

**READ PARISH COUNCIL**

**08/06/2022**

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 8th June 2022 at 7.00p.m.**

**Present:** Chairman: Councillor Hacking  
Councillors: Anderson, Barker, Greenhough, McKelvey, Pollard.

**In attendance:** April Collinson (Clerk)

1 member of the public attended.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Councillor Bennett apologised for their absence.
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 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022** – *the minutes were approved.*
4. **Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda** – *an update was provided regarding several items;*
  - 11/05/2022 13.b – *Bins blocking the road.* Ribble Valley Borough Council does not have any stickers which can be placed on the offending bins however did provide a telephone contact number for reporting the issue, reports will be collated.
  - 11/05/2022 13.g – *Car Park and Allotment Road.* It had been proposed to contact John Lofthouse for a quote to resurface the area however he has gone into retirement.
  - 11/05/2022 13.j – *Overgrown Bushes.* Residents have been contacted about the bushes causing issues and seem to be taking steps to resolve the problem.
5. **Public participation** – *none*
6. **Borough Councillor's Report** – *none*
7. **Clerk's Report** – a report was received from the local PCSO with the monthly crime statistics for the month of May: 01/03/2022-31/03/2022.

Drugs-0  
Vehicle crime- 1  
Criminal damage excluding vehicles-0  
Public order- 0  
ASB- 2  
Assault-1  
Theft-0  
Theft or UTMV-1  
Burglary-0  
Road Related Offence-0

Multiple blocked gullies have been reported to LCC who have taken action to clear blockages and have confirmed they will continue to monitor the site

**8. Reports from external meetings**

*Local Plan – councillors attended a meeting with Ribble Valley Borough Council regarding the future Local Plan. In the current stage the objective is to gather ideas and concerns. It is proposed to emphasise the impact traffic from surrounding areas is having on Read and Simonstone. It was raised that other local areas have a wealth of pedestrian crossings and even additional roads being built to manage traffic whereas Read has only one pedestrian crossing and has seen a significant increase in traffic volumes.*

## **9. Playground:**

**a) To receive the playground inspection report** – Dog Fouling has become an issue as well as litter. It is proposed to place a notice on the gate from the football field to ensure people are aware that dogs are not allowed on the park and that litter should be placed in the bin provided.

**b) Repairs and maintenance** – it was noted that some jobs are outstanding, woodchip is to be placed near the bench to help negate tripping hazard, the bin is to be moved and some areas need painting as well as the net to be purchased and installed. It was noted that there seems to be a large amount of bird muck on the swings which seems to come back as soon as it is washed off, bird spikes were discussed to try discourage birds from sitting above the swings. Another issue is that the false grass on the corner of one of the equipment bases is torn and may need replacing.

**10. Allotment Management Committee report** – An Allotment Management committee meeting has taken place, most of the plots are being well kept however about 10 require further attention, tenants have been contacted about any further work which is required. The majority of plots which require attention have made some improvements since being contacted or have been on touch to explain the situation. There are currently 18 people on the waiting list and one plot has recently become vacant. The plot is in good condition so it was agreed that the deposit should be returned. The vacant plot is 2/3 size and contains a multitude of various sheds/buildings and birds. Councillors discussed that it may be better to split the plot into smaller plots due to the long waiting list. Alternatively it could be made into an area where people could rent a greenhouse rather than a whole plot however the logistics of this may be problematic. Queries were made into whether people would participate in a scrap metal collection as several allotment holders seem to have scrap metal on the allotments, it was noted that there would have to be a sufficient amount for it to be worthwhile for someone to pick it up and would also need to be collected in one place.

## **11. Decision Items**

### **a) Traffic Volume, Pollution and Safety**

Councillors raised that there seems to be a lot of drivers speeding in the village and it was suggested that speed cameras could be used to help regulate the speed of traffic. A Pedestrian crossing is also needed, although this would likely be in Simonstone, Read Parish Council would support this. It was noted that near Low Grove the surface is quite steep and slippery especially in winter and a tactile surface similar to those used on the pavements at pedestrian crossings could help residents in this area

**RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to Lancashire County Council highlighting the concerns about Speed and the need for a second pedestrian crossing as well as a tactile surface.**

### **b) Parish Plan**

Simonstone Parish Council are currently working towards drafting a questionnaire, methods of delivery and collating responses were discussed along with methods of

detecting forgery. Question themes and the length of the questionnaire were also discussed.

**c) Telephone Kiosk**

The Telephone Kiosk was scheduled to be removed however it was discovered that it was still connected to the mains electricity supply. Once the kiosk has been disconnected from the electricity supply a new date for removal will be scheduled. It was considered whether a planter could be placed where the Telephone kiosk used to be situated.

**d) Church Street Garden Trees**

The trees were reviewed and appeared to be healthy however needed to be reviewed once they came into leaf to ensure this. The trees by the playground should also be reviewed.

**e) Church Street Garden Jubilee Picnic Bench**

It was agreed that a plaque should be ordered and installed on the Picnic Bench to commemorate the Jubilee.

**RESOLVED: The plaque will be installed on the picnic bench.**

**f) Plaque for Environment Group**

The environment group have put forward the wording for the suggested notice for the gardens along the cricket club. It was noted that the dry stone walling also looks excellent.

**RESOLVED: a quote for the plaque will be obtained and discussed at the next meeting.**

**g) No Dogs Allowed notice for Playground**

This was discussed under matter 9.a) Please see above

**RESOLVED: a notice confirming “No Dogs Allowed” and also a notice about litter will be ordered and attached to the gate.**

**h) Payment to Village Hall for hire of hub room**

The current Chair of the Village Hall has resigned, invoices are currently being organised. An invoice for April 2022-April 2023 has been received and paid. An invoice will be received in the coming weeks for January-March 2022.

**i) AGAR & Accounts**

The accounts have been signed off by the internal Auditor and councillors have reviewed these and agreed responses in the AGAR. The public are welcome to inspect the accounts.

**RESOLVED: The appropriate sections of the AGAR & Accounts were read through and approved.**

**j) Road Motor Bodies**

The Solicitor has agreed a one year lease. It was discussed that should the state of the land not improve or the land be used adequately then the lease would not be renewed. It was noted that as the road is unadopted so SORN cars can be parked on there currently however if the road does become adopted it is likely that many of the cars could not be parked there.

**RESOLVED: It was agreed the lease should run for one year from the date of signing. The area will be inspected regularly and kept under review.**

## **12. Correspondence**

Peak and Northern Footpaths Society have been in touch about some footpath grants available in the area. This will be looked into further and discussed at a future meeting.

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

**Planning Application No. 3/2022/0378 - 1 Greenacres, Read, Burnley, BB12 7PT**

Proposed single storey annexe.

Planning Committee

No Objections to the above application, however it was noted that a flat roof would reduce the impact on the surrounding area.

**14. Finance & Accounts:**

**a) Payments**

24/05/2022	A Collinson Salary (May)	£261.00
24/05/2022	WaterPlus	£61.22

**b) Income**

No income for this period.

**c) Bank reconciliation as at 31 May 2022**

<b>Opening Balances 01.06.22</b>			
Community Account	£14,676.13		
Business Saver Account	£9,581.20		£24,257.33
Add: Receipts			£15,034.84
Less: Payments			£3,651.06
Balance			£35,641.11

It was noted that some money could be put aside for the car park & road as well as the playground

**15. Items for the next agenda**

- **Playground**
- **Carpark & Road**
- **Traffic and Pollution**
- **Parish Plan**
- **Telephone Kiosk**
- **Celebration Sunday/Christmas party**
- **Read Motor bodies**

**The Next Meeting will take place on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022.**

**The meeting ended at 8.25 pm.**