

SIMONSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER SPRING/SUMMER 2025

Councillors: David Peat (Chair); Stephen Finn (Vice Chair)

Alan Duckworth, Jacqueline Hampson, Rob McKelvey, Greera Norse, Clifton Pollard,
Maureen Vaughton

Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer: Mike Hill

Simonstone Parish Council (SPC) meetings are held in St Peter's Church, 1 School Lane, Simonstone BB12 7HR at 7pm. Dates of forthcoming meetings are:-

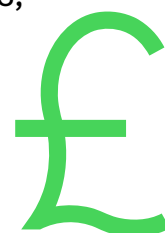
10th July 2025, 4th September 2025, 6th November 2025, 8th January 2026 and 5th March 2026.

Residents are welcome to attend and speak on relevant matters.

Agendas are posted on the Parish Council Notice Board on the gable end of The Stork Hotel, SPC Facebook page – www.facebook.com/simonstone.pc and SPC website – www.simonstone-pc.gov.uk

RIBBLE VALLEY SHARED PROSPERITY AND JUBILEE FUND

- SPC have submitted an Expression of Interest to potentially have a surfaced footpath between the Padiham end of Harewood Avenue and School Lane to enable Pupils, Parents and Parishioners, as well as the general public, to walk between these two locations on a dry surface. This is in response to a request from the School Governors to improve the safety of pupils and parents at drop off time by providing an alternative to parking on School Lane. No further progress on this will be made until the views of residents and landowner have been sought.
- Trustees of Read and Simonstone Village Hall are also seeking funds to provide a new toilet block with accessible facilities, and also a new improved accessible route to the Hall from the Car Park. They have received Planning Permission and sought tenders from local builders.




SPC - PARISH PLAN

A Parish plan determines the future of communities and how it can change for the better. It is a document that sets out a vision for the future of a parish and outlines how that can be achieved in an action plan. It is a community led plan.

SPC is currently updating its Parish Plan and would welcome, parishioners' input, suggestions and views. This can be done by emailing clerk@simonstone-pc.gov.uk Further invites will be placed on our SPC Facebook page, Website and SPC notice board.

VE DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY

- SPC have received a grant from Ribble Valley Borough Council towards commemorating VE Day 80th Anniversary. SPC are considering placing a Commemorative bench in the Whins Lane area. Views of placement would be welcome. Please contact cllr.vaughton@simonstone-pc.gov.uk who will forward responses to the Parish Clerk for collation.
- 
- On Thursday 8th May SPC, Read Parish Council and Read & Simonstone Village Hall, subsidised and hosted an afternoon event of celebration at the Village Hall. A light lunch was provided along with entertainment by a 1940's singer. The hall was suitably decorated for this occasion. The hall – ticket entry - was full to capacity and a good time was had by all. Everyone who attended was presented with a commemorative medal as a souvenir of this event.
 - At 9.30 pm on the same day residents congregated on the Village Green adjacent to the Stork Car Park to attend a ceremony of lighting a lantern, in conjunction with the rest of the country, to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe. Rev Sue conducted a brief service to commemorate this event.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Christmas 2024 saw the switch on of SPC's Christmas Tree in the Parish Gardens adjoining St Peter's School.

New lights were purchased extending around the gardens giving an impressive display throughout the festive period. In addition to this Dr John Barker, former Parish Councillor, made a bespoke nativity stable which was placed within the garden at eye level for the children to easily view. An illuminated Nativity Set was placed inside the stable and was admired by all. SPC are very grateful to Dr Barker for his crafted work.



ACTIVITIES INVOLVING LCC PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY (POW), REPORTING DEFECTS ETC.

Any issues on the above or similar within Simonstone Parish can be reported to cllr.vaughton@simonstone-pc.uk. Any received will then be passed on to the relevant sections for advice/action.