

Simonstone Parish Council
Minutes of the Virtual Parish Council Meeting
held on 11th February 2021
By Zoom
Under the emergency powers for Parish Councils
Section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020
at 7.00 pm

Present David Peat, Clifton Pollard, John Barker, Elisa Hargreaves, Graham Meloy, Rob McKelvey, Stephen Finn.
In attendance, PCSO Cathy Ferguson. and the Parish Clerk
 Apologies, Greera Norse.

Declaration of interests Cllrs. Barker , Hargreaves, Pollard, Martholm Greenway and RSVH Trustees. Cllrs. Finn and McKelvey

21/20. Minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2021 were approved.

21/21. **Public Participation.** (open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 minute, 3 minutes per speaker).
 None.

PCSO. Cathy Ferguson was introduced to the meeting and spoke about her role in the local police . The area she covered was Read, Simonstone, Sabden and Barrow and she was currently based at Clitheroe police station. She was hoping to establish links with the local communities and the Parish Councils would be a valuable asset to assist in her work. It is her intention to provide regular newsletters informing Councils on policing matters and local people will be encouraged to ask questions on current issues. She intends to attend Parish Council meetings occasionally. She noted that the Village Hall and the Constitutional club would be idea venues to meet with local people and suggested that the book swap library has been a success in many villages.

The Chairman thanked Cathy for her presentation and for coming to meet everyone and he wished her on behalf of the Parish Council and people of the village every success in achieving her endeavors'.

Matters raised from previous meetings:-

21/22. **The Clerk reported** that there had been a problem with the computer rendering it incapable of sending out emails, he had obtained the services and they reported that it needs professional attention.
It was resolved that professional advice to rectify the service and members be kept informed in order restore the service after being authorized in consultation with the Chairman.

21/23. **Website** – Cllr Pollard volunteered to update the opening pages of the site and liaise with Coun Finn who will add them to the site.
It was resolved that to accept the offers.

21/24. **Flower beds Simonstone ;-** The Clerk told the members that Readstone Environmental Group was intending to reseed the bed during the next month and had enquired if some assistance could be given by UU towards the reinstatement.
It was resolved to note the report.

21/25. **Air Pollution. The Chairman** reported that he had confirmation that a sensing device was to be fitted on Whalley Road in March to monitor air quality. The Nitrogen Dioxide figures in Read and Simonstone will be issued regularly. Particular concerns were at peak periods in the mornings when Children were waiting for School buses. It had been noted that recent figures in Ribble Valley indicated that the Nitrogen Dioxide levels had dropped during the National lockdown due to the decrease in vehicular activity. After the end of lockdowns the levels had increased again slightly but there was no cause for concern.
It was resolved to note the report.

21/26. **Footpath 12 - A request** has been forwarded to Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership and to the Lengthsman for a repair to be carried out on the footpath. Councillor Pollard had had discussions with the Partnership and had been told they were waiting to hear if funds were available.
It was resolved to note the report

21/27. **Martholm Greenway**

- a. A response had been received from the Director of Economic Development and Planning regarding Martholm Greenway. A letter explained that there was little that could be done at the present time to assist, but she suggested that the best way forward was to ensure that the relevant matters be included in the coming consultations of the Ribble Valley District plan so that the matter could be considered for inclusion of the next District Wide Plan 2022 to 2024.

It was resolved that the Parish Council make appropriate responses at the consultation stage in the District Planning procedure.

- a. The Clerk reported that minutes of a meeting of the County Council Regulatory Committee.
- b. Wednesday, 18th November, 2020 10.30 am (Item 8.) concerning Footpath 11, Read to Martholme Viaduct, had been received and distributed to members for their consideration.

Councillor Baker of Martholme Groups told the meeting that having considered the minute Item 8 of the meeting in its entirety there had been a lack of information that had been submitted by the group to the County Council Regulatory Committee which had included Evidence and Photographs which had not been included in the report to the committee and therefore the committee had been unable to give a balanced decision on the proposition placed before it.

It was resolved that Simonstone Parish Council support Read Parish Council as the site was within Read Boundary, should Read decide to object to the Committees decision.

21/26. RSVH Report - Councillor Rob McKelvey. Nothing to report.

21/27. Christmas 2021 dates for consideration- no response had been received from Read Parish Council concerning joint arrangements.
It was resolved that Couns. Meloy and Pollard consider arrangements and report back at the next Parish Council meeting

21/28. Readstone Environment Group- The Group is hoping to reseed the flower bed at the bottom of Simonstone Lane as part of their Spring programme. Also, they are intending to do some planting around the village later on.
It was resolved to note the report

21/29. LALC – Training

Councillors And Clerks Workshops (Via Zoom)- Thursday 15th April 2021 7.00pm – 9.30pm £30 per module.
Chairmanship Workshop via Zoom Thursday March 25th, 2021 at 7pm – 9pm £25

It was resolved to note the report.

21/30. Planning Applications – none

21/31. Finance

- a. **Budget 20/21 report** – forwarded to members. for information. It was pointed out that due to the Covid Emergency the following items had not been spent:- (Covid Windfall)

Christmas Party	£1000
Civic Sunday	<u>£400</u>
	<u>£1400</u>

The Clerk reported that he had had a discussion with the Head teacher of St. Peters School, (minute 21/17) and financial help in obtaining Kindle type tablets would enhance the early years teaching. They would cost about £60 each, totalling £360 and would be of great assistance.

It was resolved to give a donation of £360 to the School.

Funding Grant 's request – Details of Tennis Club Improvement Grant application had been distributed to members. (Coun McKelvey had declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or the decision).

It was resolved that that a grant of £480 be given towards the preapplication meeting and the planning application.

21/32. Accounts for payment

a.	Citizens advice RV	Grant	£150.00
b.	Little Green Bus	Grant	£150.00
c.	NW Aggregates /IRH	Road salt	£100.00
d.	Dove Syke Nursery	Christmas Tree	£320.00
e.	St. Peter's School	Kindles	£360.00
f.	Readstone Tennis Club	Grant	£480.00

21/33. Next Parish Council meeting is on 11th March, 2021 @ 7pm by Zoom, see above.

Chairman's signature.....