

**Simonstone Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Virtual Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020**  
**By Zoom**  
**at 7.00 pm**

**Present** David Peat, Graham Meloy, Clifton Pollard, John Barker. Elisa Hargreaves, Rob McKelvey and Stephen Finn and the Parish Clerk.

**Apologies**, Greera Norse,

**Declaration of interests-** Cllrs. Pollard, Martholme Greenway, McKelvey, Finn, RSVH Trustees.

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

**20/93 Minutes** of the Zoom meeting held on 2<sup>th</sup> July 2020 for approval.

**It was resolved** to approved the minutes .

**20/93. Minutes of the meetings** held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020, 12<sup>th</sup> May, and 14<sup>th</sup> May for approval.

**It was resolved to** approved the minutes and be initialled (DP), on behalf of the Chairman, by the Parish Clerk.

**Decision items**

**Matters raised from previous meetings:-**

**20/93. Damaged notice boards** . A report was received that the wind had damaged the notice board by the Stork Hotel and the one adjacent to it had become unusable. They have been repaired and brought back into use.  
**It was resolved** to note the report.

**20/94. Flower beds Simonstone Lane Blackburn Road.** Balfour Beatty usually reinstates the site within 10 days of finishing work. They have been requested to reseed with wild flowers and daffodil bulbs and they have the contact details of the Parish Council in case they need further information. A number of calls have been received to date with no positive results yet.  
**It was resolve** to note the report.

**20/100. VJ (VICTORY OVER JAPAN) DAY CELEBRATIONS** have been cancelled due to the Covid emergency.  
**It was resolved** to note the report

**20/101. Martholme Greenway** – Councillor Barker reported that considerable progress had been made and that a new bridge had been installed at the Time Tec end (eastern section) along with an access to the Time Tec estate. At the western end the LCC were assisting in gaining access to the former mining site to enable

**20/102.** progress to be made in developing the footpath. A new information board was being installed in Gooseleach Wood.  
**It was resolved** to note the report.

**20/103. RSVH** - Councillor Rob McKelvey Reported that work was continuing on improving the facilities and the floors had been replaced and repairs were being carried out where necessary and the Kitchen was being renewed, paid for by Lancashire grant and would be completed by the time the halls is due to be reopened in September. He

also requested that the Parish Council meet in the Village Hall as it was able to make provision for 45+ people whilst keeping to the Covid 19 distancing rule.

**It was resolved to note** the report and that the Clerk investigate and make the necessary arrangements for a meeting to be held in the Village Hall when it be safe to do so.

- 20/104. RVBC Control of Dogs Order –Consultation.** It is 3 years since the above temporary order was adopted. It is necessary for the District Council to request that it is readopted or it will lapse. The District Council seeks the Parish Council’s opinion as to whether or not the Order should be renewed.

“The order makes it an offence to:

- Let your dog foul in public
- Not be in possession of pet poop bags
- Let your dog off its lead in Clitheroe Cemetery
- Allow your dog to enter a playground or sports pitch
- Refuse to put your pet on a lead if asked by a dog warden
- Be in charge of more than four dogs at once

Anyone breaching the order faces a £100 fixed penalty notice or day in court and a fine of up to £1,000.”

**It was resolved** that the Parish Council supports renewal of the **Control of Dogs Order.**

- 20/105. Dog bins. Reciting of the following bins:-**

**1 Fountains Avenue** to Whalley Road Car sales area. There is already a bin at the entrance to the site and one by the letter box and one at each petrol pump so ask the Parish Council to reconsider this request.

**2 Whalley Road /Scott Avenue.**To reconsider reposting the bin to the Woodside Road Area.

**RVBC** has done a survey of both villages and found that there are 12 litter/Dog bins in the area which is more than any other similar sized area in the borough and as a result has made the following suggestions in order to even the distribution of the existing bins-

**It was resolved** to transfer the Fountains Ave dog bin to the bottom of Woodfield Avenue, the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements. The bin at the bottom of Haugh Ave/Whalley Road to remain at its current location.

- 20/106. Carlton Avenue footpath 12-10-FP PROW access.** Dog bins. The placing of a dog/litter bin at the entrance to the footpath to the Tennis court on Carlton Avenue. The residents who live nearby have been approached and are not in favour of placing the bin behind the kerb as suggested. They have suggested one may be placed in the vicinity of the Tennis Club. The problem there is that it would be less convenient to service the bin, especially in wet weather .

As a consequence, having discussed the problem with the Ribble Valley dog warden who is also responsible for the emptying the bins, it has been suggested, to assist the Parish Council and to take into account the objections of the neighbours, that the Fountains Avenue post be moved and placed by the gate or on the fence at the rear of a neighbouring property from the kerb edge on Carlton Ave . This solution will not satisfy everyone but it will facilitate a solution which would help to mitigate some of the reasons given by the objectors and reduce the impact of the bin on the Carlton Avenue Street scene.

**It was resolved** that enquires be made to see if the tenant of the adjacent farm would agree to a bin being placed just inside the entrance from Carlton Avenue.

- 20/107. Pendle Hill Landscape I Partnership.** The Partnership has carried out a scheme to improve the Signpost in the area at the junction of Trapp Lane and the one at Sabden Lane opposite Huntroyde Offices has been painted, aided by a 50% grant from the partnership, leaving the Parish Council to pay £140. The next Parish

Council project they are undertaking is the attending to any stiles that are in need of attention. The details have to be forwarded by the end of August, so if any members know of any stiles that need attention please either report it on the "REPORT IT" Lancashire Website or send the details to the Clerk so that he can ensure that they are forward to the partnership

**It was resolved** that the Clerk requests that a grant be made available from the PHLP to ensure underfoot improvement to the PROW.

**20/108. Read Parish Council** has requested a contribution towards the cost of laying a tarmac surface on the car park and the road to the allotments. The track to the Cricket Club has now been tarmaced and the track to the Allotments has been levelled and improved but has not been tarmaced as incorrectly stated at the last Parish Council Meeting. It was reported that Read Parish Council were to arrange a meeting to discuss if there was any assistance possible.

**It was resolved** that we would await the invitation and report back to the following Parish Council meeting.

**20/109. Fort Vale Woodland Creation draft Scheme** – the Company is proposing to develop a 3 hectares area of land which is to the north and west of the industrial site's main boundaries and runs along the edge of Martholm Greenway up to Gooseleach wood. It is in 3 parts and will include tree planting and rides. The company would welcome the Council's observations.

**Comments from members.**

"The only reservation I have is that if the proposal involved extensive tree planting in the areas indicated, it would result in obscured views to the south of the Greenway all the way from Simonstone Lane to the end of Gooseleach Woods. This would make for a rather boring walk and spoil the views over the River Calder flood plain. Therefore, may I suggest that a "zone" of 75 to 100m east of Gooseleach woods (adjacent to the picnic tables) and 75-100m west of the Gas Governor (NW corner of the Fort Vale site) be left to small shrubs and meadow wild flowers etc. - this would help bio-diversity as well."

**It was resolved** that the Parish Council support the project and would request that Councillor Barker of the Martholm Greenway group meet with the company to discuss the project.

**20/110. The Chairman's report**

- a. **RVBC is** discussing how to respond to possible changes in Local Government in Lancashire, i.e. Elected Mayor, Combined Authority Blackburn with Darwen, and East Lancashire Authorities, proposals which are to be announced shortly. The Chairman wished to gauge the Parish Council's opinion of the idea.

**It was resolved** to wait for White Paper as options are not clear at present.

**Residents email** had requested a dog bin be placed near Woodside and that there be a possible dog exercise area made available away from farm animals.

**It was resolved** that a dog bin be placed at the bottom of Woodside Ave at an estimated cost of £120 plus an annual maintenance cost in the region of £200 per annum. The Parish Council does not own any of the land but Marthome Greenway is being developed as a Recreational area which is available for dog walking

**20/111. BT consultation re.** the removal of the Payphone on Whalley Road due to the short consultation period. The following response has be forwarded on the Parish Council's behalf so that it is registered before the Ribble Valley consultation is made. Phone number 01282772130 ,Bottom of Haugh Ave Whalley Road, Simonstone .  
"Simonstone and Read as we are remote from larger towns, has poorish mobile signals, heavy traffic use and the road carries vehicles and pedestrians between towns late at night and we object to the proposed closure and wish to retain the wired land

line communication, especially now with the various threats that appear to be coming from international sources.”

**File no 920**

**It was resolved** that the above be the Parish Councils considered response and forwarded to RVBC.

**20/112. Finance**

**a. Audited Accounts** for the year 2019- 2020. The Parish Council had been selected to have an intermediate audit. (5% of parish councils in England are asked to go through this procedure every year).

**b. Accounts for payment**

i. LCC	PHLP Signpost	£140.00
ii. Zoom	Subscription 1month	£12.99

**It was resolved** to pay the above accounts.

**NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE ON THE 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 7pm as a Zoom meeting (subject to the Covid Emergency advice).**

Chairman’s signature.....