

Simonstone Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on 11th October 2012 at 7.00 pm
in the Old School Simonstone.

**Present Councillors. Geoff Hodbod, Alan Duckworth, Graham Meloy,
Denise Rishton, Stephen Dawson, Joanne Quinn, and Russell Hargreaves.**

**In attendance - Councillor John Hill, the Chairman and Clerk of Read Parish Council and 2
Members of the public, and Parish Clerk Roger Hirst.**

Apologies - Councillors David Peat was approved.

Decision items

David Padley of the Environmental Projects Team at LCC gave a talk on the practical advantages of the County Councils Lengthsman scheme for Parish Council's and the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. He told the meeting there were currently 28 Parish Councils in the county. The Pendle Lengthsman project has 10 parishes around Pendle Hill contributing to the scheme and that councils who are members of the scheme could benefit from funding grants from various sources. The Pendle scheme is managed by Angela Whitwell, who is also the Clerk of Sabden Parish Council, who coordinates funding from all sources, is the central contact for all parishes & the lengthsman.

The Parish Representative should deal directly with the lengthsman in relation to the jobs to be undertaken in the Parish these may be the regular type of jobs the Parish wish to be undertaken or the responses to reported problems that the rep has been made aware of. Parish's determine a contribution annually based on services they manage themselves or new ones that they wish to carry out. The contribution should be relative to the amount of work a parish requires the Lengthsman to undertake.

The funds from all sources are managed by the coordinator. The contributions made by parishes assist in attracting further funding which in turn gives added value to the contributions made. The benefits are that the scheme simplifies the operational and funding processes and uses local contractors (Lengthsman) where possible. Each Parish Council needs to have a local contact (Parish Councillor or public spirited volunteer) who will react local complaints by investigating them and in if necessary forwarding the details to the Parish Clerk or to the Lengthsman coordinator, who will take the appropriate action.

The types of work undertaken are footpath, garden, landscape maintenance, servicing litter, grit, and dogbins, as well as SPID and wayside seats. The overall spend during the year will be monitored to ensure the member parishes don't exceed their allocation or that no overspend occurs. It is extremely unlikely a Parish will be asked for additional funds during the year to 'bail' out the scheme.

12/157 Minutes of the meetings held on 13th September 2012.

a. It was resolved that the above minutes were approved.

12/158 Declaration of interests. None

12/159 Public Participation. (open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 mins. 3mins per speaker)

12/160 Decision items

a. **Notice board** Supplier waiting for the delivery of parts.

It was resolved to note the report

a. **Christmas**

i **Tree Lights-** A quotation has been received for consideration.

It was resolved to purchase the Christmas set of lights from Lumalite as per the quotation.

ii **Christmas Party** –Working party-

iii **Christmas tree** Parish Council has been invited to decorate a tree at St John's Church Christmas tree Festival.

It was resolved to form a working party of all members to make the necessary Christmas arrangements and they would meet at the Higher Trapp on 25th October 7.00pm.

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b. **County Councillor Albert Atkinson** –Members have been circulated with an agreement to meet with the Councillor and members have indicated that Friday afternoon is the best time when members are available. The Stork hotel has agreed to be a venue for a meeting. 16th November 2pm at the Stork Hotel.
It was resolved that Councillor Duckworth, Meloy, Dawson, and Hodbod attend the meeting.

c. **Tree Tier Forum. Coun Pat Young (Chair of the RV Parish Liaison meeting) report**

i A meeting with Andy Coombs of the County Council had been arranged on 26th October at the Stork Hotel at 2pm to discuss the planning and highway safety concerns re Outdoor elements a meeting

It was resolved that Councillor Duckworth, Meloy, Dawson, and Hodbod attend the meeting

Martholme Viaduct and the former railway Track is to be discussed at the next meeting of the 3TForum.

It was resolved to note the report.

ii **Road Crossing Whalley Road/ Fountains Avenue-** The County Council is to reassess the junction. Members emailed with the letter from the Director of the Environment, Jo Truton.

It was resolved to note the report

12/161 Matters raised by members

a. **Read Parish Council** Chairman and Coun Rishton gave a report on the proceeding at the meeting including the Youth Group and the use of Smart Water to identify council owned equipment.

It was resolved to note the report and to purchase Smart water for the Parish Council to be used on council owned equipment.

b. **Localism Act 2011 -Neighbourhood** planning is included in the Act and following comments at the last Parish Council meeting and to avoid any misunderstanding . The Parish Council considered this matter at a meeting on the 19th April with Kirkwell’s Planning Consultants and at the Parish Council meeting on 10th May. It was decided to take no action until the Parish Plan has been developed and following a consultation with residents the development of a Neighbourhood plan will be considered (12/90c.).

It was resolved to note the report

12/162 Working Party reports

a. **Governance**, matters for consideration

i Planning review the Clerk reported that he had redrafted the consultation letter to councillors to avoid misunderstanding.

It was resolved to note the report.

ii To review Website Working policy.

It was resolved to forward the policy to the Ribble Valley Legal Department to seek approval.

iii **Parish Plans** – The Chairman reported that a Questionnaire was well on the way to completion and once the task had been concluded a copy would be made available to the Parish Council.

It was resolved that to note the report.

12/163 LCC /LALC–

a. **Highway repairs** Whins Lane Closure on the eastern end of the Lane for the installation of a 11kva Electricity Cable during October to January.

It was resolved that Councillor Dawson would make enquires.

b. Permanent 20mph speed limit on School Lane to be advertised.

It was resolved that to note the report.

c. **Winter Service Conference** -October 20th 2012 – 10am till 3pm - at the Leyland Hotel Registration & Coffee at 9:45am.

It was resolved that the Coun Dawson and the Clerk attend the Conference.

d. **Training Courses**, Chairmanship, Finance, and Neighbourhood Planning.

It was resolved that the Chairman to attend the Neighbourhood and a member of the Parish Plan Working Group on 19th January.

e. **LALC RV Local meeting** 25/9/12 Councillor Duckworth gave a verbal report concerning onthe 3Tforum. and the progress of broadband across the County 90% of users be able to received highspeed services by the end of 2014.

It was resolved to note the report.

12/164 RVBC

a. The Clerk reported on the available Grants from Ribble Valley BC

It was resolved that to note the report

- b. The Clerk had distributed to members a copy of the Benefit Consultation documents which outlined the Borough Councils to find funds from their resources to offset the reduction in the benefit funding.
- c.

12/165 Planning applications

Application number 3/2012 0723	Officer: : Grahame Thorpe	Grid Reference 377585 435695
Address	Former Stables Trapp Lane Simonstone	
Proposal	Demolish the Existing Stable block and erect 2 2 Storey 4 bedroom detached houses and Garage block	
Parish Council	Raised objections on Light, Landscape, Noise and Nature Conservation grounds.	

Application number 3/2012/0789 05/09/2012	Officer: : Colin Sharpe 01200414500	Grid Reference 377489 435260
Address	Land opposite Foxhill House Whins Lane Simonstone Lancashire	
Proposal	Proposed demolition of the existing building and the erection of one detached dwelling with Granny Annex, and access alterations. Applications for full consent	
Parish Council	Objects to the development on Ribbon development, design, landscape and conservations grounds. Settlement grounds.	

Application number 3/2012/0848	Officer: : Graeme Thorpe 01200414520	Grid Reference 378133 436444
Address	Huntroyde Home Farm Huntroyde West Whins Lane Simonstone, Lancashire BB12 7QL	
Proposal	Temporary siting of a 50m meteorological mast. Applications for full consent	
Parish Council	Applications details to be placed on the website for public consultation b.y email	

12/166 Finance

- a. **Revised estimate and budget for the year 2013/4 were discussed.**
It was resolved that members consider the budget options at the next Parish Council meeting.
- b. **Payment of Accounts - None**

12/167 Borough Councilors reports – none

12/168 Matters reported by members for consideration at future meetings

- a. Risk assessment Course.

12/169 Matters for reporting to the appropriate authorities.

INFORMATION ITEMS (no decisions incurring finance may be taken on these items)

12/170 Ribble Valley Grants

- a. Grant for Concurrent Functions- the Parish Council considered this item at the August meeting and as there were no plans to change the current arrangement it was decided to consider them next year. Usually there is a reviews this grant level early in the new financial year. They are for Burial grounds, Bus shelters, Footpaths, Footway lighting, Litter collection, Dog waste bins, and Parks and play areas
- b. The Neighbourhood Act. The Parish Council had consider has this matter at a previous meeting and had decided to take no action until the Parish plan had been developed and dependent on the results of the consultation then the a decision would be made whether or not to proceed with developing a Neighbourhood plan.
- c. Village amenity grants offers the opportunity for village hall committees, parish and town councils and organisations within the village communities to bid for up to £20,000 for each individual project to provide community activities, improve play areas or refurbish and develop their hall or other village amenities. This funding will have to be matched by other grants or fund raising activities and builds on the success and demand generated by the achievements of the previous year's applicants. The Parish Council has currently has no qualifying project at present.
- d. The RV Council's Sporting Excellence Grants seek to assist many talented sportsmen and women in their chosen sport, helping towards the expenses associated with competition, training and equipment.

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- e. Excellence awards are the same as above, and are awarded to people within the performing arts.
- f. The purpose of Recreation/Culture grants is to provide voluntary organisations with support for events/projects that enhance recreation and cultural provision.

- 1) LATE information items.
 - a) September newsletter
 - b) New about the online Flood Portal
 - c) Change of Officer contacts;-
 - 1. Public Realm Officer –Andy Ashcroft
 - 2. Highway and Traffic Management lead –Jill Fenton.
 - 3. Locality Officer contacts -Mark Wardale.
 - 4. Assistant Director for Commissioning- Peter Meyes.
 - d) Boundary Commission for England consultation on proposals -Places where the documents can be viewed in Ribble Valley. Clitheroe Library, Whalley Library, and Ribble Valley Offices from 16th of October.
 - e) PROW - Funds for the development of new footpaths and improve existing ones.
 - f) BT Get it together Scheme- Free Broadband for 1 year to community groups
 - g) Communities Right to Challenge – Voluntary bodies may to take over local government services.
 - h) Milestone Society

It was resolved to note the above information items.

2) Training

Chairmanship	LCTC	21/11/12	7.pm	£25
Finance	LCTC	12/12/12	7.PM	£25
Neighbourhood Plans Getting Started	LCTC & CPRE	19/1/13	10am-4.30pm	Free

- 3) RVBC - Planning meeting agenda -11th October
- 4) LCC Free Compost Scheme for not for profit organizations
- 5) Little Green Bus letter of thanks for the donation.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7pm on 8th November in the Old School, Simonstone Lane, Simonstone.

Chairman’s Signature.....

Chairman’s initials.....