

**READ PARISH COUNCIL**

**03/11/2023**

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 at 7.00p.m.**

**Present:** Chairman: Councillor Hacking  
Councillors: Anderson, Greenhough, McKelvey, R Hanson, A Hanson & Pollard.

**In attendance:** Graham Meloy, Cllr Peplow

0 members of the public attended.

Chair Marie Hacking welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all the volunteers that helped post the Parish Plan.

1. **Apologies for absence** – No Apologies were received from Councillors.
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 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023** – approved
3. **Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda**
  - a. Yellow Lines on Straits Lane need to be 10 meters from the junction.
  - b. Camera for the car park at the cricket club, spoke to residents regarding the camera.
  - c. Dates for 2024 Parish Council meeting.

**5. Public participation – None**

**6. Borough Councillor's Report** – Cllr Peplow report is listed below.

I held our fourth Councillor Drop-in session with Councillor Gaye McCrum here last Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October. I will display a notice giving details of future Drop-in Session dates and venue on the notice board outside the Village Hall shortly. Our Green Party Motion to the Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October supportive of the Martholme Greenway was passed unamended with cross-party support. The full Motion was published with the meeting Agenda on the Ribble Valley Borough Council's website. Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC) has expressed its support for the re-opening of the Martholme Greenway subject to the availability of external funding and the accommodation of the reasonable concerns of the landowners on its route. RVBC also applauded the work of the Martholme Greenway Group, provided a link on its website to Lancashire County Council's consultation on active travel routes that ended on 24 October and RVBC's Chief Executive has written to Lancashire County Council confirming RVBC's support for re-opening the Greenway.

Bridge Heywood Caravan Park's retrospective planning application for tree clearance, earthworks and the provision of a benches and picnic tables along the track-bed and embankment on the route of the Martholme Greenway went before Members of the Planning and Development Committee on 19 th October. Members of the Committee were 'minded to refuse' the planning application. It has been referred back to Planning Officers and will be brought back to the Committee in due course.

The link for submitting an Expression of Interest in applying for a grant for a community project from the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) is below:  
Expression of Interest - General - MyRibbleValley (achieveservice.com)

A recently approved community orchard in Ribchester provided a possible example of how inter-Council working can give opportunities for this type of project – free healthy food, education, exercise, climate action, flood reduction and helping nature all in one. Perhaps the Parish knows of possible locations around the village where this may be possible.

I will also leave a PDF hard copy of the Expression of Interest form with the Parish Council tonight. There is no deadline for expressions of interest or subsequent full applications but the sooner these are sent in, the greater the

chance of securing a grant before finite funds run out. For further details please look on the RVBC website or contact Hassan Ditta, Senior Economic Development Officer on 01200 414424.

I am continuing to report and follow up road, footpath, signal and sign defects with mixed results but will keep up the pressure to make sure our infrastructure is as good as it can be with current funding constraints. My latest reports include potholes on Jubilee Street.

I have brought a full pack of 'Slow Down Save Lives' wheelie bin stickers provided free of charge by Lancashire County Council for anyone who could put them to good use and can leave them with the Parish Council tonight for distribution if they are needed.

I received a report from a resident on George Lane of persistent speeding and parking near the junction with Whalley road, blocking visibility. I have referred these to the PCSO for follow up action.

As reported last month, the Safe Lanes in Pendleside Group (now wound-up) have offered us their surplus community road safety signs free of charge. We need a van to collect them from Fence and somewhere to store them until the two village communities have decided which signs they want putting where. If I don't receive any offers from either Parish, I will organize the collection and storage of the signs.

The next meeting of the Climate Working Group is going to be held later this month on Tuesday 21 st November from 3-4pm and Councillor McCrum will be attending. Despite our requests this Group is still not open to attendance by members of the public or interested community groups. The remit of the Climate Working Group has been watered down in two ways since the election in May despite all three opposition parties' attempts to prevent this. Firstly, the original target to achieve a net zero Ribble Valley Borough by 2030 has been removed and no target now exists for this. Secondly, The Climate Working Group will now be doing its job in two stages, first to move the Council itself towards net zero by 2030 and only when work on this is substantially complete, to work on Borough-wide initiatives to move the whole

area to net zero without any target date. We will continue to work with the other opposition parties and any other Councillors who believe that there needs to be far more urgency and openness in the Climate Working Group's business and a much higher priority placed upon it.

An electronic copy of this report will be emailed to the Parish Clerk after this meeting.

### **7. Clerk's Report –**

The Parish Clerk recommended that the Parish Council purchase a laptop to use. The estimate was £180. The cloud storage and councillors .GOV .UK email will be decided at the next Parish Council meeting. **Resolved**, that the Clerk will purchase a laptop.

The Clerk has prepared a draft budget for the Councillors for the next financial year

**Resolved**: The Clerk to add this to the agenda for January 2024.

The Clerk has produced a new GDPR document for the Council and this was circulated to the Councillors. **Resolved**: Parish Clerk to add this to the agenda for the January 2024 to decide if they wish to adopt this.

The Clerk proposed to join the SLCC which is the Parish Clerk association. Resolved to join.

### **8. Reports from external meetings.**

Noe

### **9. Allotment Management Committee report –**

Roy Cattermole has been down to look at the trees and suggested that they are OK, but need some pruning above 15ft this would stop some of the pine needles blowing into the gardens but it would not stop it.

Village Green Trees Recommendation. Removal of dead branches is needed, Roy Cattermole to provide a price.

On Plot18 divided into 4 ABCD Dog fouling has been reported. The owners have been contacted and tenants on AB have no dog and don't take a dog down to the allotments. D has taken dogs down but they are on a lead. Plot C no reply.

**Resolved**: To ask Plot C to respond, and ask the tenants not to take dogs down to the allotments.

Plot 3C and 1A Notice to Quit have been issued. There are still chickens on one of the plots as the gates are locked.

**Resolved**. To put a notice on the gates to quit. The fence will need to be replaced, the return of the deposit will be refused.

### **10. Decision Items;**

- a) **Camera for Car Park.** The Cricket Club have had a quote for £4,000. The Clerk has spoken to Thorpe Security and obtained a quote for £500, the Parish Council will need to purchase a Sim card to send the images when needed. All that will be required is a wireless router and power. Power will need to come from the Cricket Club.

**Resolved** the Clerk to write to the Cricket Club saying we have a quote for £500 for the camera. The Council would look at a contribution for the erection of the lamppost.

**b) Mr J Summersgill Estate**

The Council is still waiting for an update from the Solicitors.

**c) Parish Plan and Drop Off**

a. The majority of the Parish Plans have been delivered, and just the last remaining few are due to go out.

b. Drop off Box is at the Pharmacy. .

**d) BT Telephone Kiosk** . Clerk found the agreement with BT and they are responsible for the decommission and wring. **Resolved** the Clerk to write to BT asking for the wring to be removed. Marie Hacking to look back to find out who we initially wrote to.

**e) Cricket Club Lease;** The Clerk has written to the Cricket Club regarding the £60 lease non payment. **Resolved** the Clerk to add this camera letter for the car park.

**f) Tarmac of the Car Park;** The Clerk has contacted a couple of companies. The ground needs to be prepared properly, tarmac needs to be scrapped back and the ground sealed. Waiting for a cost of the work. .

**g) Read Motor Bodies:** Marie Hacking emailed Pallisters saying that the lease will be outstanding for 3 years come January and that the Parish Council have not had payment in this time. Have had no reply.

**h) Remembrance Sunday; 12<sup>th</sup>** November, Geoff Lambert has dropped 3 Wreaths at a cost of £20. The Service is at 10AM

**i) Newsletters;** Have all been circulated..

**j) Christmas Lunch:** There is a Grant Available from RVBC. **Resolved** that the Clerk apply to RVBC for the Grant towards the Christmas Lunch for £250.

**k) Bus Stop Whalley Road.** Farm Lane outside the Caravan Park. Looking at funding from Rotary for a bus shelter. **Resolved** the Clerk to contact LCC and ask if a shelter can be installed, and we either pay a contribution or Rotary pay for one.

Also, can the Council look at having the pavements cleared of leaves as these are slip hazard. **Resolved** the Clerk to contact County to have the pavement cleared.

**11. Correspondence –**

Police reported the break in at Read Pharmacy and a house on Berkley Drive. Rogue traders for power washing.

Clarification on the RVBC hardship fund that savings are not taken into consideration, you can still apply. If you earn less than £50,000.

**12. Planning Applications/Decisions/Enforcements – There was no planning application for Read received since the time of the last minutes;**

**13. Finance & Accounts:**

**a) Payments**



13/10/2023	Waterplus	£56.06
27/10/2023	Clerks Wages	£502.12

**14. Items for the next agenda**

- **BT Box**
- **Summersgill Estate**
- **Meeting Dates**
- **Lease Read Motor Bodies**
- **Car Park Camera**
- **Little Green Bus funding.**
- **Bus Shelter Whalley Road ( Opposite the caravan park)**
- **Rural Prosperity Fund**
- **GDPR Compliance**
- **Budget 2024.**
- **Donation to the Church and School £100 each**

The meeting ended at 8.55 pm.

The Next Meeting will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7pm at the Village Hall.