

MINUTES OF SIMONSTONE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2023 AT 7PM

ST PETER'S SCHOOL CHURCH HALL, SCHOOL LANE, SIMONSTONE

Present: Chairman: Councillor: Peat

Councillors: Duckworth, Finn, Hampson, McKelvey, Pollard & Vaughton

Apologies received from Councillor Norse

1 Declaration of Councillors' Interest and Dispensations

1.1 To receive declaration of interest from Councillors on items on the Agenda -
none

1.2 To receive requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)
– none

1.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate – none

2 To approve the Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held 7th September 2023

Minutes of the above Meeting were approved as a true record with the exception of:

(a) Comments on notice board - outstanding item – refer to item 9(i)

(b) Cllr Pollard was asked for progress on Road Safety Group – Nothing to report at this present time.

3 Matters arising from above Minutes not on the Agenda

No matters arising.

4 Public participation

No public participation

5 Borough Councillor's Report

Borough Councillor Peplow gave a report. Copy attached.

Road Safety Group to look at where the road signs can be used and where they can be stored. Road signs on Whalley Road operate on a timer. Give Way signs are now on junction of Whins Lane and Sabden Road. Stickers "Slow Down Save Lives" are available – to obtain contact Cllr Peplow. Primary School has a banner to display. Cllr Peplow was asked how many people attend his open meeting – currently up to 4 people per meeting with different attendees.

6 Clerk's Report

Local Crime Statistics – Cllr Vaughton gave an update on crime figures as follows:-

- ASB x 1 - Youth related report in relation to noise;

- Road related offence x 1 – Moped being ridden without helmet;
- Theft x 1 – Shop theft;
- Theft of vehicle x 1 – SORN car removed from garage via skip truck;
- Damage to vehicle x 1 – Deliberate damage caused to windscreen of a parked vehicle.

7 Facebook and Website Report

Facebook – nothing to report

Website – Cllr Finn inputs information whenever it is received. No invoices have been received from the website for some time. This requires following up.

8 Parish Council Liaison Meeting

- Cllr Peat reported from the Parish Council Liaison Meeting – Presentation on Lancashire Place, ie East, West and Central Lancs but based on Borough Council Primary Care Network with GPs, Social Care, Community Nurses and Community organisations to discuss Health Improvement and Wellbeing. This Ribble Valley set up does not include Padiham and Blackburn.
- There are to be changes in Electoral Law, changes to postal voting. 2 different rules for EU as EU countries have DIFFERENT relationships with the UK.
- There is a schedule of grants available to residents in the Ribble Valley for housing.

9 Decision Items

(a) Remembrance Day

This year's Remembrance Day will be Sunday 12th November. A church service will be held at St John's, Read at 10am and will be continued at St Peter's, Simonstone, for a service and wreath laying at 12md. Karen (Clerk) has been asked to obtain two wreaths for his occasion.

(b) Rural Levelling Up

Money has been given to Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley. Money is now available for Parishes outside these areas. Information can be seen on the Ribble Valley website under the heading "Rural Levelling Up". SPC to discuss our application at next month's meeting.

(c) EV Charging Points

Matter withdrawn this was discussed at the Read Parish Council.

(d) Car Park

Matter withdrawn as this relates to Read Parish Council

(e) LCWIP (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans) Survey

Cllr Pollard proposed Simonstone supports the Cycle Way. Cllr Hampson wished to raise a formal objection about conflict of interest relating to Cllr Pollard and asked the question about the suitability of the cycle way. Cllr Pollard objected to conflict of interest. Cllr Pollard to circulate an email to all Cllrs for comments

and voting. Comments are required before 23rd October. Plans show completing the cycle path along the Greenway. Cllr Hampson suggested looking at Harewood Avenue onto School Lane. It was suggested that LCC are contacted to find out where they got their proposal from. Cllr Pollard to send a draft resolution to Maureen to circulate for majority votes.

(f) **Road Safety and Traffic**

Cllr Pollard requested to defer this item until the next meeting.

(g) **Lay-by-bin**

Cllr Hampson expressed concern that people are putting their own rubbish in lay-by-bins and leaving bin bags on the ground. It was suggested to contact Director of Community Services quoting the number of the affected bins to clear away.

(h) **Playground donation**

Cllr Peat commented that this will be submitted after the meeting.

(i) **Noticeboard**

Cllr McKelvey has looked on-line for prices. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Cllr McKelvey to circulate to all in advance.

(j) **Coronation Tree**

As an alternative, it was suggested to have a bench along the riverway. This was **agreed** to be a good idea. Cllr Pollard to write to Fortvale. Cllr Vaughton – as acting Clerk for this meeting – to speak to the Clerk re this letter.

(k) **Newsletter**

Cllr Finn circulated a draft newsletter. Once finalised this needs to be distributed to all residents before the tickets for the Senior Xmas Meal go on sale.

Comments from all to be made to Cllr Finn within one week of this meeting. Cllr Hampson offered to print the newsletters if required.

(l) **Christman Tree Event**

No action taken at this stage.

(m) **Seniors' Christman Lunch**

Tickets to go on sale once Newsletter has been distributed.

(n) **Celebration Sunday**

Cllr Peat suggested this should take place every alternate year rather than yearly. Potential plan to hold summer or autumn time.

Additional item not on Agenda

(o) **CPRE subscription renewal**

To be paid.

10 Correspondence

Temporary Traffic Regulation Order – Clough Lane, Simonstone 02.10-23 – 19.10.23

In hand

11 Planning Application & Decisions/Enforcements

There were two planning applications received since the time of the previous Minutes.

- Equestrian Centre – Each application changes plans for use. It was suggested asking the Planning Officer to investigate. SPC are objecting and want the Borough Planning Team to investigate the breaches. Cllr Pollard to send a note to the Clerk.
- Cllr McKelvey mentioned 6 Tintern Close has resubmitted rejected planning application without any changes. Cllr Hampson was concerned this could be a conflict of interest from Cllr McKelvey and expressed the need to agree a process that when Parish Councillors have an issue concerning where they live, the affected Councillor should leave the room when being discussed.
- Cllr Peat to seek Legal Officer advice re Declarations etc on Pathway and neighbour plans.

12 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

Cllr McKelvey talked through the finance and accounts as shown under item 12 on the Agenda.

Advice given from HR to pay April (previous Clerk) for holidays. **Agreed** to pay. New Clerk is Karen Farnhill.

13 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Rural Levelling Up
- Road Safety
- Notice Board
- Christman Tree
- Remembrance Sunday

Item for January Agenda

- CPRE – Cllr Hampson

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd November 2023 at 7pm in Read & Simonstone Village Hall, commencing 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm