

READ PARISH COUNCIL

04/10/2023

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 4th October 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.

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 6th September 2023** – approved
3. **Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda**
 - a. Ask the road safety committee to request the replacement of the rumble strips to the entrance of the Village.
 - b. Tarmac for the car park Clerk to investigate the cost of tarmac the car park Pye has been used before.

5. Public participation – None

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

. The Borough has extended its controls on dog fouling for another three years by renewing its Public Spaces Protection Order after 97% of residents who responded to a consultation backed the continued crackdown.

Ribble Valley Borough Council has launched a capital grants scheme aimed at rural communities. £433,680 worth of funding is available from the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) and is aimed at strengthening and supporting rural communities. Parishes and community groups are encouraged to work together to decide a local bid or bids for beneficial projects and although there is no cap on how much each Parish can bid for, it is suggested that circa £10,000 per Parish would achieve a good spread of the total fund across the Borough. One possible bid that immediately comes to mind is for CCTV to cover some of the high risk fly-tipping sites to reduce future Parish expense in clearing waste.

I met a member of staff from Ingham and Yorke, the Agent of the Huntroyde Estate on Friday 8th September and I am very pleased to report that the Estate is very happy to get behind a campaign to erect community road safety signage and safety mirrors along the rural lanes including, Whins, Trapp and Back Lanes and Sabden Road in suitable locations. I am currently looking at where to

source suitable signs and I am meeting someone from Safe Lanes in Pendleside tomorrow to look at some surplus signs they may be able to let us use.

I held our third Councillor Drop-in session at the Simonstone Old C of E School on School Lane on 23rd September and was very pleased to meet some more residents. We will now be alternating between Read and Simonstone Village Hall and the Simonstone Old C of E School on School Lane on the fourth Saturday of each month except December when we take a break.

I have submitted a Motion to the Council Meeting to be held on 10th October supportive of the Martholme Greenway. The full Motion has been published with the meeting Agenda on the Ribble Valley Borough Council's website. Although there is no guarantee of the Motion being voted through this time, we remain hopeful of gaining enough support on the night and encourage local residents with an interest in the Greenway to attend in the public gallery if able to do so.

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. One report that got no action was a gap in the hedge along the south footpath on Whalley Road near nr. 93 resulting in an unprotected sheer drop down to the farmer's fence below. If the Parish knows the farmer, is it possible to get this gap closed in case someone falls down it please?

Gaye McCrum is trying to clarify the remit of the Climate Working Group and open it up to input from interested and knowledgeable community Groups and individuals but her attempt at the last Economic Development Committee was voted down. We are working on a question to the Leader of the Council in the Council Meeting on 10th October on the same theme.

7. Clerk's Report –

The Parish Council accounts have been approved by the external auditors, and the certificate is displayed on the notice board.

Parish Council Compliance: The Clerk due to the Councillors attention that a number of the compliance documents are out of date. **Resolved**, that the Clerk will review the Data protection Act and Health and Safety document and report at the next Parish Council meeting.

The Clerk also recommended to the Councillors that the parish Council's documents should be stored and backed up in the Cloud rather than on a memory stick, also that the Councillors should have gov.uk email addresses. **Resolved**: The Clerk to investigate the associated costs of the cloud back up and new email addresses for Cllrs

Resolved: the Parish Clerk shall prepare a Budget forecast for the next Parish Council meeting.

8. Reports from external meetings – Cllr Greenhough attend the Ribble Valley Parish Council Liaison meeting and reported that the Police Station in Clitheroe is open.

The Rural Levelling Up money is available, a pot of money is available and it has been suggested that the Parish Councils be encouraged to apply. It was suggested that £10,000 is available to each Parish, and that one large project of £50,000 would probably be rejected.

Report for the crime figures for Read supplied by the Police.

1 XASBO related to a noise report

1 X road related offence, moped being ridden without a helmet.
1X Shop theft
1X Damage to vehicle, windscreen damaged to parked vehicle.
1X Theft of vehicle.

9. Playground –

Resolved, to note the ROPSA report and Marie Hacking to monitor the playground equipment. Cllr R Hanson will liaise with the Lengthsman to complete any repairs. playground equipment.

10. Allotment Management Committee report –

On Plot2B a new fence has been erected. On Plot 20A a new gate has been fitted.

Resolved: The new Tenancy Agreements will include the Tenant has to provide proof of address.

Resolved: The rents have not been increased in a number of years; the rent increases will follow the Recommended Price Index.

There is a vacancy on Plot 5C and this will be allocated.

11. Decision Items;

a) Parish Council Liaison

The Parish Council Liaison meetings agendas have not been circulated.

Resolved, the Clerk to publish the dates of the next meetings. The next meetings are 9th November 2023 at 6.30 and 1st February 2024 at 6.30.

b) Camera for Car Park

Resolved the Clerk will obtain estimates for the camera to be attached to the Cricket Club lamppost. .

The residents nearby will be contacted regarding the placement of the camera. This will provide the residents with extra security for their car park.

Resolved that the Clerk will carry out a Risk Assessment on how the data will be accessed from the Cricket Club in order to meet the Data Protection legislation.

c) Mr J Summersgill Estate

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

d) Email and Cloud Storage

a. New laptop for the Clerk. **Resolved** Clerk to look at purchasing a 2nd hand laptop.

b. Cloud Storage. **Resolved** Clerk to investigate the cost of storing the Councils documents in the cloud so they are backed up.

c. Email Addresses. **Resolved** the Clerk to investigate the cost of moving from individual email addresses to a gov.uk email.

e) Renewal Of SLCC Membership

.Resolved, the Clerk to join the Society of Parish Clerks Membership.

f) Rural England Prosperity Fund

a. To note the report and to report back to the Council regarding money available for Parish Councils that can be used for the car park and EV Charging points within the village.

g) Cycling & Walking Survey.

a. **Resolved** the Clerk to send a response to the survey.

b. **Resolved** the Clerk to respond urging the Council to resolve the Landowners issues on Cycleway 685.



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15. Items for the next agenda

- **Summersgill Estate**
- **Lease Read Motor Bodies**
- **Car Park**
- **BT Telephone Kiosk**
- **Carpark camera**
- **Parish Plan & drop boxes for return**

The meeting ended at 9.00pm.

The Next Meeting will take place on 2nd November 2023 at 7pm at the Village Hall.