

Simonstone Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on 14th February 2013 at 7.00 pm
in the Old School Simonstone.

Present Councillors. Alan Duckworth, Graham Meloy, David Peat, Russell Hargreaves, and Stephen Dawson.

In attendance – 3 Members of the public and Parish Clerk Roger Hirst.

Apologies - Councillors Geoff Hobdod, Joanne Quinn and Denise Rishton whose absences were approved and RV Councillor John Hill.

13/18 Minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2013 were approved.

13/19 Declaration of interests. None.

13/20 Public Participation.

- a. The Chairman of Governors of St Peters School spoke on behalf of the School requesting that the wording of the Parish plan questionnaire Question 17 should be reworded as it was felt that it mislead people into thinking that the school had plans to expand which was incorrect.
- b. A resident from Whins Lane requested that the Parish Council should confirm it's objections to the Planning application 3/2012/0723 to the planning inspector who would adjudicate on Ribble Valley Planning decision to refuse to allow the development..

Decision items

Matters brought forward from previous meetings –

13/21 The Stork Hotel requested that the land below the Stork Car Park on Fountains Avenue be used for a Community Charity event on the 5th June 2013.
It was resolved that the Parish Council had no objection to the proposed event going ahead on the open space, on condition that there were adequate safety measures in place to ensure the safety of those attending the event, by-passers and residents alike. Also that the site be returned to the condition that it was in before the start.

13/22 Whins Lane Development Read 2012.1011 The Whins. Whins Lane, Read Lancashire BB12 7QY.
It was resolved that the Parish Council's comments to the Ribble Valley Planning Dept be confirmed.

Matters raised by members

13/23 Councillor Albert Atkinson –the Clerk reported that a letter had been received concerning the outstanding Highway issues.
It was resolved that due to the fact that many issues had not been addressed in the response the outstanding matters should be raised again and that a copy be sent to the Three Tier Committee Ribble Valley representative requesting that the outstanding issues be answered.

13/24 Footpath 13 – Shady Walks. It was reported that Read Parish Council requested support for a letter to be sent to the owner of the land offering support for the footpath to be fenced off to prevent users straying off the footpath onto his land .
It was resolved that a letter of support be sent Read Parish Council in its efforts to reopen the path.

13/25 Woodfield – Tree and Salt bin –The Clerk reported that a reminder had been forwarded to LCC for the overgrown footpath to be cut back and the salt bin to be serviced.
It was resolved to review the matter after more time had elapsed since the reminder had been sent.

13/26 East Lancashire Cllr Peat reported that a Combined Civilian and Armed Forces Covenants Partnership was being set up and the organizers were seeking support.

It was resolved that the Parish Council support the setting up of the Partnership.

13/27 Working Party report-

- a. **Christmas Party** –Members considered quotations for catering and entertainment at this year’s party.
It was resolved to accept the lowest quotation from Mrs Prosser for the provision of a buffet lunch at the party. It was agreed that St Leonard’s Choir be invited to provide the entertainment.
- b. **Additional Christmas tree lights** The Clerk reported that he had obtained an quotation for 2 additional harnesses. The quotation for these was a 20% discount on the listed prices.
It was resolved to purchase the additional lights.
- c. **Parish Plans** – The Chairman reported that a letter of complaint has been received concerning question 17 on the questionnaire and as a result the Head Teacher has withdrawn her offer of distributing the Parish Plan and wishes the question to be rephrased.
It was resolved to note the complaint. It was agreed that the questionnaire be distributed by members only to door to door only within the parish with collection points at the Library and Convenience Store
- d. **War Memorial working party** – Cllr Dawson reported that there had been a meeting of the members to update the meeting on the progress made so far and that the Working party was investigating options of how best to proceed to provide a suitable memorial.
It was resolved to note the report.
- e. **Read/Simonstone All Weather Pitch Development Sub-Committee-** It was reported that prices were being obtained for installing a pitch on the Read Playing field.
It was resolved to note the report.

13/28 Governance -Annual review of the following documents as per emails

- a. The Parish Councils Standing Orders. reviewed
- b. Freedom of Information - Publications Scheme.
- c. Asset Register – updated
- d. Internal Audit including Appointment of Auditor for the year 2013/14 accounts.
- e. Risk assessment reviewed
It was resolved that the Governance Working party meet and review the above documents and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.

13/29 LCC

- a. **Focus Group Recruitment - The Clerk reported** that the group was a consultation group of representatives of local councils from across the county to consider the relationship and perception of the services it provides to all charge-payers within the county who use its services.
It was resolved that Cllr. Meloy would represent the Parish Council and that Cllrs Peat and Dawson would deputize for him in case he is unable to attend the meetings.

13/30 RVBC

- a. **Advertisement - Street banners** which were contrary to planning regulations had been removed.
It was resolved to note the report.

13/31 LALC.

- a. **Neighbourhood Planning Conference** 19th January, The Clerk gave a report on the conference.
It was resolved to consider more fully the option after the results of the Parish Plan consultation had been completed.
- b. **Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition** –
It was resolved not to pt take part this year.

13/32 Planning.

- a. **Planning appeals-**Notification of planning appeal 3/2012/0723 site of former stable Trapp Lane, Simonstone. Are there any further comments that the Parish Council wish to bring to the attention of the Planning Inspector for consideration.

It was resolved that the Parish Council should be make a response after further considerations had been made

13/33 Finance

- a. **Insurance** – The Clerk reported that Libel and Slander cover of £100,000 had been confirmed at no additional cost for this year. A copy of schedule had been distributed to members.

It was resolved to note the report.

b. **Payment of Accounts**

- i Coun Hodbod Paper for questionnaire. £15.79

It was resolved to pay the account.

13/34 Borough Councilors reports – None

13/35 Matters reported by members for consideration at future meetings

- a. Request that the topic of bulk energy buying for local communities be raised at the Parish Liaison meeting – Cllr. Meloy to take the lead.

13/36 Matters for reporting to the appropriate authorities

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 14th March 2013 at 7pm in the Old School, Simonstone Lane, Simonstone.

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

1) RVBC

- a) **Agenda Planning Committee meeting 17th January 2013**
- b) **Agenda Planning Committee meeting 14th February 2013**
- c) **Agenda Parish Liaison Committee Meeting – January meeting cancelled.**

Chairman's Signature.....

Chairman's initials.....