard, Ridge

In attendance: Lesley Foster (Clerk)

3 members of the public attended.

1. Apologies for absence – None.

2. Declarations of Councillors' Interest and dispensations

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda. – *Councillor Pollard is secretary of the Martholme Greenway Group, which gives him an interest in item 11d). Councillor Hanson also has an interest in item 11d).*

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 11th March 2020 – the minutes were approved.

4. Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda – None.

5. Public participation:

- **One resident representing the Martholme Greenway Group offered to answer any councillor questions relating to the footpath application. No questions were asked at this time.**
- **One resident reiterated the concerns she had around the introduction of allotment deposits for all allotment users, given the current circumstances regarding the coronavirus, which she had previously detailed to the council via email.**

6. Borough Councillor's Report – Councillor Bennett's number has been placed on the noticeboard in relation to the coronavirus Force Hub. Borough council meetings and committees are currently being held via Zoom.

7. Clerk's Report - none

8. Reports from external meetings –

Simonstone Parish Council – Councillor Pollard reported on the meeting. Simonstone Parish Council have recently held a shortened meeting via Zoom. They had discussed potentially moving an existing dog bin they had to Woodhead or Woodside Road, for which the Martholme Greenway Group had offered to install the post. The Simonstone Parish Council website has been upgraded. They intend to use the footpath grant on a footpath behind Trap Lane.

9. Playground:

a) To receive the playground inspection report – The playground is currently locked with a padlock due to the coronavirus. Somebody had somehow removed it and gone onto the playground despite this, but it has been replaced and this has not happened again. The Clerk will look into the procedure for getting a ROSPA report later in the year.

b) Repairs and maintenance – the repairs mentioned in previous sets of minutes

are still waiting for the lengthsman.

10. Allotment Management Committee report – No meeting was held due to the coronavirus. The road and the car park have now been resurfaced, and a 5mph speed limit sign has been put up. As agreed by councillors over email, a £50 deposit will be brought in for all allotment users, not just new allotment users. Tyres are now banned from being stored on allotments. 7 people are on the allotment waiting list. There are some fence repairs for the lengthsman to do. The goalpost that was previously causing an issue has been removed to a different location, and therefore the issue has been resolved. Some users witnessed evidence of gas cylinder use on the allotment car park. It was suggested that the gate to the allotments might be locked, but there has been no word from users on whether this would be desirable or not yet. The user who witnessed the incident has been given the number to report it to if they desire. The council will monitor the situation.

11. Decision Items

a) Year end accounts 2019/20

These have been completed and submitted to the Internal Auditor. He has no issues to report. Once approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk/RFO they will be submitted to the External Auditor.

RESOLVED: i) To note the Internal Audit Report 2019/20

ii) To approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement 2019/2020

iii) To approve and sign the Accounting Statements 2019/2020

b) Insurance renewal

The Clerk had received the quote for the insurance from Came & Co, the company the council is currently insured with. The quoted price was the same as the previous year and all of the details the company held were up to date.

RESOLVED: To accept the quote and continue with the same insurance company.

c) Governance review

This was carried forward to the next meeting.

d) Letter regarding footpath

There was discussion of the letter received from Lancashire County Council regarding an application for a footpath modification order on land leading to the Martholme Viaduct. The Clerk advised that neither Councillor Hanson nor Councillor Pollard should vote, according to the interests they declared. Councillor Pollard requested that his objection to this be noted. 5 councillors voted in favour of supporting the application, and 1 councillor voted against supporting the application.

RESOLVED: To write to Lancashire County Council indicating Read Parish Council's support of the application.

e) Cricket Club proposal

The Cricket Club had sent some additional information regarding this, but it had arrived only a short time before the meeting and councillors had not had time to view it, so further discussion will take place next meeting.

f) Read Motor Bodies

A letter had been sent to Read Motor Bodies as resolved at the previous meeting. Councillor Hacking had been to view the area and the situation did not yet appear to have improved, but the letter had allowed three to six months to resolve the situation, and that time is not up yet. There was discussion of the best course of action. Councillor Bennett requested to be reminded what he had previously written about the lease conditions, with a view to sending a letter that used particular legal wording and allowing an additional 28 days from the date of the letter before

termination of the lease.

RESOLVED: To send a further letter to Read Motor Bodies in accordance with the above.

g) Senior Citizen's Party

Due to the vulnerability of many of the potential attendees, it would likely not be wise to hold this event this year. It may be possible to hold it early next year.

h) Finger posts

The posts have now been painted by a man from Pendle Hill Landscape Partnerships, and it was suggested that the council write to them in thanks. The footpath sign on one of them has disappeared. Councillor Pollard will enquire after it.

RESOLVED: To send a letter of thanks.

i) VE Day

Due to the coronavirus, the time when this event would have been held has now passed.

j) Flooding

Mary had taken some action in the field which partly alleviated this issue. LCC is also aware of the issue.

k) Dog bags

These will continue to be monitored while the solution in item 11m) is tested.

l) Letter from resident regarding dog bins – enc

The bins mentioned by the resident were mentioned in the report from Simonstone Parish Council. The letter also suggested that a dog exercise area could be created. There was discussion of potential locations. There is one potential location in Simonstone, which Councillor Pollard agreed to bring up at Simonstone Parish Council's next meeting.

Councillor Anderson noted that not all of the litter bins have notices saying they can also be used as a dog bin, and has sent an enquiry about this to RVBC.

m) Dog bins- notice on dispensers

Notices will be put on the existing dispensers that we have to try to reduce overuse.

n) Larger bin for Whalley road and new bin for football club

Now that the new year's budget is in use, the Clerk will order a larger bin, as agreed last year. If it is possible to keep the old bin, then it can be checked if the Football Club will be happy with that bin rather than an additional new one.

o) Allotment deposits

Only one complaint about the proposed plans, which had been agreed by the council over email during the coronavirus period and mentioned in the newsletter that was sent out, had been received. If somebody is particularly struggling to pay, it may be possible to set them up with a payment plan of some sort.

RESOLVED: To confirm the decision made over email to require all allotment users to pay a £50 deposit along with their rent in November, if they have not paid such a deposit already.

p) Logo on stationery

The logo is now in use on council stationery.

q) Repair work by Lengthsman using grant money

Councillor Pollard had suggested in an email that the money could be used to repair a particular walkway. The cost for the repair will be checked, and if this fits within the grant money, the lengthsman will be asked to repair it. If there is any remaining, this can be used to repair a particular stile.

r) Acremount – letter to resident and bench repaired.

There had been an issue with somebody who had been doing renovations removing

some of the existing scenery. The area is mostly now back to how it was, but some of the shrubs had not been replaced. However, it would likely be ok to just refill the area with grass seed. The councillors will inspect the area before the next meeting in order to decide if it is satisfactory. A bench from that location has been renovated by Duncan Hacking and restored to its position, and is now much more usable.

RESOLVED: To thank Duncan Hacking for renovating the bench.

s) Notice for car park

The sign regarding not allowing commercial use of the car park is now in position.

t) Adopting the telephone kiosk

No further communication has been received on this. The Clerk will write to find out the situation.

u) Cricket Club review of lease payment

This will be carried forward until the coronavirus is no longer so critical.

v) Football Club review of lease payment

This will be carried forward until the coronavirus is no longer so critical.

w) Boulder Turner Fold

A boulder had been dislodged somehow at Turner Fold. Mary put it back into place using her tractor. A note of thanks has been sent to her.

12. Correspondence – Some correspondence had been received from the Highways Department regarding the landowner that had put “footpath closed” signs on their land due to coronavirus, rather than using an alternate route sign as advised by the council. Highways had agreed to go and speak with the landowner.

A letter from a resident regarding dog bins had also been forwarded to the Clerk by Simonstone Parish Council. The issues raised were discussed in the related decision items.

13. Planning Applications/Decisions/Enforcements – There were three planning application received since the time of the last minutes.

Application 3/2020/0297 49 Downham Road Chatburn BB7 4AU

Two proposed single storey extensions to rear.

Read Parish Council Planning Committee

No objections to this application

Application 3/2020/0286 16 Windsor Close Read BB12 7QH

Proposed single storey flat roof extension to rear.

Read Parish Council Planning Committee

No objections to this application

Application 3/2020/0304 7 Tennyson Avenue Read BB12 7RN

Preposed redevelopment of the existing house including a single storey extension to the side and first floor extensions to the front and change of external materials.

Read Parish Council Planning Committee

No objections to this application

14. Finance & Accounts:

a) Payments

04/03/2020	Donation to Martholme Greenway	£100.00
04/03/20	Donation to Read United FC	£100.00
04/03/20	Donation to St John's Church	£100.00
04/03/20	Donation to 1st Read & Simonstone Scouts	£100.00

04/03/20	L Foster Salary February 2020	£242.22
04/03/20	Water plus February 2020	£86.67
04/03/20	Lengthsman scheme materials	£84.90
11/03/20	Donation to Read St John's Primary School	£100.00
11/03/20	Donation to Salvation Army	£100.00
11/03/20	LALC membership	£259.93
31/03/20	Room hire to RSVH Jan – Mar 2020	£30.00
06/04/20	FM Powell – bus stop cleaning	£40
06/04/20	LF Salary March 2020	£242.22
07/4/20	Ribble Valley Borough Council	£1,591.20
17/4/20	Cost of skip hire (paid to R Anderson)	£150.00
17/4/20	GMH Autoservices Ltd (disposal of tyres)	£7.20
21/4/20	J & T Lofthouse (work on road)	£7,350.00
27/4/20	Ribble Valley Borough Council	£234.00
27/04/20	JW Ramsbottom (work on road)	£4056.00
28/04/20	SLCC membership	£118.80
30/4/20	Chair's expenses (stationery)	£28.75
04/5/20	Water plus May 2020	145.96
14/5/20	LF Salary April 2020	242.22
26/5/20	Car park sign	41.45

b) Income

2/3/2020	Bank interest	£5.11
9/4/2020	Precept	£10,449.00

c) Bank reconciliation as at 30th April, 2020

Opening Balances 01.04.20			
Community Account	£2,776.49		
Business Saver Account	£14,575.13		£17,351.62
Add: Receipts			£10,801.03
Less: Payments			£13,818.75
Balance			£14,334.48

15. Items for the next agenda

- Website upgrade
- Governance review
- Read Motor Bodies
- Repair work by lengthsman to walkway
- Adoption of telephone kiosk
- Cricket Club lease review
- Football Club lease review
- Cricket Club proposal

The meeting ended at 9 pm.