

**Simonstone Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Virtual Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020**  
**By Zoom**  
**at 7.00 pm**

<https://zoom.us/j/99791874430?pwd=cGxvcDEyTytyMVlwNnhCaHN3YU84Zz09>

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

Apologies, Greera Norse.

- 20/149. Declaration of interests- Cllrs. Barker ,Pollard and Stephen Finn, Martholm Greenway and Cllrs Finn and McKelvey RSVH Trustees.
- 20/150. Public Participation. (open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 mins. 3mins per speaker)
- 20/151. Minutes of the meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> October for approval.
- i. It was resolved to approved the minutes and that they be initialled (DP) on behalf of the Chairman, by the Parish Clerk.
- 20/152. .Decision items
- 20/153. Matters raised from previous meetings:-
- 20/154. Flower beds, Simonstone . The contractor was working on site and once their work was completed the Read and Simonstone Environment Group collected the dead flower heads to collect the seed for it to be used to reseed the beds in spring.
- i. It was resolved to note the report
- 20/155. Governance matters - fiduciary responsibilities. Unfinished business from the last meeting. Checks on bodies requesting funds for local organisations.
- i. It was resolved that organisations requesting financial assistance should provide copies of most recent accounts and details of how the funds are to be used.
- 20/156. Calendar for the year 21-22
- i. It was resolved to approve the Calendar.
- 20/157. Report from Martholme Greenway. An information notice board had been installed at Constant Mary/Dunkirk. A fence was to be reinstated
- i. on the land to the north of Martholm bridge linking the bridge on the land belonging to SUSTRANS to the track bed. Trees were being felled and concern was expressed that the work could jeopardise the future development of the cycleway. It was reported that the work had not been authorised by the Forestry Commission or the Planning Authority. A request was made that the Chairman take the matter up

with the deputy leader of Lancashire Council .

- ii. Councillor Albert Atkinson. Details of a report written by threaten the future of the whole project.
- iii. **It was resolved** to await the the results of the meeting between Councillor Peat and Councillor Atkinson in order to try and resolve the matter.

**20/158. Development On Disused Railway**

- i. **Councilor Pollard** reported that Read Parish Council was concerned about the future development of the disused railway and had written to the following people. Read Parish Council requested the support of Simonstone Parish Council;-
- ii. “To RVBC: Marshal Scott (Ce), Nicola Hopkins (Director Of Development) , John Heap(Director Of Community Affairs) Cll. Alison Brown (Chairman Planning And Dev.)
- iii. The disused railway track from Padiham to Gt. Harwood is shown on LCC’s cycleway map as part of the proposed cycle route 685 from Rosegrove to Whitebirk.
- iv. Simonstone Parish Council is concerned that developments on parts of the route may compromise the eventual completion of this cycleway, which would create a valuable leisure amenity and afford road access to the Time Tech and numerous other Businesses and International Companies and other parts along it’s route who are all denied access to an ecologically safe cycle route to work.
- v. While appreciating that some small sections of disused railway remain in private ownership and may require future compulsory purchase orders to bring them into use, can we request that RVBC adopt a policy to oppose any future development along the disused track and schedule this matter for discussion by the full Council and Planning Committee at the earliest opportunity?
- vi. **It was resolved that the** Parish Council support the initiative and urge the support of the local MP and write to Nigel Evans MP, Sara Britcliffe MP and Antony Higginbotham MP”.

**20/159. RSVH Report** - Councillor Robert McKinley reported that due to the Covid19 regulations, the hall was closed and it was hoped that in the not too distant future at the end of Lockdown it would reopen for regular users .

- i. **It was resolved to note the report.**

**20/160. Dog/Litter** . At the last meeting there was a report of a damaged dog bin at the bottom of Haugh Ave which was in need of replacing. RV was made aware of the damage and the need for a replacement. Currently, there are 3 bins in close proximity to this location, 1 large bin at the lay-by bus stop and on the opposite side of the road there is a damaged dog bin which needs replacing and a small post mounted litter bin nearby which is well used and overflowing most of the time.

The large free standing litter bin which is under used on the verge outside Outdoor Elements on Trapp Lane could be used where the damaged one is situated and the adjacent, small post mounted litter bin could be transferred to the position outside Outdoor Elements.

Two Fountains Ave bins. The smaller bin should be transferred to Whins Lane away from residential property as was requested some years ago.

i. **It was resolved** to proceed with resiting the bins, as suggested .

#### 20/161. Chairman's report -

Replacement Policeman. PC James Gorrie, who will be joining the RV area from Blackburn, has asked if he could meet us to break the ice. Proposals either to

- i. have one zoom meeting for all 3 Parish Councils he will be responsible for or a meeting with each Parish Council separately.
- ii. **It was resolved** that the Clerk make the necessary arrangements.

#### 20/162. Councillor Pollard. Request for information.

- a. **Air pollution** in Simonstone A671 and if it is above the recommended level. There are no facilities outside Clitheroe according to the latest report on traffic pollution and the information relates to the Clitheroe area in Salford at the Sainsbury's roundabout by Woone Lane which should have a monitoring device placed there so that pollution levels can be monitored.

i. The latest report has been distributed to members.

ii. **It was resolved** that a request for arrangements for monitoring air pollution be place in more confined places on the Road.

- b. **Footpath 30.** The footpath at the footbridge crossing the stream. The bank has been badly eroded due to cattle crossing at the same point and there is no pedestrian access to the bridge. The matter has been reported to the LCC and Sabden Parish Council has asked the Lengthsman to investigate.

i. **It was resolved to note the report**

#### 20/163. Christmas Arrangements -

- a. **Christmas tree** - arrangements for purchase and installing of Christmas tree - 28th November at 9.30 am. Final arrangements to be announced later.

i. Prices are the same as last year but for a locally Grown tree at 15ft. Lengthsman to erect.

ii. **It was resolved** to purchase the tree from the usual supplier.

- b. **Christmas Tree** Light Switch- on. Unfortunately, owing to the current restrictions due to Covid 19, it would not be possible to hold the usual festive activities.

**It was resolved to note the report .**

- c. **Christmas Party.** Unfortunately, owing to the Covid 19 current restrictions it would not be possible to hold the usual festive activities for those who had attended the party in previous years.

**It was resolved that** arrangements be made to distribute boxes of Biscuits to the elderly who regularly attended the Christmas Party. The clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

#### 20/164. Finance

- a. **Revised estimate for the year 20/21** was and considered and amended.

i. **It was resolved** to approve the revised estimates.

- b. Budget for the year 21-22 was considered and amended.

- i. **It was resolved** to approve the budget and set the precept for the 21-22 year at £8400

**20/165. Account s for payment**

a. Zurich Municipal	Insurance	£239.19
b.I R Hirst	Salary	£539.59
c. HMRC	Tax	£134.90
d.I R Hirst	Expenses	£46.30
e. Martholm Greenway	Development Grant	£500.00
f. RSVH	Development Grant	£500.00
g. SBA	Audit costs	£240.00
h. Christmas	Expense	

- i. **It was resolved** to pay the above accounts
- ii.

**20/166.** Audit review- The Clerk reported that this year the council had been selected for the once in 20year review. As a result, it was pointed out that entries in the AGAR report form needed to be amended and this was done. All the matters were attended to and the Parish Council Chairman had confirmed the changes.

**It was resolved** that the action was approved

**Next Parish Council** meeting is on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 @7pm

**Chairman’s signature**.....