

SIMONSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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Parish Council Meeting – Draft Minutes

Date:	3 October 2024		
Place:	St. Peters School Church Hall, Simonstone		
Present:	Councillors: D. Peat (Chair), S. Finn, J. Hampson, R. McKelvey, G. Norse, C. Pollard and M. Vaughton.		
In attendance:	Clerk to the Council (Mike Hill).		
Meeting started:	19:00	Meeting closed:	20:05

241003/

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

County Cllr. Mirfin, and Borough Cllrs. Peplow and McCrum sent their apologies.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2024.

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

3. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS.

There were no declarations of interest.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

One member of the public was present, but did not participate on any agenda item.

5. FINANCE REPORT.

The Clerk submitted a report seeking approval for the accounts to date, Reconciliation of Receipts and Payments and the Schedule of Payments.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- Approve the accounts to date.
- Approve the Reconciliation of Receipts and Payments as set out in the Report and Table b below.
- Approve Schedule of Payments as set out in the Table a below:

Schedule of Payments to be considered for approval.

Table A

#	Ref.	Payee	Description	Gross £	Vat £	Net £	Due Date	Ref.
1	40531, 40947, 41154, 41368, 41878 and 41667	Use it Computers	Provision of IT Services	68.84	11.47	57.37	Paid	Admin. Exp.
2	Contract	Clerk	September 2024 - Salary	343.20	0.00	343.20	Paid	Admin. Exp.
3	3769	DM Payroll Services	Payroll Services	60.00	0.00	60.00	Paid	Admin. Exp.
Totals:				472.04	11.47	460.57		

Summary of Receipts and Payments		Table B
	£	
Balance carried forward at 1st April 2024:	9,286.46	
Add total receipts to date:	9,513	
Less total payments to date:	(4,853)	
Balance:	13,946.88	If these two figures are different an explanation is required.
	£	
Unity Trust Bank Balance as at 29/09/24:	13,946.88	

6. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE.

The Clerk submitted a report asking members to consider adopting a Complaints Procedure which was attached as an Appendix to the Report.

The Report noted that complaints would be handled in Full Council or by nominated Councillors who are authorised to deal with complaints but are not involved with the complaint.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- Approve the Procedure as shown in Appendix 1 to the Report.
- Agree to review the Procedure in April 2025.

7. CRIME FIGURES

The Clerk submitted a report updating members on the latest crime figures as provided by PCSO Katie Ferguson. The report noted that there had been one report of damage to a vehicle, four related to road related offences, one assault (where the offender was known to the victim) and one damage to a window.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the report.

8. FESTIVE LIGHTING.

Cllr. Vaughton updated members on the preparations for festive lighting. It was noted that an electrician is still required to check the current installation and that the area is overgrown and needs to be tidied.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- Note the update.
- Request Cllr. Duckworth to contact the Lengthsman and ask him to trim the shrubbery, prune the trees and when they are delivered, install the festive lights.

9. UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM RECENT MEETINGS.

The Clerk submitted a report updating members on actions from recent meetings. It was noted, that with a few exceptions most items had been completed.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the update.

10. PLANNING REPORT

The clerk submitted a report on the relevant planning applications that had been submitted since the last Council meeting. Members were reminded that weekly planning applications and decided lists of planning applications are available to view on the RVBC website by using the link below:

https://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk/weekly_lists

Members were informed that Borough Cllr. Peplow had called in Planning Application 3/2024/0366 (application to build a new grid battery storage facility on the site of the former colliery at the junction of Simonstone Lane and Burnley Road).

Rationale provided by Cllr. Peplow for calling the application in:

'Although I viewed this as being essential infrastructure to enable the successful transition to renewable energy sources, I had several concerns that the potential hazards presented to neighbouring premises by this facility did not appear to have been adequately considered and mitigated. The Planning Team's report to the Planning and Development Committee recommended refusal but the Applicant withdrew the Planning Application shortly before the Planning and Development Committee was due to meet to consider the application.'

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the contents of the report and Cllr. Peplow's considerations.

11. PARISH NEWSLETTER.

Councillor Hampson noted that only two Councillors had responded to a request for information.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Request Cllr. Hampson to present a draft Newsletter to the next Council meeting for consideration.

12. ROAD SAFETY MATTERS

Councillor Hampson update members on matters relating to the RVBC's Road Safety Working Group.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Request Cllr. Hampson to stay in dialogue with LCC Highways and the Road Safety Work Group.
- b. Request Cllr. Hampson to present a report to a future meeting of the Parish Council, requesting members to consider the installation of additional Speed Indicator Devices.

13. COUNCILLOR REPORTS

- Cllr. Peat informed members that he had been invited by the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire to attend the Lancashire Business Awards.
- County Cllr. Mirfin submitted a report updating members on a meeting he attended with LCC's new Highways Director and his direct-line management team.
- Cllr. Pollard updated members on the planting of the Giant Redwood tree in Gooseleach Wood.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Thanked members for their updates.
- b. Requested the Clerk to purchase a commemorative plaque for the Giant Redwood.

14. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

No further matters were considered.

Future Meetings:

- 2024 – 14 November and 5 December.
- 2025 – 9 January, 6 February and 6 March.