

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Read School, Straits Lane on Wednesday, 7 January 2009 at 7.30pm

1. **Present:** Mrs. D. Collinson (Chairman), Mr. B. Jeffery, Mr. C. Law, Mr. A. Mashiter, Mr. G. Nichols, Mr. Pollard and Mr. Waterhouse
District Councillor J. Waddington and PCSO M. Thornton also attended the meeting
Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. J. Forster and District Councillor J. Hill
2. There were no declarations of interest.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
4. **District Councillor's Report:**
The District Councillor gave a written report which was circulated to Councillors at the meeting. The points raised concerned were:
 - a) Traffic Management Issues: - movement of 30mph signs Straits Lane, Whins Lane, Dudley Hill: provision of double yellow lines Nowell Grove/Straits Lane.
 - b) Borough Council's failure to empty litter bins
 - c) Fort Street garages
 - d) Hammond Drive - removal of wall
 - e) Proposed racecourse update
5. **Clerk' Report:**
In addition to the written report the Clerk advised that, following consultation with the police and the Borough Council, it was planned to introduce a "No Cold-calling Zone" in the George Lane/ Fort Street area which will include Whalley Road. A meeting will be held in Read to explain the scheme and households leafleted with information.
6. **Vehicle Obstruction, Straits Lane:**
The problem is increasing and PCSO Thornton advised the Council that letters are sent out regularly from school requesting parents to be considerate when parking. These appeared to be ignored and it was suggested that PCSO Thornton that he discusses the possibility of introducing a one-way system of accessing school with the Head. One possibility would be to encourage cars to travel up East View and back down Fort Street.
7. **Senior Citizens' Party:**
 - a) The party was a success and favourable comments have been received. The sub-committee will meet to discuss the 2009 party and it was suggested that the catering numbers be reduced.
 - b) The Senior Citizens' Party accounts were approved.
8. **Freedom Information Act New Model Publication Scheme - January 2009:**
From 1 January 2009 all public sector organisations are required to make a significant amount of information available to the public. The information must be advertised on Parish notice boards and/or on Parish websites. It should state what, and from whom, information is available and the charge to the public for photocopying if this is applicable. The document prepared by the Clerk was approved and this will be displayed on the website. A paper copy will be available for inspection at the library. It was agreed that a charge of 20p per sheet is made for photocopied material.
9. **Representatives' Reports:**
 - a) **RVBC Parish Councils Liaison Committee:**
 - i) Concurrent Functions - Parish Councils will be allowed to claim back 25% of the cost of expenditure on playing fields, playgrounds, dog and litter bin servicing and other related concurrent functions. Claims to be made no later than 31 May annually and the grant to be paid in two equal instalments on 30 September and 31 March. The scheme, which does not include Capital Expenditure, to be reviewed after 12 months.

ii) Other items discussed included changes in Planning and Consultation Procedure; Post Office Card Accounts; Rural Services Network.

RVBC Standards Committee:

Appointments have been made to fill the vacancies.

10. **Recreation Ground:**

It was reported that the swing seats had been further vandalised and that a rope had been wrapped around the cross bars.

11. **Allotments:**

a) All allotment rents have now been received

b) It was agreed to proceed with the preparation of 7 new allotments below the road. The contractor has agreed to commence work next month and, when completed, these plots will be available for letting to Read and Simonstone residents.

12. **Finance & Accounts:**

A. It was agreed to make donations to the North West Air Ambulance & Victim Support

B Payments:

The following payments were authorised prior to the meeting:

A. Mashiter - SCP - £89.74

S. Sturrock - SCP - £124.45

Lancs. County Council - £550.00

Payments authorised at the meeting:

Pollard Bros. - SCP - £64.34

SLCC - Annual Subscription - £47.00

Receipts:

i) Allotment rents - £890.00

ii) Bank Interest - £8.83

iii) Motor Body Centre - £150.00

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

A Martholme Viaduct

B. Cricket Club Lease

C. Motor Body Centre Lease

15. The date of the next meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 4 March 2009 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.