

READ PARISH COUNCIL

11/05/2022

The Annual meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 11th May 2022 at 7.00p.m.**

Present: Chairman: Councillor Hacking
Councillors: Barker, Greenhough, Hanson, McKelvey, Pollard,

In attendance: April Collinson (Clerk)

1 members of the public attended.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Councillor Anderson apologised for their absence.
2. **Appointment of Chairman** – Councillor Pollard suggested that the current chairman has been doing an excellent job and proposed that Marie Hacking continue on as chairman. This was seconded and Councillor Hacking accepted
3. **Appointment of Vice-Chairman and Council Representatives;**

Vice-Chair	Clifton Pollard
Signatories/online bank authorisation	Marie Hacking & Clifton Pollard
Planning Committee	Richard Hanson & Bob Anderson (with all other councillors to also view)
Church Street Gardens Group	Sian Greenhough
Lengthsman Co-Ordinator	Richard Hanson
Allotment Management	Bob Anderson
Playground Inspection	Marie Hacking
Footpath Officer	Clifton Pollard and Richard Bennett
Parish Council Liaison Committee	John Barker
Business Link	To be allocated as necessary
School Link	To be allocated as necessary
Simonstone Parish Council Link	John Barker & Clifton Pollard

4. Declarations of Councillors' Interest and dispensations

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors *on items on the agenda.* – none.

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

2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate – none

5. To approve the minutes of the previous Parish council meeting held on 6th April 2022 – the minutes were approved with a slight amendment as Councillor Greenhough had been listed as both present and having sent her apologies when she was not present at the meeting.

6. Matters arising from the above minutes not on the agenda – none

7. Public participation – none

8. Borough Councillor's Report – A brief report was received from Councillor Bennett confirming that some progress has been made regarding the unfinished road Meadow View. Lancashire County Council have agreed to fix the drains and potentially to also complete the road.

9. Clerk's Report – a report was received from the local PCSO with the monthly crime statistics for the month of April: 01/04/2022-30/04/2022.

Drugs-0

Vehicle crime- 2
Criminal damage excluding vehicles-0
Public order- 0
ASB- 0
Assault-2
Theft-1
Theft or UTMV-0
Burglary-1
Road Related Offence-0

A query was made regarding the air quality monitoring and traffic monitoring. It was noted that there was a speed monitoring device currently active towards the west end of the village on Whalley Road. The readings will be requested from the County Council.

10. Reports from external meetings – none

11. Playground:

a) To receive the playground inspection report – As cricket season is beginning the amount of litter around the playground has increased. Councillor Hacking has emptied the bin twice within the space of a week. This will be kept under review.

b) Repairs and maintenance – Ribbles Valley Borough Council have offered a grant of £650 towards the repairs of playground equipment estimated to cost around £1300, work must be completed by 31/01/2023 and the contribution must be acknowledged in any media coverage. Updated prices have been requested for the cargo net and fixings as follows;

Let's Play Everywhere - £1363.20

Sutcliffe Play - £639.13

Playsound – still awaiting quote & details.

The climbing frame originally came from Sutcliffe Play so this is the most likely choice.

The necessary parts can now be ordered and work can be scheduled. The lengthsman should be able to make necessary repairs to the playground now the weather is improving.

12. Allotment Management Committee report –There are 18 people on the waiting list and no available allotments. An inspection/meeting has been arranged for 13th May where the Road and Padlock situations will be discussed. An Allotment tenant had enquired about having a plumbed water supply to a tank for his sheep.

13. Decision Items

a) Street Lighting on Back Streets

Councillors discussed that this was an issue that had previously been discussed and there was currently no funding available to create new street lighting.

b) Bins left in the road

Some residents have been leaving their wheelie bins out all week, this has been causing problems making some streets difficult to navigate.

RESOLVED: Councillor Hacking has ordered some stickers to be placed on the bins which are being left out. If this does not rectify the issue then further actions may be taken

c) Trees for Community Space (by the Village Hall)

Soil has been delivered and is in the process of being placed into the planting areas.

d) Ordering of Playground Cargo Net

Updated prices have been requested for the cargo net and fixings as follows;

Let's Play Everywhere - £1363.20

Sutcliffe Play - £639.13

Playsound – still awaiting quote & details.

The climbing frame originally came from Sutcliffe Play so this is the most likely choice.

e) Gate for re-opening by playground

Councillors discussed reopening the gate from the playground to the cricket club to allow people who wish to use the field to have access without walking through the playground and disturbing the children using the play area.

f) Playground bin to be moved away from bench

According to the ROSPA report the bin needs to be moved further away from the bench. The bin should be less than 2 metres away but more than 1 meter away. Tripping Hazards were also mentioned in the report which is believed to relate to the flags the bench sits on, some woodchip may resolve this issue.

RESOLVED: The Lengthsman will be asked to move the bin as appropriate and lay some woodchip to lessen the trip hazard.

The Picnic Bench is now in place and can be used by residents.

g) Car Park and Allotment Road

2 quotes for the resurfacing of the car park and road had been requested but both parties had come back stating they were no longer interested in the job as it is too small to take on, they also raised concerns about the long term performance of the surface. Many companies are not willing to come and give quotes as it is not worth the time. Previously John Lofthouse had offered to maintain the area. It was considered that the cost of repairing the current surface may be expansive compared to the amount of wear it will take. The car park not being used correctly was discussed and councillors discussed how the area could be monitored to allow fair use, potentially with a ticket machine or recognition software.

RESOLVED: John Lofthouse will be contacted for a quote for maintenance/resurfacing and this will be considered at a future meeting.

h) Read Motor Bodies Lease renewal

The issues have been highlighted to the solicitor and they have asked to show the letter of issues to the tenant. We are currently awaiting a response from the solicitor following this.

i) Automotive Storage container

The container has now been removed and they dry stone walling can now continue in the area.

j) Overgrown bushes on Whalley road

Some houses have bushes which are growing out into the footway.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will draft a letter asking for the bushes to be cut back which will be delivered to the relevant houses.

k) Notice to acknowledge the achievements of the Environment Group on Worthalls Road

Councillors praised the hard work achievements of the Environment Group particularly along Worthalls Road, the gardens are looking lovely and have been brightening up the area. It was suggested that a notice could be placed in the area celebrating the efforts and raising awareness to help with the maintenance of the area.

RESLOVED: Councillor Hacking will liaise with the Environmental group regarding a sign/notice acknowledging the hard work.

l) Councillors Attendance

Councillor Hacking Praised councillors for the excellent attendance over the last year and acknowledged that the role can be demanding especially if councillors are working alongside being a councillor.

M) AGAR and Accounts

The accounts have been submitted for internal Audit and will be circulated once this is completed so that the accounts can be discussed for approval at the next meeting.

14. Correspondence

A message from a resident has been received regarding several blocked gullys from devil's elbow through to Simonstone Lane. It was discussed that matters of blocked gullys can be reported online directly to Lancashire County Council.

RESOLVED: The blocked Gullys will be reported via the online reporting system, The Clerk will also write to the County council highlighting the issue and our local county councillor.

15. Planning Applications/Decisions/Enforcements – There were no planning application received since the time of the last minutes.

16. Finance & Accounts:

a) Payments

14/04/2022	RVBC – Grass Cutting	£864.29
14/04/2022	RVBC – Emptying Dog Waste Bins	£1,621.15
14/04/2022	RVBC – Emptying of bin (near Cricket Ground)	£249.60
25/04/2022	WaterPlus	£65.14
25/04/2022	LALC Membership	£267.66
25/04/2022	A Collinson Salary April 2022	£261.00

b) Income

11/04/2022	Precept – RVBC	£11,981.00
25/04/2022	Simonstone Playground Contribution	£375.00

c) Bank reconciliation as at 26 April 2022

Opening Balances 27.04.22			
Community Account	£14,998.35		
Business Saver Account	£9,581.20		£24,579.55
Add: Receipts			£12,356.00
Less: Payments			£3,328.84
Balance			£33,606.71

17. Items for the next agenda

The Next Meeting will take place on 8th June 2022.

- **Traffic volumes & Pollution**
- **Parish Plan**
- **Read Motor Bodies Lease**
- **Telephone Kiosk**
- **Church Street Gardens Trees**
- **Picnic Bench Plaque**

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.