

**Simonstone**  
**Parish Council**  
**Parish Council Meeting**  
**Chairman David Peat OBE**

to be held at 7.00 pm on 14<sup>th</sup> April at  
St Peter's School Hall, School Lane, Simonstone.

**AGENDA**

**Attendances**

**Apologies;-**

- 142) **Minutes of the meeting dated 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022** for approval.
- 143) **Public Participation (members of the public are invited to raise matters of concern, time limit of 3 minutes per item/person.)**
- 144) **Declaration of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interests.**
- 145) **Report by Sub Committee on Appointment of Clerk. Chairman** to report on the next steps and final resolutions. National Pay award - National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has agreed the new pay scales from 1/4/21 per hr to £11.73 the new 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 National Agreement
- 146) **District Councillor's** report.
- a) Item raised by members:- Cllr. Hampson
1. - Cleaning Road signs.
  2. Update on road safety campaign for Simonstone.
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Cllr. Hampson

- a. Cllr. Hampson How much money has been spent over the last 5 years? On Simonstone School occasional part teaching. £200 annually in lieu of rent. Occasional e.g., Kindle £420 in the Covid 2021 period to assist children with reading skills. Creation of outdoor learning area, £470 (2022)
- b. Martholme Greenway occasional LCC/Ribble Valley grants to assist in developing the Disused Railway to enhance travel to work and improve the National footpath network. £1420 £500 PC£920 funds from LCC and other bodies which were donated via the PC the funds were processed by the PC.
- c. Simonstone Tennis Club £480 Occasional
- d. Citizens Advice Bureau £150 Annually
- e. Little Green Bus £150 Annually
- f. British Legion £50 Annually
- g. Read & Simonstone Village Hall. £600 (£100 Planning permission £500 Deposit)
- h. Any other organisation that regularly receives money e.g. at least once a year? None. RSEG may assist the P C by Planting Bulbs, litter picking and currently there is a request for some funding See the attached .

- i. Request for SPC Financial Assistance occasionally. None at present.  
Over the years there have been band concerts and theatrical events in partnership arrangements i.e., Spot on. Christmas. Pensioner Parties which used be free of charge apart from entertainment, which was sometimes free, and others for small fee. And supporting the initial purchase of the Village Hall All the information is on the web as records go back to the 1700s and interested parties may seek further information by visiting the Council Achieves or Parish website.

147) **REG – Simonstone** Lane Flower beds have been prepared for seeding. Seed has been delivered to the volunteers ready for sowing this coming season.

- a) A request has been made by the Grandparents of Louise Johnson' for a Memorial tree.

148) **Cllr. Barker to update the Council on;-**

- a) Face book  
b) Martholme Greenway.

149) **RSVH Cllr. McKelvey to report.** The Village Hall **Platinum Celebration** Commemoration:

150) **Website Cllr Finn to report;**

151) **PLANNING**

- (a) **Parish Plan. A details have been received and a from some members and it suggested that a working party be set up consider the responses**

152) **Finance**

- a) **Audit** The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 have been updated and become effective from March 2022 so there could be a delay in producing the annual accounts.  
b) **Appointment of internal Auditor for the year 2021-2022.** Les Pickering has continued to serve the PC since 1999. (former deputy Treasurer Burnley, Blackburn and Ribble Valley DCs and Clitheroe Town Council.)  
c) **The Draft Annual Account** for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March for approval prior to Audit.  
d) **Zurich Insurance renewal notice (Last year £239.49)**  
(i) **Barclays Change.** Accounts Saving and Current to online banking  
(ii) Appointment of Bank signatories.

(a) **Payment of accounts**

(i)IR Hirst/CC	Flower seeds	£62.99*
(ii)LALC	Subscription	£239.11
(iii)Zurich	Insurance	£244.38
(iv)ICO	Annual Fee	£40.00
(v)RVBC	Litter bin service	£457.39
(vi)A Collinson	Salary	£

**Date of the next Parish Council Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting. Members of the Public are welcome to attend Parish Council Meetings.**

**I R Hirst.....  
Clerk to the Parish Council**



**Dear Parish Councillors,**

We apologise that it is not possible for a member of Readstone Environment Group to attend your meeting this month, hence this letter. This is a follow up to the meeting we attended last year when we said that we asked if you would consider the idea of being termed as an Environmentally Friendly Village. We realise that this was really too early to be asking this and it is really something that the PC would have to take on board – not our group.

We have signed up for the Plastic Free Communities Initiative – which essentially does not mean to be plastic free but to greatly reduce the amount of single use plastics for example single use plastic bottles, straws, coffee cups in a business/school or community.

In order to achieve plastic free status certain objectives have to be met one of which is to get the local council on side. However, this means a borough not parish council as we now understand it so our request for a parish councillor to sit on our Steering Group is not required at the moment. Apparently there is a similar group starting up in Clitheroe and we are hoping they will pursue the matter at borough level. This initiative will be slower than we anticipated as we need more people to join our committee.

The local primary schools may take on board the Plastic free initiative and we hope to visit some local businesses in the hope that they may take this on board also.

Future plans: After securing a small lottery grant we hope to leaflet both villages with our intended projects and advice on how to be more environmentally friendly. We hope to do a Big Clean for the Queen – cleaning road and street name signs, local bus stop shelters (unless they are cleaned before the middle of May, we will check this out with yourselves We have been in contact with LCC and RVBC re this.) This will be in conjunction with the Scouts and Cubs. We intend to follow up ‘Deep Clean’ woods/fields and areas adjoining the main road of years of litter, done at the Stork Car park last year and Dean Clough Wood recently.

As we stated at the last meeting we hope to establish a hedgehog trail through the villages and to buy a thermal imaging camera that we hope can be used to help people identify where heat is leaking out of their homes – this is becoming more important in the light of ever increasing costs of gas and electric.

The lottery money will also help us to fund some hedgehog houses for the schools and two wildlife cameras.

We hope that this keeps you up to date with our group activities.

Kind regards

Gayle Wray

Penny Galpin