

**Simonstone Parish Council
Annual Parish Meeting
held on 9th May 2019
in the Old School, School Lane, Simonstone
at 7.00 pm**

Minutes

SIMONSTONE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2018- 2019

This has been a year where major developments have come to fruition and our ongoing services have continued.

Culturally we have promoted two plays;-

The Spot On theatre Company production of the Haunted Man was put on in October .
Later in February the Leeds Library Theatre Players produced Happy Jack .
The latter production was the eighth Parish production and made a slight surplus and we enabled the Parish Hall volunteers to provide refreshments both of which were donated to Hall Funds.

The Parish hosted the Joint Civic Sunday in June ,in the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress of Ribble Valley and Mr Sajid Javed ,our MEP.

In September,the MP for Hyndburn ,Mr Graham Jones ,opened the footpath from Simonstone Lane and Gooseleach Wood. Improvements continue to be made, including a grant from LCC, and the work of Councillors Barker, Hargreaves and Meloy has been excellent and committed. This was the conclusion of 2/3 years efforts.

Remembrance Sunday fell on 11th November this year and 2 wreaths were laid at the ceremony remembering fallen villagers.

In December the Annual Christmas Tree Blessing Service took place after volunteers, Clerk and Lengthsman erected the tree at the start of the month.
Some 65 villagers attended the Annual Christmas Party later in December ,being entertained by the Secret Singers and enjoyed a buffet by Mrs Prosser. .

A large amount of time and effort was spent surveying Residents wishes and supporting and reviewing options for funding the Read and Simonstone Village Hall Charity, some with our colleagues in Read PC. The work of the Clerk Mr Hirst and two Councilors Hodbod and Norse in this project was significant. The URC closed in September and in March the Trustees were pleased to hear that their bid to purchase the Hall was successful. It is pleasing that a scheme which began some 2 years ago has come to a head .

Throughout the year, local residents have attended both the meetings ,the cultural events, the Christmas arrangements and supported us in the Garden contest, delivering leaflets and so on.

David Peat OBE Chairman. 31/3/19.

In relation to Governance we reviewed the Parishes Website Management , revised Data Control Arrangements , Risk Register and approved the Annual Accounts .

We continue to support local Charities such as Little Green Bus and Royal British Legion and improve local amenities such as Kerbside mirror and rubbish bin emptying, which the LCC and RVBC do not provide.

We have been fortunate to have had the support of Councillor Lesley Graves this year and will be sorry to lose her services when she stands down this month.

Although we started the year with 6 Councillors, we ended the year with 8 as Clifton Pollard and Steven Finn joined the Council. We are sorry to have lost Geoff Hodbod as a Councillor but pleased that he will still support the Parish as a friend and link to our floral displays. Robert McKelvey has joined the Parish Council.

Finally I should like to put on record the hard work and dedication of our Clerk, Mr Roger Hirst and the support and efforts of all the Parish Councillors.

I present this Annual Report for Simonstone Parish Council for the year 2018/19.

It was resolved to approve the above report. **9/5/2019**

Chairman's Signature

David Peat OBE.