

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read School, Straits Lane on Wednesday, 21 November 2007 at 7.30pm.

1. **Present:** Mrs. D. Collinson (Chairman), Mrs. J. Forster, Mr. B. Jeffery, Mr. C. Law, Mr. A. Mashiter, Mr. C. Pollard and Mr. D. Waterhouse.
Apologies for absence were received from Mr. G. Nichol
Apologies for absence were received from District Councillors Hill and Waddington
2. There were no declarations of Councillors' interests.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
4. **District Councillors' Report:**
 - a) LCC has been requested to include resurfacing the Stork field footpath in the 2007/08 budget and this to be carried out as a priority.
 - b) A light has been installed on back Whalley Road between Fort Street and Straits Lane.
 - c) A survey to establish whether there is a need to introduce box markings at the junction of Fountains Avenue/Whalley Road has not persuaded LCC that this is necessary. Following representations from the District Councillor and the Parish Council Chairman concerning the danger to school children crossing Whalley Road, LCC has agreed to again monitor the situation and to report back to Lancashire Local in six months time.
5. **Tennyson Avenue:**
Following representations to the Borough Council concerning the length of time taken to establish ownership of Tennyson Avenue, Mr. Heap, RVBC, has responded that staff have learnt from this experience and that the Council is confident that it now has a better picture of its land holdings throughout the Borough.
6. **Senior Citizens' Party:**
Arrangements are in place for the party on 01 December. There have been approximately 90 responses to the invitations.
7. **Post Box Relocation:**
The Post office will not provide a replacement mail box. It was agreed to make arrangements for a petition to be available for residents to sign which will then be forwarded to the Post Office requesting further consideration to be given to this.
8. **Dog Waste Bin Collection:**
There have been problems with the disposal of dog waste following the Borough Council's introduction of wheeled bins. This will continue to be removed by the Borough Council on a temporary basis until the Parish Council has made alternative arrangements. The District Councillor will speak on behalf of the Parish Council at the Liaison Committee meeting and it was agreed to defer making a decision concerning the removal of waste until the report on Concurrent Functions has been given by Marshall Scott, RVBC, at the same meeting.
9. **Victoria Lodge Hedges:**
One resident has pruned back the overgrowing shrubs but there are still problems with two properties. The Chairman has visited the house owners and requested them to do this but the problem remains. It was agreed to refer the matter to LCC and advise the house owners that this has been necessary as the footpath, adjacent to a busy road, must be kept clear.
10. **Planning Applications & Decisions:**
Applications:
07/1055 Construction of outbuilding to house swimming pool and garages at White Hill Back Lane - no observations

07/1072 Proposed conservatory at 20 Buckingham Drive

Decisions:

No planning decisions have been received

11. **Playground Report:**

- a) The monthly playground inspection found no faults in the equipment
- b) It was agreed that the Allotments Chairman purchase two stoppers to prevent fingers being trapped in the gates.
- c) The springy toy has been inspected and it will be necessary to cut into the safety surface to access the bolt.
- d) It was agreed that the Parish Council precepts for the removal of the wood around the equipment and turf for the remaining area of the playground. It will then be possible to mow the grass and remove the bark.

12. **Allotments Report:**

- a) Property is being removed from the large allotment and it will be relet in February.
- b) The majority of allotment rents have now been collected.

13. **Parish Precept 2008/09:**

It was agreed to precept for £7,000

14. **Finance & Accounts:**

A payment was authorised prior to the meeting:

- a) United Utilities - £45.59

The following payments were authorised:

- b) Royal British Legion - S.137 - £30.00
- c) F. Brewer - Hedge Cutting - £35.25
- d) United Utilities - £21.86
- e) G. Bentley - Grass Cutting - £185.00
- f) D. Bridge - Dog Waste Bin Service - £117.00

Receipts

- (i) Read Motor Body Centre - £300.00

Clerk's Salary:

The NALC 2007/08 Clerk's Salary award was approved.

Parish Council Assets:

There were no alterations to the Parish Council register of assets.

Motor Body Centre Lease:

Following advice from Miss Pallister, it was agreed to request Houldsworths, Solicitors to draw up a new lease for the Motor Body Centre.

15. **Councillor's Report:**

Lancashire Local Meeting:

- a) Read library was congratulated on its family history project.
- b) Two respite beds are available for home carers in Clitheroe Hospital.
- c) It was requested that the Martholme viaduct footpath be raised at the next Local meeting.

16. **Items for the next Agenda:**

- A. Dudley Hill Well
- B. Dog Waste Bins

17. The date of the next meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 19 December 2007 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.