

Simonstone Parish Council
Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting
held on 4th January 2019.
in the Old School, School Lane, Simonstone
at 7.00 pm

Minutes

Present: Councillors David Peat, John Barker, Geoff Hodbod, Elisa Hargreaves, Graham Meloy, Greera Norse.

In attendance – 10 members of the public Parish Clerk Roger Hirst. and 1 member of RSVH Trustees via a video link.

Apologies – RV Coun. Lesley Graves

19/1 Declaration of interests. .Geoff Hodbod, Greera Norse RSVH declared non pecuniary interests in the Read and Simonstone Village Hall as Trustees but were permitted to remain, speak and vote on non financial aspects.

19/2 Public Participation. (open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 mins. 3 mins per speaker).

The Chairman welcomed 2 Members of Read Parish Council and 10 members of the public. a member of the public welcomed the opportunity to speak and was supportive of the Parish Council's proposal to assist in obtaining a loan for the purchase of the former URC School and mission. A member of the Read Parish Council spoke in favour of the proposal as she had identified over 70 reasons for retaining the building as a community asset.

19/3 Decision items;

19/4 Result of the Read and Simonstone Village Hall community funding Survey.

The Parish Clerk had circulated the latest Business Plan for RSVH dated 30th November along with the latest financial Statement of the Trustees 2018 and 2019 to date. and the report by the Parish Clerk outlining the responses to the Survey of Households about retaining the URC as a Community Facility and the possibility of supporting the Trustees through access to PWLB funds.

The Report also outlined detailed messages of support from Villagers and objections (and a response to the objection) by a villager. A copy of the 2012 Simonstone Village Survey/Plan was circulated for information.

19/5 Members noted;-

- a) that the SPC Village Survey and Parish Plan 2012 referred at Q 19 to the need for a Village Hall;29% of respondents supported and 67% opposed ,including some referring to the existence of the URC.
- b) Also that Q 14/15 referred to support for more facilities for young people in the village.
- c) that the 2018 survey had almost 12% of households responding; 88 % in favour of retaining the URC and 8% against ;87% of respondents were in favour of the PC

Chairman's initials.....

obtaining a loan to purchase the URC (on behalf of the Trustees);13% were not in favour.

- d) that there was a wide ranging discussion at the Conclusion of which the Parish Council
- e) noted the change in circumstance between 2012 and 2018 /9 regarding Community facilities in the two villages and the respective levels of support in each circumstance.
- f) that SPC had already provided some financial support and practical assistance to the Trustees and regarded this project as a benefit to both villages.
- g) that in regard to Due Diligence and safeguarding the public purse the levels of support and finances in the Business Case and wished to have sight of a formal condition survey about the URC Building.
- h) confirmation about the existence and content of any conditions and limitations of use and development of the URC site
- i) clarity that the vesting details and rights of the Synod of the URC to dispose of the said Property mean that any Public Sector purchase would be without challenge
- j) confirmation of READ PCs support for the scheme before agreeing to a joint request to PWLB .

19/6 Next meeting 10th January 700pm

The next Parish Council meeting is on the 10th January 2019

After the business, a power point Presentation was given showing a photographic tour of the building.

Chairman's Signature.....

Chairman's initials.....