

SIMONSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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Parish Council Meeting – Minutes

Date:	10 July 2025		
Place:	St. Peters School Church Hall, Simonstone		
Present:	Councillors: D. Peat (Chair), S. Finn, C. Pollard, A. Duckworth, M. Vaughton and J. Hampson.		
In attendance:	Clerk to the Council (Mike Hill)		
Meeting started:	19:00	Meeting closed:	20:15

250710/

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were accepted from Parish Councillors, Norse and McKelvy and Borough Councillor M. Peplow.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 6 MARCH AND 22 MAY 2025.

The minutes were approved.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Request the Clerk to split the 22 May minutes as Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meeting

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

There were no declarations of interest.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

There were no members of the public.

5. FINANCE REPORT.

The Clerk submitted a report seeking approval for the accounts to date, the 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:

Table a

Schedule of Payments to be considered for approval.

#	Ref.	Payee	Description	Gross £	Vat £	Net £	Due Date	Ref.
1		David Swift	Accountant - AGAR	125.00	0.00	125.00	Paid	Admin
2	SI103655	The Sign Shed Limited	Sign for Shed	28.39	4.73	23.66	Paid	Amenity
3	8651	Cllr. Finn for Nu-Age Print	Parish Plan Flyers	50.00	8.33	41.67	Paid	Sundry
Totals:				203.39	13.06	190.33		

Note: Approval is not usually sought for people or organisations where the Parish Council has a contractual relationship or has already been agreed by Council.

Summary of Receipts and Payments

Table b

	£	
Balance carried forward at 1st April 2025:	5,024.21	
Add total receipts to date:	10,655	
Less total payments to date:	-5,315.36	
Balance:	10,363.51	If these two figures are different an explanation is required.
Unity Trust Bank Balance as at 06/07/25:	10,363.51	

6. VE DAY REMEMBRANCE BENCH

The Clerk submitted a report requesting members to consider the location for siting a VE-Day Commemorative Bench. Members were reminded that RVBC had provided all parish councils with £500 to be used to commemorate VE Day 2025.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Subject to approval by Read and Simonstone Community Tennis Club, situate the bench in the car park of the tennis courts.

7. ASSET POLICY AND REGISTER.

The Clerk submitted a Report seeking members approval of the Parish Council's Asset Policy and Register. It was noted that the Nativity Set is with Cllr. Peat and the lantern used at commemorative events is with Cllr. Hampson

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Approve the Asset Policy and Register.

8. DISPOSAL OF A COUNCIL ASSET

The Clerk submitted a Report seeking approval to gift a laptop which was purchased in March 2023 at a cost of £390 and is no longer used or required by the Council to a local history group.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

After a long discussion on the disposal of the laptop, in which Cllrs Finn, Peat and Vaughton did not vote due to disclosed pecuniary interests and Cllr Hampson expressed her opinion that interested parties should bid on the laptop, members agreed in a vote to dispose of the laptop to the village historians (Footnote: it was subsequently discovered that the laptop was no longer serviceable and was disposed of accordingly).

9. UK SHARED PROSEPERITY FUND

The Clerk submitted a report updating members on the Expression of Interest (EOI) submitted to RVBC

Members were informed that all the EOIs received by RVBC were considered by Policy and Finance Committee on 17 June 2025 and would now be considered by the Shared Prosperity and Jubilee Fund Working Group, with their recommendations on which projects will be invited to submit a full application reported to Policy and Finance Committee on 16 September 2025.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: Note the report, make enquiries with Huntroyde Estate regarding a formal path, hold discussion with residents to check they are happy with the path, speak to the Lengthsman regarding the plan for and cost of the scheme, and contact LCC Treescapes.

10. PARISH PLAN.

The Working Group provided a verbal update on the responses they had received and the next steps.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the update.

11. NEWSLETTER - FEEDBACK.

Cllr. Vaughton updated members on the positive feedback she had received regarding the recent Newsletter.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Note the update.
- b. Agree to issue the Autumn Newsletter in mid-late November.

12. UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

The Clerk presented a report updating members on actions from recent meetings.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the report.

13. 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

The Clerk reminded members that comments on planning applications are collated by Councillors Duckworth and McKelvey, and that Cllr. Duckworth will submit the comments to RVBC.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the report.

14. CRIME FIGURES.

The Clerk verbally updated members on the latest crime statistics up to June 2025 as provided by PCSO Katie Ferguson.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Note the update.

15. COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

Borough Councillor Peplow submitted a report for consideration by the Council.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Thanked Cllr. Peplow for his informative report.

16. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

Members were informed that the Clerk would leave the post at the end of August.

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

- a. Thanked the Clerk for his work during his time in office
- b. Appoint a recruitment panel consisting of Cllrs. Peat, Finn and Hampson

17. FUTURE MEETINGS 2025:

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:

Agree that the next meeting would take place on 4 September 2025.