

ReaREAD PARISH COUNCIL

07/02/2024

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 7th February 2024 at 7.00p.m.**

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

In attendance: Graham Meloy. Clerk Cllr Malcolm Peplow

2 members of the public attended.

Chair Marie Hacking welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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.* – 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 7th February 2024. .**
 - a. **Public participation –** Member of the public mentioned the commitment to the reduction of plastic in the Council.
 - b. Terrace houses on Church Street to join in the gardening scheme to grow veg in raised beds on Church Street Gardens. Asking if Huntryode Garden centre can help.

Thermal camera is available to lend and show the room temperature and the heat leakage.

 1. **The council agrees to put a member - Clifton Pollard on the REG Steering Group for Plastic Free Read and Simonstone.** (It was agreed at the meetings at both councils last year but not as a motion.)
 2. **The council agree to supporting spread awareness of the initiatives in the area.** (Clifton and Sian attended the Litter and Lunch event and gave apologies for the Mass Unwrap event at Tesco).. Councillors have been present in the Village Hall when REG had 2 separate Plastic Free Displays.)
 3. **The council pledge to act by example and remove Single Use plastic items from premises and operations.** (I have explained to the charity about parish councils not being able to enact these types o changes. However the premises used by Read PC has altered their use of plastic, see the following which also matches the criteria.
 - c.
 - d.

6. Borough Councillor's Report –

. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT TO THE MEETING OF READ PARISH COUNCIL ON 7 TH FEBRUARY 2024

Our fourth and fifth Councillor Drop-in sessions were held on 23 November and 27 January in Simonstone and Read respectively. I would like to apologise to the residents who came to meet Gaye and I here in November on a particularly cold morning. I had forgotten that I had been provided with a key for the Hall which I left at home meaning that we all had an al-fresco drop-in session!

My latest reports to LCC Highways have included multiple potholes on Buckingham Drive and Straits Lane, tripping hazards on footpaths and faded white 'H' markings across drives on Greenacres and blocked road drains on Berkeley Drive.

The lack of a grit bin that I reported at the bottom of East View/Jubilee Street is not going to be acted on by LCC Highways at this time which is very disappointing.

The Liberal Democrat Group split on Ribble Valley Borough Council in November resulting in a reshuffle of Committee allocations over which Gaye and I have no control, other than swapping between us Committees allocated to our Green Group to level up workload. Gaye is now on Accounts and Audit (unchanged), Economic Development (unchanged) and Parish Council Liaison (swapped with me) and I am on Community Services (unchanged), Licensing (unchanged) and Planning and Development (new). Gaye was taken off the Policy and Finance Committee. Gaye remains on the Climate Working Group as its parent Committee is Economic Development.

As previously reported, the community road safety signs donated to us by the former Safe Lanes in Pendleside Group are stored here at the Village Hall. I would like to thank the Parish Council for beginning to look for suitable locations for these signs on private land along Read's rural lanes and seeking consent to put them up in key locations from the landowners. It is a real boost that we already have support in principle from the Huntroyde Estate that owns a large number of the tenanted farms with borders on lanes and rural roads. I have passed on details of possible sources of grant funding towards the provision of a bus shelter on Whalley Road near the entrance to the Bridge Heywood Caravan Park to Councillor Pollard.

I carried out a litter pick on Portfield Lane, East Whalley in late January and collected one bin bag full of recyclable bottles and cans and one bin bag full of non-recyclable litter including a number of disposable vapes. I also reported a damaged road sign to LCC Highways which they have said they will action. Problems are still being caused by some residents of terraced houses leaving their wheelie bins in the back alleys and sometimes items of very bulky waste. This has encouraged fly-tipping in the alleys by non-residents. Wheelie bins are more likely of blowing over, causing an obstruction/tripping hazard and spilling their contents when left in the alley all week between collection days. This increases the risk of injury to pedestrians, damage to vehicles and rat infestation. I have asked Council Officials to write to residents in the most affected area asking them to keep their wheelie bins in their yards if possible other than on bin collection day and to pre-book the collection of bulkier waste with RVBC.

I have received a report of anti-social behaviour by youths in the area of the Mill near Worthalls Farm and have passed this on to the PCSO to follow up. I reported a number of footpath defects on East View in the area of the Village

Hall and its proposed car park to Lancashire County Council Highways some weeks ago. LCC has carried out limited patch repairs but did not repair the damage to the junction of the Village Hall's main entrance ramp with the footpath, stating it was not a Highway's responsibility. I would be grateful if the Village Hall can action this to repair a potential trip hazard.

I received a complaint from a resident at the top of Straits Lane that he has been clearing a culvert screen and overflow pipe to the culvert passing under Whins Lane for some time now. He says that when it blocks, water cannot pass under Whins Lane into the fields below but instead runs along Whins Lane and down Straits Lane, increasing flooding experienced at its junctions with Windsor Close and Woodhead Road. I said I would ask whether regular checking of this culvert screen and overflow could be undertaken by the Parish Council's Lengthsman.

Councillor Malcolm Peplow
7th February 2024

7. Clerk's Report –

A) Banking Clerk no has access to online banking Balance £19877.54

B) Allotment rents £290 outstanding. Resolved: The Clerk to write to those that have not paid their rent.

C) The Clerk reported that the Council have too much money in current account, and we only need 3 months of current spend as a reserve.

Resolved: To transfer £11,000 to the Skipton Account.

The Clerk asked that any items to be added to the Agenda, must be submitted on the Thursday before the meeting.

8. Reports from external meetings.

RVBC Parish Liaison met to discuss the Local Plan on Greener spaces, and also training is being planned on Planning applications. Also, for the Parish Clerks to get together to discuss common items.

9. Allotment Management Committee report –

Plot 11A the fence and gate are falling down.

One of the Plots by the side water is bubbling up and making the plot very wet. **Resolved:** Lengthsman to investigate.

Steve Neary has taken over as Chair of the allotment committee.

Dog fouling issued has cleared up. If the problem persists, a letter of warning to quit will be issued to the culprit.

Dog fouling to be added to the allotment tenancy agreement.

10. Decision Items;

a) **Camera for Car Park.** In order to cover the car park with a camera the lamppost will need to be 4 meters high, with a concrete base. The Cricket Club have been contacted regarding the camera for the car park, and will allow the Council to obtain power. Resolved to obtain pricing for the lamppost.

b) **Little Green Bus**

- The Parish Council agreed to pay a donation of £200 to the Little Green Bus, in support of the work that they do for the community. **Resolved:** To make a payment of £200
- c) **Village Plan**
The village plan was discussed and the results for the village bypass were of those that responded 71 said yes and 28 voted no.
Issue of dog fouling on the playing field has been highlighted. **Resolved:** To ask the Dog Warden to attend.
The Gate entrance and the fence line by the cricket field footpath and the playground gate need signs regarding dog fouling. **Resolved:** To ask RVBC if they have any dog signs.
Resolved: To present the full results of the Parish Plan at the next meeting..
- d) **BT Telephone Kiosk** .The Clerk has found a contact at BT and contacted BT to decommission the Kiosk. BT have responded and scheduled the work. Contacted BT again to chase up the disconnection of the power to the kiosk.
- e) **Code of Conduct**. The Clerk has highlighted that the Code of Conduct is out of date. The current Code of Conduct can be accepted or the Parish Council adopt RBVC Code of Conduct. **Resolved:** that the Councillors look at the Codes of Conduct and vote on which one to accept.
- f) **Tarmacing of the Car Park;** The Clerk has contacted a couple of companies. The feedback is they not prepared to start the work due to the weather. It has been difficult to gain any commitment from companies. **Resolved** The Clerk to follow up with the company that Cllr Pollard has provided.
- g) **Trees on Church Street** .The Christmas Lights eclectic work has been completed. **Resolved:** Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Mr.McCall. The trees have been inspected and the cost is £400 to complete the work.
Resolved: to have the work completed to make the trees safe.
- h) **Little Green Bus;** The Parish Council voted on donating £200 to the Little Green Bus. **Resolved:** for the Clerk to pay £200.
- i) **Bus Shelter (Whalley Road)**. The cost of the bus shelter is £7500, and Cllr A Hanson has contacted Rotary, which has budgeted £500 as a donation. Cllr A Hanson has contacted RVBC for a grant. The parents of the memorial bench have been contacted about moving the bench to enable the bus shelter to be installed. They have confirmed they are happy with this. and Heywood Caravan Park consider making a donation towards the cost of the bus shelter.
- k) **Safe Lane Signs**. We have the signs available, and Cllrs Pollard has suggested that we incorporate the signs with Simonstone as we have agreement from Low Farm in Simonstone. **Resolved:** for the Clerk to write to the people concerned about installing the warning signs.
- l) **Village Bypass and Village Plan**.
Cllrs missed the last meeting. The Cllrs wished to go forward with the Parish Council plan for the bypass. The plans for the bypass where redacted in 2008. As three options had been made available.

11. Correspondence –

Police have reported the following incidents in Feb.

- 1) Assault
- 2) 1 ASB
- 3) 4 Road related offences, 3 No Insurance 1 Drink Drive.

12. Planning Applications/Decisions/Enforcements

5 Whalley Road Read –retrospective planning appeal 3/2023/0844 Gone to appeal

13. Finance & Accounts:

a) Payments & Receipts

b) Balance £19877.54

10/01/24	Read & Simonstone Village Hall	£220.00
18/01/24	Waterplus Ltd	£112.14
18/01/24	Sian Greenhough Christmas Lights	£57.82
25/01/24	Clerk Salary Dec & Jan	£703.10
	Receipts	
	Barclays Bank Compensation	£50
	Read Cricket Club	60
	Pallisters	633.60
	Farnsworth	560.05

14. Items for the next agenda

The meeting ended at 9.04 pm.

The Next Meeting will take place on 6th March 2024 at 7pm at the Village Hall.