

Simonstone Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on 13th September 2012 at 7.00 pm
in the Old School Simonstone.

Present Councillors. Geoff Hodbod, David Peat, Alan Duckworth, Graham Meloy, Denise Rishton, and Stephen Dawson.

In attendance Councillor John Hill, 1 Member of the public, and Parish Clerk Roger Hirst.
Apologies - Councillors Joanne Quinn, and Russell Hargreaves. Were approved.

Decision items

12/139 Minutes of the meetings held on 9th August 2012.

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

12/140 Declaration of interests. None

12/141 Public Participation. (open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 mins. 3mins per speaker)

- a. One member of the public addressed the meeting expressing concern that the Planning Department had not sent notices of a planning application which would affect his property and that of his Neighbours. He told the meeting that after he had contacted the authority they had extended the consultation period by 21 days.

Decision items

12/142 Working Parties

- a. **Governance Working Party considered the management of the Parish Council Website, Facebook and Twitter.**
It was resolved to adopt the recommendations and appoint Geoff Hodbod as the manager website.
- b. **Tree Lights-** Councillor Dawson reported that both he and the Clerk had investigated various lighting sets and one had been identified as suitable.
It was resolved that a price for the supply should be obtained for consideration at the next Parish Council meeting.
- c. **Christmas Party** – entertainment and staffing on the party was discussed.
It was resolved to invite volunteers to assist at the party.

12/143 Matters raised by members

- a. Whins Lane 30mph limit and mirror at the junction of Whins Lane and Trapp Lane.
It was resolved to that a request for the 30mph to be extended from Read to Trapp Lane, and to request that a mirror to be placed at the junction of Trapp Lane and Whins Lane.

12/144 Councillors reports

- a. Councillor Duckworth reported on the recent Read Parish Council meeting.
It was resolved to note the report.
- b. Councillors Peat and Duckworth gave a report on the Public rights of Way Maintenance conference were a replacement for the Lenghtman's Scheme.
It was resolved to join the Scheme.
- c. New Opportunity for Town and Parish Councils- consultation.
It was resolved to note the report.
- d. **Parish Plans** – The Chairman reported that the group continued to meet and Sylvia Crozier and Greera Norse will lead this group.
It was resolved to thank the volunteers and request that they make a report at the January meeting of the Parish Council. The next meeting of the group is on 18/9/12 at the Stork Hotel 7.00pm.

12/145 LCC

- a. 20mph Scheme. No response had been received from Jo Turton (LCC Environmental Director) concerning the crossing at Whalley Road Fountains Ave Junction.

It was resolved that Councillor Albert Atkinson be invited to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

- a. **Three Tier Forum Report** A report had been received from Coun Pat Young (Chairman Ribble Valley Parish Liaison Committee) concerning the Parish Council’s complaint about Trapp Lane and Highways Safety issues.

It was resolved to note the report and that the issue of the lack of progress on resolving Martholme Viaduct and Sustrans Cycleway should be raised at the next meeting of the Forum.

12/146 LALC- Workshops;-

- a. **General Power of Competence** – The Clerk attended the course and it was explained that subject to various criteria a Parish Council would be able to take on any tasks that an individual can do without having to qualify it’s actions by identifying which legal Power it is to use beforehand. Eg a Parish Council could open a business and make charges for services.

It was resolved to note the report.

12/147 Planning

a. **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 house and a Garage block	
Parish Council	The site will be visited by councillors	

Application no 3/2012/0716 08/08/2012.	Officer: : Colin Sharpe 01200414500	Grid Reference 377555 435702
Address	Land off Trapp Lane Simonstone Lancashire BB12 7QW	
Proposal	Proposed erection of a new agricultural building, creation of new track across land to building from existing access gate. Applications for full consent	
Parish Council	No objection	

12/152 Finance

- a. **Audit Commission** has confirmed the Auditors for the next 5years and they are to be the firm BDO LLP (Who are our Current Auditors). The fees for the period will be nil if the income and expenditure is kept below £10,000 though if there is any additional work required on the audit there will be additional fees dependent on the amount of work involved. The hourly rate varies from £85 to £380

It was resolved to note the report.

- b. Items to be considered for inclusion in the Budget discussions at the October meeting for the year 2013/4.

It was resolved that Grit bins, Dog bins, Litter bins, a SPID for the A671 and PAC inspections should be included in the draft budget for consideration and that members should forward any additional items to the Clerk by the 23th September.

The Little Green Bus - a request for financial assistance has been received.

It was resolved to contribute £150.

c. **Payment of Accounts**

i	SLCC	Subscription	£72.00
ii	I R Hirst	Salary	£477.58
iii	HMRC	Income Tax	£119.32
iv	PSS	Expenses	£69.39
v	I R Hirst	Bench fitting	£15.69
vi	The Little Green Bus	Donation	£150.00
vii	Cllr Geoff Hodbod	Chairman’s Allowance	£130.00

It was resolved to pay the above accounts

12/153 Borough Councilors’ reports- Councillor Hill reported the recent proceedings of RVBC including various Capital and Concurrent function grants.

It was resolved that the Clerk should review the Parish Council budget and make application for grants where applicable.

Chairman’s initials.....

12/154 Matters reported by members for consideration at future meetings

12/155 Matters for reporting to the appropriate authorities.

a. **Hedges** – It was reported that a number of hedges were overhanging the pavement in many places in the village.

It was resolved that the members should advise the Clerk of properties where the hedges overhang the highway so that the Highway Authority can take the appropriate action.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7pm on 11th October in the Old School, Simonstone Lane, Simonstone.

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

12/156 **Nigel Evans MP** has responded to the Parish Council's request to seek his support for Barbara Keeleys MP's bill the (Planning Applications Appeals by Parish and Town Councils Bill). He has forwarded our comments to Bob Neill MP, the under Secretary of State for the Department for Communities and Local Government. He cannot because of his Roll (Deputy Speaker) vote on the issue as he has to protect the impartiality of the Chair.

Chairman's Signature.....

Chairman's initials.....