

READ PARISH COUNCIL

02/11/2022

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 2nd November 2022 at 7.00p.m.**

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

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

1 member of the public attended.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Councillors Barker & Hanson had sent their apologies 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 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – approved**
4. **Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda –**

*05.10.22 11k) in relation to the car park a quote in the region of £29,000 had been given to install the plastic grid previously discussed. Councillors discussed that the grid may not be hard wearing enough to be used on the attached allotment road as well as other solutions such as a concrete repair to the centre of the car park or a kerb which could deter driving stunts being performed on the area.*

*05/10/2022 12.) Councillors discussed the Grit bin which had been moved by a resident to Church Street Gardens. Lancashire County Council had been followed up regarding this and had advised that a new grit bin will be installed on St. Johns Close where it had been removed from no date could be provided for when this would take place. Councillors discussed if the now extra grit bin could be utilised elsewhere in the village.*
5. **Public participation** – none.
6. **Borough Councillor's Report** – none.
7. **Clerk's Report** – A steady stream of Allotment tenancy payments have begun to come in. Payments are due by 1<sup>st</sup> November.
8. **Reports from external meetings** – none.
9. **Playground:**
  - a) **To receive the playground inspection report** – it was noted that several repairs have taken place recently. During winter months the playground is inspected less regularly as it is expected to receive less use.
  - b) **Repairs and maintenance** – The cargo net has been received and installed with help from Councillor Anderson, the net itself cost £1,077.71 and professional installation would have cost in the region of £1,000 extra, it is hoped that a grant will be able to cover some of the costs incurred. The repairs have been made to the wobble board, 2 benches, gate and bird spikes.
10. **Allotment Management Committee report** – There are currently 14 people on the waiting list for an allotment, 1 tenant has advised they will be giving up their allotment once they have sold their greenhouse, 1 further tenant is considering giving up their allotment. The gate to the Football Pitch and allotment road will be locked on 5th November during

the Cricket Club's bonfire event.

## 11. Decision Items

### a) Telephone Kiosk

The Telephone kiosk is currently awaiting disconnection from the national Electrical grid, once this happens the sale can be complete and the kiosk can be removed safely.

### b) Back Lane (Quiet Lane)

Councillors were advised that, following the discussions around the potential signpost at Cobcar Nook, residents had been in touch to advise that they like the idea of Back Lane becoming a "quiet lane" Councillor Pollard explained that Quiet Lanes are minor rural roads, which have been designated by local highway authorities to pay special attention to the needs of walkers, cyclists, horse riders and other vulnerable road users, and to offer protection from speeding traffic. Cars are not banned from Quiet Lanes and the use of Quiet Lanes is shared. Measures such as lower speed limits and discrete road signs aim to encourage drivers to slow down and be considerate to more vulnerable users who can in turn use and enjoy country lanes in greater safety, with less threat from speeding traffic.

**RESOLVED: Further information about designating a quiet lane will be requested so that this can be discussed further.**

### c) Goose Leach Wood Stile

It was proposed that a gate be installed to replace a stile on the public right of way to the south of Gooseleach wood, the stile has been damaged over time and the wire netting which was used to keep livestock has been bent back in order to allow dogs access meaning livestock can escape.

**RESOLVED: The Parish Council voted to replace the stile with a gate.**

### d) Seniors Christmas Meal

almost all the Tickets allocated to Read have been sold and as well as the majority of tickets allocated to Simonstone. A raffle will be drawn at the event with tickets being free and different colours for each village to ensure an even distribution of prizes.

### e) Christmas Tree Event

The Christmas Tree light up event will take place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, the children from Read School have been asked to sing at the event and drinks will be served at the Village Hall afterward.

### f) Parish Plan

The Parish Plan Work Group are working on drafting a questionnaire. It was discussed that this could include questions to gauge opinion on a recently proposed kickabout area.

### g) Road Safety

Simonstone Parish Council have arranged a meeting with County Councillor Ged Mirfin to discuss issues of speeding and road safety in Simonstone, as Read and Simonstone do experience similar issues often along the same road it was noted that this will be beneficial to both parishes. The Meeting will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in the Village Hall.

### h) Read Motor Bodies

The clerk has made efforts to chase up the lease as this seems to be taking a considerable time to complete however no response has been received. It was noted that following an inspection some improvements had been made however no skip appears to have arrived which the council was advised would happen in order to remove some rubbish. Councillors discussed what could happen with the land

should the lease not be renewed, it was considered that some local residents may be interested in the land and also that it come become additional space on the carpark.

**RESOLVED: The clerk will continue to chase up the lease in order to move matters forward**

**i) The Estate of Mr Summersgill**

A cheque for £45,000.00 has been received as part of the estate of Mr Joseph Summersgill, there was no specification as to what the money should be used for given. Councillors discussed placing the funds in a bank account with higher interest levels while it is decided how this should be allocated. Councillors discussed that this could be used for playground equipment, a sports area, car park and road improvements or many other possibilities.

**RESOLVED: The clerk will look up the plans for a previously proposed kickabout area.**

**j) Precept**

Councillors discussed the precept and plans for the coming year along with considering the rate of inflation. Councillors opted to increase the precept by about 7%.

**RESOLVED: The clerk will finalise figures and circulate to councillors for approval.**

**12. Correspondence**

A resident had raised concerns about a neighbours fence erected on top of a garage which is blocking out their light, the planning department has been contacted about this and have advised that the fence should not be there however no action seems to have been taken to enforce this – the resident has been advised to contact their local MP about the situation.

**13. Planning Applications/Decisions/Enforcements – There was one planning application received since the time of the last minutes;**

**Planning Application No. 3/2022/0959 - Old Coal Staithe House, Read, BB12 7RT**

The application is for Proposed single storey rear extension including new front entrance porch, reposition of front door and demolition of existing outbuildings. Resubmission of 3/2022/0029.

**14. Finance & Accounts:**

**a) Payments**

03/10/2022	PKF Littlejohn (Audit Fee)	£240.00
10/10/2022	Printing	£20.71
10/10/2022	Celebration Sunday consumables	£23.48
10/10/2022	RSVH printing (Celebration Sunday)	£2.40
10/10/2022	RSVH hall hire (Celebration Sunday & allotment committee meeting)	£50.00
20/10/2022	Newsletter Printing	£95.00
20/10/2022	Clerks Wage	£266.25
20/10/2022	Sutcliffe play – Playground Parts	£1,077.71
20/10/2022	Water Plus	£61.22

**b) Income**

05/09/2022	Interest	£2.95
06/10/2022	Allotment rent 10A	£36.00

06/10/2022	Allotment rent 1D	£18.00
06/10/2022	Allotment rent 7B	£24.00
06/10/2022	Allotment rent 11A	£18.00
06/10/2022	Allotment rent 1C	£18.00
07/10/2022	Allotment rent 5A	£18.00
07/10/2022	Allotment rent 2C	£18.00
10/10/2022	Allotment rent 14	£72.00
10/10/2022	Allotment rent 12D	£18.00
10/10/2022	Concurrent Functions Grant (RVBC)	£871.00
10/10/2022	Allotment rent 9D & 11E	£48.00
10/10/2022	Allotment rent 22A	£18.00
10/10/2022	Allotment rent 22C	£36.00
12/10/2022	Allotment rent 6A	£24.00
12/10/2022	Allotment rent 19A	£36.00
12/10/2022	Allotment rents (cheques) 15C, 16A, 17, 19B	£180.00
12/10/2022	Allotment rents (cash) 2D, 3C, 3D, 6B	£156.00
13/10/2022	HMRC VAT return	£658.57
17/10/2022	Allotment rent 16B	£36.00
17/10/2022	Allotment rent 22B	£18.00
18/10/2022	Allotment rent 22F	£18.00
19/10/2022	Allotment rent 9C	£24.00
20/10/2022	Allotment rent 9A	£18.00
24/10/2022	Allotment rent 5B	£18.00
24/10/2022	Allotment rent 5C	£18.00
28/10/2022	Allotment rent 20B	£16.00

**c) Bank reconciliation as at 28 October 2022**

<b>Balances</b>			
Community Account	£12,821.68		
Business Saver Account	£9,584.87		£22,406.55
Add: Receipts			£17,619.13
Less: Payments			<b>£8,098.77</b>
Balance			<b>£31,926.91</b>

Councillors discussed the variation of the allotment water bills and concluded this is likely due to when the meter readings are taken by the water company.

**15. Items for the next agenda**

- **The Estate of Mr Summersgill**
- **Telephone Kiosk**
- **Read Motor Bodies**
- **Meeting attendance**

**The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.**

**The Next Meeting will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023.**