

**Simonstone Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting
held on 12th March 2020
in the Old School, School Lane, Simonstone
at 7.00 pm**

Minutes

Present: Councillors David Peat, Clifton Pollard, Rob McKelvey, Stephen Finn, John Barker and Elisa Hargreaves .

In attendance - 2 members of the public and Parish Clerk Roger Hirst.

Apologies – Graham Meloy,

Declaration of interests- Cllr. Pollard, Martholme Greenway, Cllr. Norse, R. McKelvey, Coun. Finn, RSVH Trustees.

20/34 Minutes of the meeting held on 13th February, 2020.

It was resolved to approve the minutes.

20/35 Rachael Stott – Housing Strategy Manager Ribble Valley BC gave a talk on how Parish Councils could address local housing requirements through various housing schemes and initiatives, ranging from working with developers to building locally identified needs, using affordability Schemes where up to 30% of houses are built at a discounted rate which would be perpetually held and retain the discount in future and are subject to a legal agreement for purchasers or tenants. She explained that a Parish Council could work with local landowners to help to provided housing for local people in order to secure heritage connections . Houses could be built with a requirement that the purchasers are residents who wish to downsize but still live in the local community.

All these variations can be accommodated dependent on how the various schemes are initiated. The use of Housing Associations is the most popular route for Parish Councils to adopt. There are many and varied associations which can assist. Some have specialist objectives, e.g. housing for the disabled or ex-service personnel.

The Parish Council needs, in the first place, to carry out a housing needs survey of the Parish in order to establish the residents' preferences and from that survey a list of objectives can be agreed, Rachael explained that she would be happy to assist in developing a development strategy for the Parish Council and would investigate funding availability along with suitable land and its availability, how it wishes to proceed and funding arrangements.

20/36 Public Participation. (open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 mins. 3 mins. per speaker.

20/37 Matters raised from previous meetings.

- a) **VE Day Arrangements** - It has been suggested that any events be held on Friday 8th May, the May Bank Holiday. Whilst the Parish Council is interested in celebrating the occasion no further ideas emerged due to the uncertain nature of public events due to the world wide epidemic of Covid- 19.

It was resolved to discuss various options at the next Parish Council Meeting.

20/38 Martholm Greenway – **Cllr. Barker reported** that the Cycle way in the Time Technology Park had been completed and it was now hoped work along the former Railway Track to link it to the Padiham Greenway would start this Summer and it is hoped to complete it by the Autumn. He also stated that most of the landowners were now supporting the project.

It was resolved to note the report

20/39 RSVH- Coun. McKelvey reported that the Open day had been a success and the hall had been declared open and the Mayor of Ribble Valley, Councillor Stella Brunskill and the Deputy Lieutenant of Lancashire, Mrs. Christine Kirk were in attendance. The Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons Nigel Evans was also present along with a good number of villagers who enjoyed the exhibitions by local societies and user

clubs and groups of the hall. The Scouts gave a demonstration on how to prepare a meal whilst at Scout camp.

It was resolved to note the report

20/40 Christmas 2020 – Coun. Stephen Finn reported that the joint sub- committee with Read Parish Council representatives had met and suggested that the Parish Council should have a joint party this year with a subsidized two course Christmas meal at the Higher Trapp, both Parish Councils contributing towards the costs. The room could accommodate about 75 people including Councilors who attend would have to pay for their meal. Dates suggested for the party were the Tuesday 1st December, and Wednesday 2nd December.

It was resolved that the 1st of December would be the preferred date, subject to agreement with Read Parish Council and the Committee to confirm the arrangements once the joint arrangement had been agreed.

20/41 Website –Report. The Clerk reported that he had approached 3 Parish Councils who had websites which were **operating successfully and the Clerks had given their findings and details of costs incurred in recently upgrading the sites.** As a consequence, 3 Website builders were requested to provide details of their services and costs. 3 companies had been approached for information on repairing and bringing the website back into use. 2 responded and one gave advice and offered to assist in resolving the issue with various options on ways proceed. The clerk has requested costs for the various options so as to enable the Parish Council to comply with the governments requirements.

It was resolved that the Clerk proceed with the enquiries.

20/42 Matters raised by members

a) Coun. Pollard –Lost footpath Lower Trapp Farm to Trapp Farm GR779352.

It was resolved that the Landowner be requested to reopen the footpath as shown on the Ordinance Map.

20/43 A complaint had been received concerning excessive noise originating from the Fort Vale site. The company had responded to the complaint and explained that the noise was due to damage to the operating plant which was due to recent storms and repairs were being carried out as a matter of urgency. The Clerk forwarded the complaint to Ribble Valley for their attention.

It was resolved to note the report

20/44 Civic Sunday The Vicar Rev. had confirmed that St Peters was available **on Sunday 7th June** and it was agreed that similar arrangements to last year would be considered at the next Parish Council Meeting.

It was resolved to note the report.

20/45 Meeting of Read Parish Council. A report of the proceedings of the Parish Council included that a quote for surfacing the road/track to the Allotments had been received.

It was resolved to note the report.

20/46 LCC Speed awareness for the elderly on the 26th of March had been cancelled due to the pandemic Corvic-19.

20/47 Planning Applications

Application 3/2020/0188	Officer John Macholc : 01200414502	Grid Reference 377563 433287
Address	Grass Verge Simonstone Business Park adjacent to Blackburn Road BB12 7NQ	
Development Proposal	Installation of 15 m pole, fibre cable, antennae and associated cabinets for the installation of high speed wireless internet. Telecommunication prior consent	
Parish Council	No objection	

Application3/2020/0208 10/03/2020	Officer Adrian Dowd 01200 414513	Grid Reference 377425 434410
Address	Toll Bar Cottage Whalley Road Simonstone BB12 7HS	
Development Proposal	Discharge of conditions 4 (stone, guttering), 5 (method statement repointing), 6 (boundary wall) and 7 (window) from planning permission 3/2019/0379	
Parish Council	No objection	

Application3/2020/0209 10/03/2020	Officer Adrian Dowd: 01200 414513	Grid Reference 377425 434410
Address	Toll Bar Cottage Whalley Road Simonstone BB12 7HS	
Development Proposal	Discharge of conditions 4 (stone, guttering), 5 (method statement repointing), 6 (boundary wall) and 7 (window) from listed building consent 3/2019/0378.	
Parish Council	No objection	

20/48 Finance

- a) Disposal of assets – it is the Parish Council’s responsibility to offer for sale surplus assets and they are;-
- i. 4 x50 bulb DED Light 24Volt LITE 2x 24Volt LITE Torodial transformers
 - ii. Lumalite lighting set
 - iii. Lumalite, 2 x50 bulb DED Light 12Volt
 - iv. Computer Toshiba Skulcandy.

Notice to be placed on notice board. Offers to be forwarded to the Clerk in plain envelope to be opened at the next Parish Council meeting on 9th April.

b) **Accounts for payment**

i.	I.R Hirst	Salary	£525.22
ii.	HMRC	Tax	£131.20
iii.	I R Hirst	Expenses	£156.39

20/49 District Councillor’s report –Cllr. David Peat to report.

20/50 The next Parish Council meeting is on the 9th April 2020 at 7pm

Chairman’s signature