

Simonstone Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held on 14th January 2016

in the Old School Simonstone.

Present Councillors. David Peat, Joanne Quinn, Geoff Hodbod, Graham Meloy and Sue Bridge,

In attendance – 1 Member of the public & Parish Clerk- Roger Hirst.

- 16/1. Apologies – Coun Jayne Shaw and Denise Rishton** were approved and RV Councillor Lesley Graves.
- 16/2. Minutes of the meeting held** on 12th November 2015
It was resolved that these be approved.
- 16/3. Declaration of interests.** None,
- 16/4. Public Participation.** None (open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 mins. 3 mins per speaker).
- 16/5. Decision items;**
- a. **Litter bin** –
 - i Bus stop on Blackburn Road.- RVBC has quoted for emptying it on a regular basis.
It was resolved to consider alternative solutions when a similar problem occurs in future.
 - b. **Theatre Working Party**
 - i There were in the region of 50+ people who attended and there was a slight loss on the takings which was offset by a funding grant. See attached accounts.
 - ii Peter Macqueen The Professor of Adventure £500 20/5 Friday has been booked.
It was resolved to note the arrangements as above and that a Working party would meet on 3rd February to consider additional community activities including the Christmas arrangements for the coming year.
 - c. **Defibrillators** The Parish has been granted 2 defibrillators by the British Heart Foundation . Arrangements are being made to fit them at suitable locations to meet the Ambulance Service requirements. It was also reported that the Parish Council was to assist in finding local volunteers to undertake training in the use of the equipment.
It was resolved to note the report to assist in achieving a successful outcome.
 - d. **Commemorative Bench** for the Parish Garden. Clerk has been ordered and it will be delivered at the end of January.
It was resolved that the Lengthsman be requested to install it in the Parish Council garden.
 - i **Housing for the Elderly** – three meetings had been held with Ribble Valley BC, Ribble Valley Homes and St Vincent’s Housing Association in bc meeting who it would assist in the development of a Scheme. The Landowner had been made aware of progress in pursuance of meeting the objectives of the Parish Plan.
It was resolved that further meetings should be held so that a draft scheme be formulated prior to engaging the villagers in a consultation process.
 - e. **Whins Lane Mirror.** LCC Highways had responded to the Parish Councils request and remarked the junction and have remodeled the road markings at the junction in order to reduce the risks there.
It was resolved that the Department of transport be requested to authorize the approval of placing the mirror at the junction.
- 16/6. Governance matters;-**
- a. **Transparency Act 2014**
 - i To agree the format of the web pages as required in order to comply with the Act. The purpose of the Act is to display agenda and all the necessary details on the Parish Web site
It was resolved that the format of web pages be approved.
 - ii The Government agreed in September to assist, by grants, Parishes that have no knowledge or facilities to comply with the Act.

It was resolved that an application for funding be made to assist the Parish Council to comply fully with the Act once the details have become available and that enquiries should be made regarding additional backing up of computer held information.

- iii **Financial Regulations.** To amend the Standing Orders to take advantage of modern practices and to avoid possible unnecessary delays in administering the Parish Council. **It was resolved** to add the following clause to the Parish Council's Standing orders. "That the Clerk be allowed to make necessary purchases after consulting and seeking the approval of either the Parish Council Chairman or vice Chairman for items up to the value £250 in advance of a Parish Council meeting where such purchases must be reported."

16/7. Community activities -

- a. **Past Christmas** – a request was made to enquire if grants were available from Ribble Valley for the provision of Christmas trees in the villages. There are none given but the provision of tree lights can attract grant funding. **It was resolved** to note the above report;
- b. **Christmas** - to consider events for next year. **It was resolved** to discuss matters at a Working Party meeting on the 3rd February (See 16/5b)

Matters raised by members

- c. **Coun Peat** - Gate placed on footpath between Simonstone Lane and rear of Bank Terrace parallel to the former railway track. **It was resolved** to make further enquires.
- d. **Coun Hodbod** – Hammond field report of pre planning application consultation **It was resolved** to respond once a Planning application has been made.

16/8. Correspondence Items of concern.

- a. **Transparency Act 2015** .- As a requirement of the Act the Parish Council is to consider the attached reports that have been prepared to be placed on the web. **It was resolved** to note the report.
- b. **Outdoor Element Breach of Planning condition** – the matter has been reported to the RVBC Enforcement Officer. **It was resolved** to note the report.
- c. **New community website: Read and Simonstone Online.**- An email has been received asking if the Parish Council would like to join a combined website with Read Parish Council. **It was resolved** not to join a combined website.

16/9. Reports Chairman. Matters for consideration.

- a. **Coun Meloy – Martholme Greenway** – It was reported that design, planning development work was progressing' **It was resolved** to note the report.

16/10. LCC .

- a. **Consultation on the County Budget proposals** had been forwarded to members for consideration and comment. Threatened closure of 40 Libraries and subsidized bus services would. **It was resolved** to note the report.

16/11. RVBC

- a. **Special meeting of RV Parishes was held to discuss the County Councils Proposal** to cease supporting bus services in the Ribble Valley and to support Parish based public transport. A resolution from the meeting had been agreed and forwarded to the county on behalf of all the parish councils who had been represented at the meeting, (copy was added to the this meeting's agenda). **It was resolved** to note the report.

b. Planning Applications –

Application number 3/2015/1036	Officer: : Adrian Dowd	Grid Reference
Address	Huntroyde West, Whins Lane, Simonstone BB12 7Q	
Wab site	https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/site/scripts/planx_details.php?appNumber=3%2F2015%2F1036	
Proposal	Consultation on application for listed building consent	
Parish Council	No objection	

Application number 3/2015/0994	Officer: Adrian Dowd :	Grid Reference : 377424 434257
Address	Wilkinsons Farm House Simonstone Lane Simonstone : BB12 7NXThe	
Proposal	Conversion of part of garage to create guest bedroom create a guest bedroom	
Website details	https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/site/scripts/planx_details.php?appNumber=3%2F2015%2F0994	
Parish Council	No objection	

Application number 3/2016/0001	Officer: : Adam Birkett 01200 414571	Grid Reference 374804 443021
Address	High Lea Bungalow Whins Lane Simonstone BB12 7QU	
Proposal	Non material amendment to planning approval 3/2015/0684. Removal of ground floor window to North elevation. Provide ground floor window to lounge to West elevation. Provide ground floor window to dining room East elevation	
Parish Council	No objection	

16/12. LALC –

a. Finance

b. Future Audits- It has been announced that as the Audit Commission was wound up both NALC and SLCC have been given Approval to develop a replacement Audit body to the Audit commission The objective of the scheme is to assist Parish Councils to avoid having to make their own Audit Arrangements. The government has provided £540k in order for the 2 bodies to set up the replacement body.

- i A request has been received that the Parish Council considers the offer and decide if it would like to join in the scheme and should it decide not to confirm that they intend to provide their own audit arrangements by the 31st January 2016..
- ii The idea is to simplify the audit arrangements for all local authorities and Parish Councils.

It was resolved to join the proposed national scheme for parish council once it is established.

c. Accounts to be paid .

i	Dove Syke	Christmas Tree.	£240.00
ii	D Peat	meeting expenses and travel	£17.10
iii	IRHirst	Emit Computer formatting	£45.00
		SAR PAC Test	£ 1.00
		SDV Galvanizing Signpost	£16.20
		Travis Perkins Safety tape	£11.82
			£74.02
iv	Graham Meloy	Plastic ties	£4.84.

It was resolved to pay the above accounts

16/13. **Borough Councillors report.** on the outcome of the change to the postal code campaign
It was resolved to note the report.

16/14. The Signpost at the junction of Blackburn Road and Simonstone Lane has been installed. Noted

16/15. It has been reported that the erosion of the River Bank is being dealt with. Noted

- 16/16.** Matters reported by members for consideration at future meetings.
- 16/17.** Matters for reporting to the appropriate authorities.
- 16/18.** Next Parish Council meeting 11th February 2016.at 7pm.

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

- 1. **RVBC.**Minutes December 2015.Planning Meetings Agenda for the meeting on 12th November 2015,
- 2. Planning meeting 14th January
- 3. Warm home Healthy Homes Road Shows. Ribchester 12th January, Mellor 19th Mellor Village Hall and at Chatburn 29th Methodist Church January. Times 11am to 2pm. At all venues. Pie and Peas on a first come first served basis.

Chairman's signature