

READ PARISH COUNCIL

01/03/2023

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7.00p.m.**

Present: Chairman: Councillor Hacking
Councillors: Anderson, Barker, Greenhough, McKelvey, Pollard.

In attendance: April Collinson (Clerk)

2 members of the public attended.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Councillor Hanson sent apologies for their absence.
2. **Declarations of Councillors' Interest and dispensations**
 - 2.1 **To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda.** - none
 - 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 1st February 2023** – *approved*
4. **Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda** – *in reference to matter 11.e) A new grit bin has been installed on St. John's close.*
5. **Public participation** – none
6. **Borough Councillor's Report** – none.
7. **Clerk's Report** – reports of dead sheep being dumped in lay-bys had been received which the police are looking into,
8. **Reports from external meetings** – Please see matter 11.b).
9. **Playground** – Please see matter 11.a).
10. **Allotment Management Committee report** – There are currently 10 people on the waiting list for an allotment.
11. **Decision Items**
 - a) **Playground equipment**

It was discussed that some of the gym equipment on the playground is rarely used such as the exercise bike and rowing machine. It was suggested that these could be replaced with children's play equipment and this would still leave a selection of equipment for adults to use while children play. Councillors also discussed improving the pathway from the gate into the play area.

RESOLVED: Councillors will review what play equipment is available on the market as well as prices.
 - b) **Road Safety**

Councillor Pollard had drafted a letter to Ribble Valley Borough Council as well as Nigel Evans MP and Councillors from RVBC asking that they support the Active Travel plan by engaging with the owners of the three closed sections in Read and Simonstone and bring to their notice the benefits which cycleway 685 would bring to the wider community as well as including a commitment in the forthcoming Districtwide Local Plan to protect the route of cycleway 685 from development which would prevent its eventual completion and make any permitted development subject to section 106 agreements to contribute towards development of the cyclerooute. Issues with Parking were also discussed and whether asking the traffic warden to attend should be considered.

c) Coronation

arrangements have been made for 100 boxes of food to be ordered for the event, each will include a sandwich, sausage roll, a cake and some crisps packaged in a box. The cost of this will be £350. The Village hall has offered the hall at no cost for the event. The event will be ticketed and will be held from 11am-3pm on 7th May. Tea and coffee will be provided however attendees are welcome to bring their own drinks of choice.

d) Tennis Club Defibrillator

The clerk had been trying to contact the Tennis Club to discuss whether they feel there would be benefit in purchasing a defibrillator however has struggled to make contact. It is believed that sports clubs are often eligible for grants toward defibrillators and also that the Tennis club may have received a grant recently.

RESOLVED: Updated contact details were provided, the clerk will write to the Tennis Club.

e) Skipton Building Society Account

The Building Society Account has now been opened with Councillors Marie Hacking and Sally McKelvey as signatories. Councillors discussed moving the funds from Mr Summersgill estate into the new account and that notification had been received that an overpayment has been made however it is hoped that this will balance out once the remaining assets had been dealt with.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to put the full £45,000 into the new savings account

f) Little Green Bus

Councillors discussed that normally a donation to the Little Green Bus is made, it was proposed that the same donation (£150) be made again this year. The bus helps elderly residents get out on day trips and shopping trips.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to make the same donation as in previous years.

g) Telephone Kiosk

The clerk continues to chase BT to disconnect the Kiosk.

h) Councillor Vacancy

A notice has been posted in the noticeboards confirming that a councillor vacancy has come about. The space will need to be filled at the election in May.

i) Updating website information

Councillors discussed that some of the information listed on the Council's website about local organisations was out of date.

RESOLVED: Councillors will review the information and pass updates to the clerk for this to be updated.

j) Lenghtsman Jobs

A style leading to Goose Leach wood is to be replaced by a kissing gate to improve accessibility. Councillors discussed other improvements that are needed in the area; there are boards in the walkway over the boggy ground which need replacing and also a style at the north end of Goose Leach Wood. There are milestones along Whalley Road and Whins Lane which need cleaning and painting.

RESOLVED: The clerk will ask for the jobs to be added to the list.

j) Active Travel Plan

Funding is available to improve cycle-ways and footpaths especially where these pathways could be used for everyday travel and commuting, it was suggested that this plan could be used to connect cycleway 685 connecting the Great Harwood Greenway to Padiham Greenway. It was understood that the route is away from traffic and also helps link business parks as well as Rose Grove Train Station so the

route would be well used.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed for Councillor Pollard to draft a letter to send the letter to the relevant authorities regarding the proposal.

l) Double Yellow Lines faded

various double yellow lines throughout the village have become worn away and faded, it is believed this is contributing to parking issues in the village. Faded road markings can be reported to Lancashire County Council through their website or the “We Love Clean Streets” app.

RESOLVED: The clerk will report the mentioned faded areas

m) Parish Plan

A draft of the Parish Plan Questionnaire had been prepared, councillors discussed that further information could be added to some sections to improve clarity

RESOLVED: The questionnaire will be re-drafted for future discussion

n) Read Motor Bodies

upon reviewing documents it appears no rent has been paid by Read Motor bodies since 2019. As the council is already in the process of renewing the lease for 1 year, it is considered that the 1 year lease should be honored but not renewed in the future. Councillors discussed the future of the land, whether this can be used to extend the car park by the play area or if this should be leased out to another company or individual.

RESOLVED: The Solicitor will be contacted to get the one year lease finalised and give notice.

12. Correspondence – Posters and leaflets have been received advising that voters will need ID to vote in elections, these have been placed in the notice boards and village hall as well as being shared on social media.

13. Planning Applications/Decisions/Enforcements – There was one planning application received since the time of the last minutes as follows;

Planning Application No 3/2023/0118 8 Hammond Drive, Read BB12 7RE

The application is for a retrospective application for extensions to side and rear and first floor (an increase of 300mm to east elevation compared to previously approved applications 3/2021/0428 and 3/2021/1074).

Although this increases the size of the building there is no technical reason to object.

14. Finance & Accounts:

a) Payments

20/02/2023	Allotment 20C deposit returned	£50.00
20/02/2023	RVBC – Grass Cutting 2022/2023	£890.22
23/02/2023	Water Plus	£69.95
23/02/2023	Clerks Wage	£346.00
23/02/2023	Allotment deposit returned	£50.00

b) Income

01/02/2023	Allotment rent and Deposit 12B	£68.00
13/02/2023	Allotment 20C Deposit	£50.00
13/02/2023	Allotment 18A	£50.00

c) Bank reconciliation as at 24 February 2023

Balances			
Community Account	£11,773.28		
Business Saver Account	£54,593.91		£66,367.19
Add: Receipts			£65,126.17
Less: Payments			£11,674.95
Balance			£119,818.41

15. Items for the next agenda

- Telephone Kiosk
- Double Yellow Lines repainting
- Playground Equipment
- Read Motor Bodies Lease
- Parish Plan
- Coronation
- Road Safety

The meeting ended at 8.20 pm.

The Next Meeting will take place on 5th April 2023.