

Simonstone Parish Council

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Parish Council Meeting
to be held on 7th September 2017.
in the Old School, School Lane, Simonstone
at 7.00 pm
Agenda

- 17/99 Apologies .**
- 17/100 Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th August 2017 to be approved.**
- 17/101 Declaration of interests**
- 17/102 Public Participation.** (open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 mins. 3mins per speaker).
- 17/103 Decision items;**
- a **Nomination** of New Parish Councillors. None Received
- 17/104 Matters raised from previous meetings;**
- a **URC development** – Coun Norse and Hodbod’s recent minutes have been received
- b **Report on the Parish Walk 2nd September** Lead by Mr Brian Jeffery.
- c RVBC Is holding aHealth and Wellbeing Show Case on 19th September in Clitheroe. The event will be covering a similar agenda to the one which was discussed at the August meeting of the Parish Council. Whilst the original idea was to arrange a event in the village, it is suggested that people wishing to attend the Clitheroe event who have no transport could use the Little Green Bus which will be willing to collect them and return them home. They have to inform the service should they wish to be transported.
- d **P.C Bioletti - A meeting** to discuss the road traffic problems on School Lane has yet to be arranged, The meeting has of been delayed because of people being on holidays. see attached.
- 17/105 Matters requested by members**
- a **Coun. Hodbod** Arrangements -Spring bulb planting.
- b **Chairman** how should the Parish Council react to should an Planning application for Fracking be received to take place in the Parish?
- 17/106 LCC**
- a **Highways**
- (i) Street Lighting Fault on School Lane reported.
- 17/107 Meeting of Read Parish Council,** Councillor Barker to report
- 17/108 Planning Application**
- a No: 3/2017/0803 Applicant: Huntroyde Estate Planning Application Grid Ref: 378795 435905 Proposal: To install level access showering facilities with half height doors, a toilet and wash basin in the downstairs utility room under the local authorities Disabled Facilities Grant Scheme. The work will include provision for adequate heating and ventilation and non-slip flooring. Location: 2 Priddy Bank Cottages Sabden Road Padiham BB12 9AD,
- 17/109 Martholme Greenway**
- a Councillors Barker and Meloy to report
- 17/110 LALC – See attached minutes of the Ribble Valley Branch meeting**

17/111 Spot On - Kiera Martin, "Here Comes Trouble," Dance show;- 20th October;- 2
Tickets and poster will be available and the end of the month.

17/112 Citizen Advice see attached letter, requesting a donation.

17/113 Finance

a **Payment of Accounts.**

i) I R Hirst	Salary	£503.61
ii) HMRC	Tax	£124.60
iii) PSS	Expenses	£ 183.22
iv) Ribble Valley BC	Printing	£

17/114 District Councillor Lesley Graves.

17/115 The next Parish Council meeting is on the 12th October 2017 at 7pm. (RV Parish Liaison meeting on the 14th September)

I R Hirst

Simonstone Parish Council
Chairman; - Coun. David Peat
Clerk I Roger Hirst, 24 Ennerdale Road, Clitheroe BB7 2PB.
Tel/ Fax 01200 428742
Email; simonstonepc@talktalk.net

At the Parish Council meeting on the 10th August members asked for a meeting to be arranged with all the organisations responsible for some aspect of Road Safety on School Lane Simonstone. You will find attached a request from our local P.C Di Bioletti who wrote to the Parish Council to see if a holistic approach could be made to ensure the safer passage of Children using School Lane during the operational hours of the School. (the school is a split site school with Classes having to cross the Lane at various times of the day between 7am and 6pm.)

You will see that both parents and the School Authorities are becoming concerned at the lack of support that has been given towards developing a strategy towards reducing the speed of traffic using the Lane on the approaches to the School. As a consequence P.C Bioletti approached the Parish Council for support to help coordinate the development of strategy improving matters.

The Parish Council has wrestled with problems on the Lane over 19 years that I know of and some are these :-

1. Car parking - The Parish Council did request that the land adjacent to the School be used as a Car park. This was ruled out by the County Education Committee as they were unwilling to allow any land that was the Committee's responsibility to be used for Car Parking.
2. Entrances to properties - H lines were installed and are helpful in resolving the problem.
3. Double Yellow Lines which were not acceptable to residents.
4. Zig Zags have been installed at the entrances to the School and which appear to be successful.
5. We have considered resurfacing the footpath across the playing field between Harewood Ave and School lane. This would enable parents cars' to park on Haugh Avenue at School start and finishing times. However, this was not acceptable to some residents.
6. Currently cars are being parked using any space that is available along all the nearest roads and are on occasions causing blockages when LGB and Buses approach the School. Clough Lane is too narrow to allow larger vehicles to travel down and is one way only. This Problem is becoming worse since a lot of modern cars are increasing in width.
7. At one stage there was a suggestion that the Parish Garden be used as a car park come drop off for the School Children but this idea was not proceeded with as the Parish Council doesn't own the land.

8. Another suggestion is that a Lay-bye on the A671 is installed and a new entrance to the School Grounds be made. However, there may be strong objections from the transporter operators concerning this idea. 4
9. Now that there is going to be a big increase in traffic from the southern part of Ribble Valley as the new residents from Whalley Barrow and Clitheroe move in there is a great need to reconsider the Read and Simonstone by pass which was next to the top of the County Councils priority list for Road building. This option would have little effect on the current situation though in the immediate future
10. Trapp Lane is a narrow downhill road as it approaches the junction with Clough Lane and School Lane and the Parish Council has placed a SPiD Plate which will give motorist an opportunity to reduce their speed to from 60mph (Trapp Lane being a derestricted road subject national Speed limit) to 20mph before entering either Clough and School Lanes. The Parish Council purchased a Spid, which will be fitted at the Junction of Clough Lane and School Lane by the start of the School year. The SPiD will used at the other 12 sites around the village so it will only be used occasionally at the junction with Trapp Lane, Clough and School Lanes. This last year the Parish Council purchase its own Spid which this is enabling doubling it usage on previous years to 52 weeks which will be at a cost of nearly £1000, or 12.5% of our budget.

I trust that if all the above organisations and people get together to discuss and seek to develop a strategy both for the future and the present the problem may be solved.

Copies to:-

Chief Executive Lancashire County Council.

- i. County Councillor Albert Atkinson Deputy Leader Lancashire County Council.
- ii. Chair LCC Highways,
- iii. Chief Office Of Lancashire Highways Department.
- iv. Councillor Ken Hind Leader Ribble Valley Borough Council
- v. RVBC Cllr Leslie Graves.
- vi. Councillor David Peat, Chairman Simonstone Parish Council,
- vii. Police Inspector Garry Makin (Traffic),
- viii. John Aizlewood, Chair Governors St Peter's School.
- ix. Head Teacher Christine Smith St Peter's School.
- x. Chairman of the Parent Teachers Association.
- xi. P,C Di Bioletti

Yours faithfully

Roger Hirst
Clerk to Simonstone Parish Council
01200428742.

School Lane Meeting information –Di Bioletti

Hi Roger,

As discussed I am writing to you to outline the issues raised with the police over the past few years about road safety for pedestrians on School Lane.

Trapp Lane is national speed limit going down a steep hill into a 20mph zone on School Lane and Clough Lane. School Lane bends to the right (unsighted) towards the school crossing area. There is no obvious warning for drivers on Trapp Lane that they are entering a 20mph zone or a school crossing area.

Drivers rarely slow to 20mph at the bottom of the hill and carry on around the blind bend at speed meeting a narrow road with parked cars on their right. ..usually with oncoming vehicles overtaking the parked cars. They also may meet pedestrians walking on the road.

The pavement runs on one side of School Lane only and stops on the blind bend near the beginning of Trapp Lane.

At school opening and closing time there is a large increase in traffic volume and cars waiting to use the narrowed carriageway reverse into the crossing area.

During the school day children are crossed by staff to use facilities across the road opposite the school. I have dealt with a number of incidents reported by staff where vehicles have approached too fast whilst they were crossing children. One of those incidents resulted in police action being taken against the driver.

Parents and other pedestrians have reported to me that they are very fearful that they or their children may be injured if the situation is allowed to continue.

The police operate regular speed checks on School Lane. The last on 02/08/17 between 17.00 and 17.50 recorded 150 vehicles. 24 exceeded the speed limit. Top recorded speed 34mph with 4 vehicles exceeding 30mph.

I would suggest that a site meeting is arranged with representatives from LCC highways, Parish Council, School and police to discuss traffic calming measures.

Please let me know if you need any further information or clarification.

Kind regards,

Di

Lancashire Association of Local Councils,

Ribble Valley Area.

LALC minutes (not yet approved) from a meeting at Salesbury Memorial Hall, Tuesday 20th June 2017.
(Including other relevant subsequent items/information)

1. Tony Gaffney welcomed the Parish Council representatives from Salesbury, Sabden, Balderstone & Bolton by Bowland (including Gisburn Forest & Sawley).
2. Apologies received from Cllr Scott (Chatburn) & Cllr Murtagh (Chair Mellor). Apologies to Cllr Austin (Langho) for inadequate information for attendance at the meeting.
3. Minutes agreed from meeting March 9th 2017.
4. **Transparency Funding**-An application form is available from LALC for Parish Councils for the running costs of a web site for 2017-2018 provided that it was set up for the purposes of local council transparency and accountability.
5. **New Parish Champion** for Parishes-Cllr Paul Rigby, each Champion is allocated a sum of £10,000 for use at their discretion to finance their activities, such as assisting Parish Councils.
6. LALC Executive report was summarised and read out to Cllrs.
7. **Strimming Grant**- of £250 is available from LCC-Linda Andersen (note the spelling of Andersen). This grant is only for use by Parish Councils to pay a lengthsman or contractor for the strimming of grass & vegetation at the sides of definitive footpaths on the public rights of way network in the Parish. A record of the footpaths strimmed should be kept and passed to Linda as is convenient.
8. **Local Initiative Fund** – Organisations across Lancashire are invited to apply via LCC website to apply for funding for their activities. £177,000 is available for Supporting families, Skills and employability, Activities for young people. The deadline for applications is **Friday 1st September 5pm**.
9. **Reports from Member Parishes-**
10. **Cllr Twist** (Bolton by Bowland) requested information about maintenance/replacement of benches for village areas. Wilpshire PC and St Peter's church have used recycled plastic benches for some time now and have received excellent value & service from 'Ark Plastics Ltd', Charter Mill, Fairfield St Accrington-(Web site available). The Neighbour plan for the Parishes has been sent to RVBC to be examined and will be subject to a consultation and referendum.
11. **Cllr Evans** (Balderstone & Mellor Brook) reported there are presently no dog bins in the parish, the Dogs Trust are holding an event at Mellor Brook Community Centre with health check and micro chipping; Enterprise Zone-6000 hi-tech jobs in defence & aero industry will be created; Spine Road completion delayed until September 17, but when completed will be called 'Sir Frederick Page Way'; Traffic calming measures will be started on Branch Rd September 17; Thwaites brewery relocation is presently underway on the Sykes holt site at Mellor Brook.
12. **Cllr Gaffney** (Wilpshire) reported that Wilpshire 3-off the A666 is a considered site by RVBC for the required residual house building required in Wilpshire (approx. 36 units), Traffic calming & 20mph has been completed on Knowsley Rd & 20mph limits implemented on other side roads in Wilpshire after a consultation; a £250 grant has been given to Wilpshire PC by the Parish Champion Cllr Paul Rigby (£500 total cost) for replacement of a stolen Wilpshire boundary sign.
13. **Cllr Shotter** (Sabden) Reported that there are occasions were there is only one Police Officer on duty in Ribble Valley; Standen Development, Clitheroe-the contractors Taylor Wimpey are due this summer to construct a mini roundabout to create access to their new site on Pendle Rd. The larger roundabout at

the staggered junction A59 has been delayed until 2018.

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14. **Cllr Ashe** (Salesbury) reported rubbish problems at Marles Wood car park, Dinckley, and River Ribble banks-volunteers pick up some rubbish-LCC Countryside manager Timothy Blythe -(07887831009) was contacted-Marles Wood car park is presently visited by the service weekly-two weekly checks from the car park along to the suspension bridge removing litter. The Countryside Service is programmed to be a substantially diminished service by Spring 2018-Mr Blythe invites contact by Parish Council users of the Countryside Service, especially of Barker Brow car park and Marles Wood and Dinckley riverbank; in order to find a way forward for future maintenance of these areas.

Date, Venue & time of next meeting to be arranged for November.

Letter from Ribble Valley Citizens Advice

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would be grateful if you could present this request for financial support to your Parish Council members for their consideration at the appropriate time.

Every year I approach Clitheroe and Longridge Town Council and the 42 Ribble Valley parish councils with a request for financial support. I would very much appreciate your consideration on this matter.

Please see attached

1. details of our service users' residence over the last financial year.
2. Detailed report on service delivery in July 2016
3. Advice statistics for July 2016

Access to services is a primary theme in our borough, with 6 wards stated to be in the 10% of wards with worst access in the country. We need to work harder to help people get in touch with service providers, and this is much of our work so with your assistance, I hope more people will know to use us.

We are a team of 9 part time paid staff, which is only the equivalent of 3 full time posts, but we have 14 volunteers who each commit at least 7 hours a week.

We also have 13 people who sit on our board of trustees as company directors of our independent charity. Ribble Valley Borough Councillors Lesley Graves, Ged Mirfin and Mary Robinson represent Ribble Valley Borough Council on our board. Councillor Stuart Fletcher is a trustee as representative of the Clitheroe Town Council.

We are a member of the National Association of CABs, who call themselves Citizens Advice in the media, and we pay a fee for this membership of £4000 for which we get our library of resources, (mainly an information database that is updated continually) and an independent quality audit process. People often assume that we receive funding from Citizens Advice – quite the opposite!

I believe this misconception is due to the high profile nationally of the Citizens Advice name. It is stated to have 96% brand recognition: I trust that means that people know we give general legal information which is impartial and free. I also think the CAB brand is trusted to some extent, but our estimation in the eyes of Ribble Valley people depends on us, I mean the Advice Team, to convey the message at every opportunity that information given to us is kept confidential, that every person who contacts us is assisted.

Our main funder is RVBC our voluntary agency grant is £60,000 this year. We receive around two thirds as much again from local donations, charities and supporters which includes several hundred pounds from some of the parish councils who give us support ranging from £25 to £200 all very gratefully received. As is usual, about 80% of our income goes to pay salaries, 20% on other running costs, but I am confident we work out as a very good “value for money” organisation as we deal with over 3000 issues for about 1800 individuals each year with the energy of our team of trained volunteers we achieve a substantial volume of work for the community.

What do we do for your local residents? Our main work is about financial pressure, to either gain control over debt repayments or maximise income through benefit claims, our next main area of work concerns employment advice, then housing problems, utilities issues and information about relationship breakdown. Often people come with a situation that involves several of these problems, we will first spend a few minutes either in person or on the phone getting the basic picture then make an appointment usually within a week, if possible with the same adviser. It may be that we then start detailed debt advice – a process that involves gaining the whole financial picture, carrying out a benefit check, contacting all of the creditors in order to eventually identify the choice of options whether debt management plan or a formal insolvency procedure such as a Debt Relief Order, IVA or bankruptcy. We may have to negotiate acceptable payments to the utilities, tax office or for housing costs.

Whatever the area of advice work, we will spend as much time as it takes to move the person on to an improved situation, whether that involves organising representation at court, employment tribunal or appeal hearing, we

will see that they get the necessary support to work through the system.

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Last Tuesday we had four advisers on the rota in the morning and four in the afternoon, we saw 10 people by appointment, 6 people dropped in and 7 people called, among debt and employment issues, we assisted one client with the return of a rent deposit, another about a social services report on her partner, an application for Attendance Allowance for an elderly person's care needs and understanding a working tax credit calculation.

We are based in Clitheroe and we run an outreach session in Longridge. For several years we tried an outreach project to the villages Slaidburn, Chipping, Whalley and Chatburn (I think) also Longridge. The only sessions that were used by people were the ones in Longridge. The National Lottery did not continue to fund it on the evidence of take up. It appeared to indicate that people do not access services in their smaller local communities, I mean they will not go to their village hall, perhaps for reasons of privacy. A year or so ago I was keen to install information portals in village halls, so that people could access our public information website in computer kiosks but all the hall managers rejected the offer, which I think is telling.

However, there are people in your parishes who need to know that we can help them with money problems, work difficulties, housing, utilities or consumer issues amongst a wide range of legal problems. We are badged with the Community Legal Service General Help and Debt Casework quality mark. But we have a wider role in the community as also we host the Ribble Valley Mental Health team, the Lancashire County Council Welfare Rights and as required the domestic violence counsellors from HARV, so we can easily arrange for support and benefits tribunal representation for our clients. Our staff are trained to run the only credit union open to all local residents. We have a close working relationship with the local Salvation Army who unfortunately we have needed to call on for emergency support increasingly in the last few months, for food parcels and fuel tokens.

We are resisting pressure from Citizens Advice to join the regional telephone call centre to protect our local service. We serve the small and apparently well off population of Ribble Valley and we are called parochial for wanting to keep things this way. So be it, we know there are pockets of real need here and we want to be able to better tackle them and assist local people well across the borough. We would much appreciate any financial assistance from you to support your parish residents with our work.

Please use our ex directory line 01200 428 998 to contact me direct if you wish to discuss any matter.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this request,

Yours faithfully,

**Katy Marshall
Manager
Ribble Valley Citizens Advice Bureau
01200 428 998**

Katy Marshall, Manager

Ribble Valley Citizens Advice Bureau 19/21 Wesleyan Row Parson Lane Clitheroe BB7 2JY

Please note the Bureau is closed every Wednesday

Charity number 1120587 Company Number 6238437

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