

READ PARISH COUNCIL

05/01/2022

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 7.00p.m.**

Present: Chairman: Councillor Hacking
Councillors: Anderson, Barker, Hanson, McKelvey, Pollard, Greenough, Bennett

In attendance: April Collinson (Clerk)

4 members of the public attended.

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 10th November 2021** – *the minutes were approved.*
4. **Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda** – *none*
5. **Public participation** - none
6. **Borough Councillor's Report** – Borough Councillor Richard Bennett
Residents of Meadow view were taking potential action against Ribble Valley Borough Council via the ombudsman in relation to maladministration alleging that they had failed to secure a Section 38 agreement in relation to the roads. The ombudsman has turned them down. The County councillor, Ged Mirfin and Borough councillor Richard Bennett will be having a meeting with residents to discuss this.
7. **Clerk's Report** – a report was received from the local PCSO with the monthly crime statistics for November;
1 vehicle crime,
3 Antisocial Behaviour,
1 Theft,
1 road related offence.
8. **Reports from external meetings** – none
9. **Playground:**
 - a) **To receive the playground inspection report** – all seems to be in order, there was a small amount of litter in the playground area. It is likely that there are less children using the playground at the moment due to the recent weather.
 - b) **Repairs and maintenance** – See 11.
10. **Allotment Management Committee report** – various allotment items are discussed later in the meeting, please see 11.j), 11.k), & 11.l).
11. **Decision Items**
 - a) **Telephone Kiosk**
It looks as though the kiosk could be disassembled to make refurbishment easier. It

was considered whether it would be worth considering selling the kiosk due to the amount of time, work and expense involved in refurbishment. The general consensus was that it would be preferable to keep the kiosk in the village for the benefit of residents. The Scouts have confirmed they would be willing to paint the box and a local resident has offered to install Perspex glass with Read Parish Council covering the cost of the paint and Perspex.

It was noted that other Telephone kiosks have been vandalised and set on fire so the amount invested into the project should be carefully considered along with potential uses for the finished project.

RESOLVED: It will be assessed how easily the Telephone Kiosk can be deconstructed for refurbishment and further actions will be considered at a future meeting.

b) Playground Cargo Net

Quotes have been received previously. After being in touch with Ribble Valley Borough Council it was advised that a grant was available, this would have to be applied for by the end of January but the result would not be known until April. The application is fairly wide so it was suggested that if any other parts of the playground needed attention these could also be included in the application.

RESOLVED: Councillor Bob Anderson will review the playground and submit the grant application.

c) Dementia Singing group

This will be discussed at the next Village Hall trustees meeting and is proposed to take place once a month, it will be open to anyone who would benefit from sing along. There is likely to be a nominal fee and refreshments served.

d) Platinum Jubilee

A Picnic Table and a tree for Church Street gardens are suggested. A Crab Apple tree has been ordered and it was suggested a recycled large plastic picnic bench would also benefit the area.

RESOLVED: Councillor Sian Greenhough will have final decision regarding the picnic bench as she has excellent knowledge of the area.

e) Christmas Meal and Tree Light up

All 80 tickets for the meal sold and this was enjoyed by all. A local gentleman called Steve Neary who was celebrating his birthday with 67 community based tasks brought 6 Christmas cakes with 7 mince pies to the event, these were raffled off, this resulted in a donation of over £50 being made for Pendleside Hospice. Entertainment including bingo and quizzes were provided at the meal along with prizes.

At the Christmas Tree event the children sang around the tree however could not come in the Village Hall due to Covid. Claire Holbrooke blessed the tree and the new Rev. Sue Ball came along as well. After the singing at the tree the public were invited back to the village hall for refreshments. Many thanks to Richard Hanson for putting the tree up and straightening it after the storm winds.

Donation to Read School for Children Singing

Last year has been a difficult year for schools as covid has brought many challenges including schools being unable to fundraise themselves. The school are looking to get new reading books for a new reading programme.

RESOLVED: It was suggested that a £200 donation be made to Read School.

g) Website costs

A bill for £322.69 has been received for the design and transfer of the new website although this has been up and running for some time now. This consisted of

£275.00 for the set up and transfer of content, £11.69 for Domain name fees and £36.00 for hosting fees (May to December)

RESOLVED: Invoice paid.

h) Village Hall Lighting

Lighting is being reviewed and will be discussed at the next Village Hall Trustees meeting. The Lighting in the Hub room needs attention as it is too harsh and not very energy efficient. The current lighting interferes with projecting onto the screen.

RESOLVED: Councillor Sally McKelvey will report back from the trustees meeting and it is likely Read Parish Council will make a donation towards this and many community events are held in the village hall.

i) Defibrillator

It was considered at RPC would contribute towards the purchase of a defibrillator for the Village Hall, since then a local resident who lost their husband to a heart attack has requested donations at the funeral be put towards the defibrillator.

RESOLVED: The defibrillator will be placed on the outside of the Village Hall so that it is accessible at all times.

j) Allotments – responsibility for the fencing between the allotments and the field

Allotment plots were previously created from part of the field. The fencing in question is between the field and the newer allotments. Currently fencing bordering the road is maintained by Parish Council and so before the newer allotments were created the fence at the edge of the field was maintained by the Parish Council as it bordered the road. Fencing between allotments is to be maintained by tenants.

It is considered that the field is essentially a large allotment and as it now borders with other allotments the maintenance of the dividing fence should fall to the tenants.

RESOLVED: The fence should be maintained by tenants.

k) Allotments – Should plots be able to be passed on to family members

A tenant has asked whether his son could take over a plot when he is ready to retire. The plot has been under the same name for over 25 years. The son does work on the allotment with the father. It was discussed if it should become inheritable after a certain time period or if each case should be discussed on its own merits. This is an unusual case as often the family will not be interested in taking over the allotment and will not have been involved.

RESOLVED: This will be discussed at the next Allotment Management committee meeting before any additional rules can be drawn up.

l) Allotments – Outstanding Invoices

There are 5 outstanding invoices and one gentleman has underpaid by £4. Councillor Anderson has emailed the tenants who we hold email contacts for and the clerk will write to the others. It is common case that tenants to pay late however. It was suggested that at the next rent rise an incentive is added potentially of a reduced rate if paid on time. It is considered that some people may be having issues which would need to be taken into account.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to all tenants asking for payment before the end of January 2022. If payment is not received and contact is not made by this time the allotments will be re-let.

m) Review of Lengthsman Jobs

The Lengthsman is aware of the jobs given to him by the Parish Council. Some jobs had been put off due to the summer holidays and others have been put off due to the weather conditions. The lengthsman does not have to factor in as much admin time as professional contractors and so has cheaper rates. More feedback would be

appreciated in order to give allotment tenants an idea of when fixing fencing may happen, this would also assist with budgeting and providing an idea of how much each job costs.

RESOLVED: Councillor Hanson will discuss with the lengthsman and try attain more feedback

n) Footpath near Gooseleach wood

There is an issue with the water management in Gooseleach Wood. Contact has been made with Fort Vale who are agreeable for the water to be redirected to run down the stream rather than splitting into two. On the other side of the fence the field is very muddy. It is proposed to install a bridge and bring the ground level up to prevent the area getting water logged.

RESOLVED: The clerk will contact Hill Speak regarding the proposed bridge/walkway installation and groundwork.

o) Read Motor Bodies

A 1 year rolling lease has been requested from the solicitor and Read Motor bodies are aware of this. The land is being used to park cars however has not been cleared any further. There are brambles and two dead cars which are taking up room. There was a gate blowing open and closed in the winds which had to be securely tied, it was noted that this was previously going to be removed. There is a storage container for storing tools kept in the vicinity while a building for Automotive tools is being worked on however there does not seem to be much happening towards finishing off the building.

RESOLVED: Councillor Hacking will contact the Automotive tool company to check on progress and hopefully attain an estimate for when the container will be removed.

12. Correspondence –

The PCSO has provided the following report;

02/11- Whalley Road – Theft- A cat has been presumed stolen by it's owner. Collar has been found which has a 'tracker on it' on the side of the road. Informant went to the location the tracker last activated and found the collar.

08/11- Whalley Road- ASB- Youths kicking informants doors in an evening. Patrols have spoke with informant, patrolled the area since the report and no more incidents have occurred so far.

09/11- Calder Vale Park- Attempt FORD vehicle theft- door handle broke off car, screw driver scratches on the door- patrols offered SG advice and crime prevention advice due to FORD VEHICLE being targeted recently.

Read Environmental Group response to cameras donation;

That is very good news, and really feels like a great step forward, to know that Read PC are supporting REG, and more importantly, helping residents to lower their carbon footprint - every little helps! We'll let you know when we get the camera.

Thank you very much Marie, and Read Parish Council.

Very best wishes,

13. Planning Applications/Decisions/Enforcements – There was one planning applications received since the time of the last minutes, as follows:

Application 3/2021/1074 - 8 Hammond Drive, Read BB12 7RE

The application is for a proposed bedroom extension, in addition to previously approved application

3/2021/0428.

Read Parish Council Planning Committee

No objections to this application.

15. Finance & Accounts:

a) Payments

03/11/2021	Newsletter printing	£90.00
10/11/2021	Water bill	£154.48
12/11/2021	Allotment deposit return	£50.00
18/11/2021	DM Payroll Services	£60.00
18/11/2021	AC Salary November	£256.00
19/11/2021	Allotment deposit return	£50.00
24/11/2021	Jason Shaw Hedge trimming	£42.00
24/11/2021	Environmental Group Donation	£150.00
01/12/2021	SLCC – Clerk Training	£144.00
08/12/2021	Barrie Tyler – Website design services	£322.69
16/12/2021	AC Salary December	£254.00
16/12/2021	Expenses for tree light up and Xmas meal raffle	£61.78

b) Income

01/11/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
01/11/2021	Allotment rent	£68.00
01/11/2021	Allotment rent	£24.00
03/11/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
03/11/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
04/11/2021	Allotment rent	£24.00
08/11/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
08/11/2021	Allotment rent	£342.00
22/11/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
22/11/2021	Allotment rent	£36.00
22/11/2021	Allotment rent	£48.00
24/11/2021	Field rent	£633.60
29/11/2021	Allotment rent	£72.00
29/11/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
29/11/2021	Allotment rent	£36.00
29/11/2021	Allotment rent	£36.00
01/12/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
01/12/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
01/12/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
02/12/2021	Allotment rent	£78.00
13/12/2021	RV Grant – Christmas lunch	£400.00
15/12/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00
15/12/2021	Allotment rent	£18.00

c) Bank reconciliation as at 20th December 2021

Opening Balances 19.12.21			
Community Account	£7,381.00		
Business Saver Account	£9,580.96		£16,961.96

Add: Receipts			£14,427.60
Less: Payments			£9,776.99
Balance			£21,612.57

15. Items for the next agenda

- Telephone Kiosk
- Jubilee Grant & Event
- Dementia Singing Group
- Lengthsman Review
- Village Hall Lighting
- Defibrillator
- Footpath 34
- Read Motor Bodies
- Shipping Container
- Precept

The meeting ended at 8.05 pm.