

READ PARISH COUNCIL

17/05/2023

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at **Read & Simonstone Village Hall, 6 East View, Read, BB12 7PS on Wednesday 17th May 2023 at 7.00p.m.**

Present: Chairman: Councillor Hacking
Councillors: Anderson, Greenhough, A. Hanson, R. Hanson, Neary, Pollard.

In attendance: April Collinson (Clerk)

4 members of the public attended.

1. List of Councillors elected;

Robert Anderson
Sian Cadwgan Greenhough
Marie Hacking
Catherine Alexandra Hanson
Richard John Hanson
Sally Ruth McKelvey
Steven Neary
Clifton Charles Pollard

2. Apologies for absence – Councillor McKelvey sent apologies for their absence.

3. Appointment of Chairman – Councillor Hacking was proposed and seconded as chairman and accepted the role.

4. Appointment of Vice Chairman & Council Representatives;

Vice-Chair	Clifton Pollard
Signatories/online bank authorisation	Marie Hacking & Clifton Pollard
Planning Committee	Richard Hanson & Bob Anderson
Communications Group	To be appointed as necessary
Lengthsman Co-Ordinator	Richard Hanson
Allotment Management	Bob Anderson & Steve Neary
Playground Inspection	Sally McKelvey & Marie Hacking
Footpath Officer	Steve Neary
Parish Council Liaison Committee	Sian Greenhough & Clifton Pollard
Business Link	Alex Hanson
School Link	Alex Hanson
Simonstone Parish Council Link	Clifton Pollard

5. Declarations of Councillors' Interest and dispensations

5.1 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda. - none

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

5.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate – none

6. To approve the minutes of the previous parish council meeting held on 5th April 2023 – approved

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

8. Public participation – none

9. Borough Councillor's Report – none.

10. Clerk's Report – none

11. Reports from external meetings – none

12. Playground – The playground has been inspected and appears to be well kept. At previous meetings discussions surrounding whether to replace some of the equipment had taken place. A budget for this will be discussed at the next meeting.

13. Allotment Management Committee report – a meeting was held however this was poorly attended, a major issues was reported of dog fouling and dog waste bags being left around the allotments as well as in the allotments. It was noted that there was a sign saying access was for allotment holders only however people do not seem to be abiding by this. It had been suggested that a camera with memory be purchased to monitor the area and deter dog fouling, trespassing and also issues of theft. There were discussions of closing the main gate however it was noted that this was unlikely to remain closed.

Some plots did not appear to be in use, the allotment holders were contacted about this and confirmed that they wanted to keep the plots and provided reasons for the lack of work. A query was raised as an allotment holder is due to move out of the area, they have looked after the allotment well while it has been under their care and the question came about as to whether they could retain the allotment after their house move. Councillors discussed that although it would be nice to allow them to keep the plot the deeds do not allow for this so the plot would have to be given up.

14. Decision Items

a) Plastic Free Initiative

Gayle Wray, the chairperson of REG (Readstone Environment Group) had come to talk to the Parish Council about the work the group currently does in the village along with their new initiative. currently the group organises litter picks, Balsam bashing and has collection points for recycling of blister packs, glasses and soft plastics she explained that the group is working toward a plastic free initiative. She went on to explain that single use plastics are made from oil which produces CO2 and also that they contribute to litter as they do not bio-degrade. The group has been working to get local schools on board as well as individuals, businesses and the Parish Council. As the Parish Council does not have any buildings or offices to reduce the use of single use plastic from, then over 50% of the councillors would have to pledge to give up three single use plastic items from their homes. The Parish Council would have to pass a resolution to support the plastic free initiative and also name a representative to support events.

RESOLVED: Councillor Richard Hanson and Sian Greenhough confirmed they would be able to sign up to the pledge, other councillors would check on their usage of single use plastics consider the pledge going forward.

b) Read Motor Bodies Lease

Confirmation of the Councils Position regarding the extension of the lease had been sent to the solicitor, the Council had agreed to the 5 year lease under the condition that any missed payments are made and the 5 years would be classed as starting from the end of the last lease in January 2022. A response to this has not yet been received.

c) Parish Plan

It was suggested that the school could be contacted to set up a drop box so that responses could be dropped off when dropping children off at school, this could also

be set up at the village hall or local shops.

RESOLVED: *The Parish Plan will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting*

d) Other Business

Waste bins left out – an issue of waste bins being left out had been brought up, although this is not a matter the Parish Council can address itself, we can report the issue and offending bins to Ribble Valley Borough Council. It was suggested that stickers could be printed to be attached to the bins causing issue or a leaflet could be posted to the addresses in question, Councillor Hacking agreed to contact Ribble Valley Borough Council to discuss the matter.

Teenage entertainment – a resident had raised that although the playground is great for children there is not many places for teenagers to hang out. The council had once discussed an all weather pitch/multi-use games area. It was suggested that although there would be maintenance costs the area could be hired out for events and could be used by all ages. The funds left by Mr Summersgill could be used however there would probably not be enough to cover the full cost. It was suggested that some local businesses may be able to make grants as well as larger bodies such as the National Lottery. It was noted that a similar plan was discussed previously and plans may have been drawn up at the time.

RESOLVED: The plans will be retrieved to be reviewed and enquiries into available grants will be made.

George Lane bench – the bench on George Lane has become decrepit and needs replacing. It was suggested that money from the Summersgill Legacy could be used to replace it. It was suggested a plastic bench would require less maintenance. Councillors agreed that quotes would be gathered to replace this.

Lengthsmen - The new lengthsmen will be becoming available to take on jobs however have stated that the cleaning and painting of the milestones is not something they would be able to do due to the location. It was suggested that the noticeboard and bench on Straits Lane should be added to the list to be revarnished.

Carpark honesty box/donations – It was suggested that a box for donations toward the maintenance/improvement of the carpark could be installed, other councillors did not think this would be a good idea.

Readstone FC – The Football team are in need of more room for training as there are so many children wanting to play, the hope was that they could train from May into August or early September. John Bond of Readstone United has confirmed this is not an issue, they maintain the field year round. The field is for the use of the community.

15. Correspondence – none

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

a) Payments

03/04/2023	Chq 100604 – fingerpost Duncan Armstrong	£150.00
24/04/2023	RVBC – bin emptying (near cricket club)	£275.59

24/04/2023	Clerk's Wage	£346.00
24/04/2023	RVBC – dog bin emptying (6 bins)	£1,809.59
24/04/2023	LALC membership	£257.51
24/04/2023	Clerk's Expenses	£47.16

b) Income

11/04/2022	RVBC - Precept	£12,857.00
17/04/2023	RVBC – Coronation grant	£500.00

c) Bank reconciliation as at 30th April 2023

Opening Balances 01.04.23			
Community Account	£10,391.92		
Business Saver Account	£9,659.45		
Skipton Building Society Account	£45,000.00		£65,051.37
Add: Receipts			£13,357.00
Less: Payments			£2,885.85
Balance			£75,522.52

17. Items for the next agenda

- **Summersgill Legacy**
- **Playground Equipment**
- **Read Motor Bodies Lease**
- **Parish Plan**
- **Telephone Kiosk**
- **Bench**
- **Multi-Use Games Areas**

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm.

The Next Meeting will take place on 7th June 2023.