Simonstone Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on 11th April 2013 7.00 pm  
in the Old School Simonstone.

Present Councilors. Geoff Hodbob, Joanne Quinn, Alan Duckworth, Graham Meloy, Denise Rishton, David Peat and Stephen Dawson
In attendance – RV Councillor John Hill and Parish Clerk Roger Hirst.

Apologies – Councillor Russell Hargreaves whose absences were approved.

13/52 Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2013 was approved.

13/53 Declaration of interests. None

13/54 Public Participation. (open forum on any village matter to last no more than 15 mins. 3 mins per speaker).

A resident of Whins Lane told the meeting that the 60mph speed limit was excessive for the amount and speed of traffic considering the narrowness of the road and the fact that there are no pavements to allow pedestrians safe passage. She told the meeting that when vehicles were parked pedestrians were particularly vulnerable when fast traffic was passing. She felt that if the 60 mph limit was reduced to 30mph it would help to make the passage of pedestrians safer as they would have more time to move to a safer position. She asked the Parish Council to bring the matter to the Highways Authority. She was told that there was a meeting arranged with the County Highways and they were to visit the area as they were aware of the problem.

Shady Walks footpaths -The Clerk of Read Parish Council asked for the Parish Council’s support in Read Parish Council attempts to get the Footpath reopened. She explained that Sabden was being asked to support the initiative as the footpath was used by local people from all 3 parishes as well as walkers from afar.

Matters brought forward from previous meetings –

13/55 a. Seeding the flower beds at Simonstone Lane with a reinforcing seed mixture and bee mixture has been completed.

It was resolved to note the report.

13/56 Christmas Party – Entertainment. It was reported that Rob Mason was available to provide the entertainment at this year’s party.

a. It was resolved to engage Rob Mason as entertainer for the Party at the fee agreed

13/57 Empirical Investments It was reported that a meeting had been held with representatives of the company. They told the meeting that the position of the proposed Wind Turbine had been changed and that it was to be some 300 metres south of test mast site. The result would be that it would have less visual impact and less impact on local residents.

It was resolved to note the report.

13/58 Trapp Lane Traffic Census Results. A meeting with Andy Coombe of the County Council had been held earlier and he had explained the survey results. Should a further survey be done experience had shown that there would be very little difference in the recorded speed of the traffic, which averaged 85% , 33mph northbound and 32mph southbound. The mean speed over the 6 days of the survey is 28 mph in both directions. Average vehicle movements are 381 a day northbound and 439 a day southbound.

It was resolved to note the report.

13/59 Transfer of the fingerpost at the Blackburn Road Simonstone Lane Junction. Clerk reported that it had been discovered that the site which the signpost was to be moved to was not in the parish.

It was resolved to hand the details of the proposal to Read Parish Council.

13/60 Data Protection Act – The Clerk reported that there is a requirement for the Parish Council to be registered to transmit information to residents by email at a cost of £35 per annum.

It was resolved to register the Parish Council
13/55 Matters raised by members
   a. Coun Hodbo- Speed restriction on Whins Lane- following the representation above in the
      Public participation.
      It was resolved to bring the problem to the attention of the County Highway
      Department at the meeting with the authorities representatives.

13/56 Working Party reports-
   a. Parish Plans. – It was reported that the details that had been gathered had been collated and
      a meeting of the working group is being arranged with a view of developing a
      consultative document.
      It was resolved to purchase a £30.00 gift voucher as a draw prize for a resident who
      sent in a completed questionnaire.

   b. War Memorial working party. – Councillor Dawson told the meeting of the progress being
      made and that the group was investigating a suitable memorial to the fallen.
      i It was resolved that the Clerk investigate the ownership of the Church, in order to
       seek permission for the additional names to be recorded in an appropriate manner.

   c. Governance – The Working Party had met and reviewed various Governance documents for
      approval;-:
      i Freedom of Information - Publications Scheme.
      ii Internal Audit including - Appointment of Auditor for 2013/14.
      iii Risk Assessment reviewed- Financial and Physical.
      iv Asset Register
      v Complaints Procedure.
      It was resolved that the above documents be adopted as the Parish Council
      Governance Documents and the review of the Standing Orders, Risk Assessment
      Register to be completed and the insurance arrangements for the coming year to be
      reviewed.

13/61 LCC
   a. Parish Garden Electricity supply – the Clerk reported that the electricity supply to the
      parish garden had been removed when the a new lamppost had been installed
      and he had complained to the Highway Lighting department and he was awaiting
      for the supply to be reconnected.
      It was resolved to note the report.

13/57 RVBC
   a. Parish Liaison Meeting – Cllr Meloy & the Clerk reported
      i People Power energy switching scheme.
      ii Green Bin exchange.
      iii Think Jessica Campaign.
      It was resolved to note the report.

13/58 LALC.
   a. Ribble Valley Branch meeting 19th March– Councillor Duckworth reported that the Public
      Right of way and a guide to making repairs was discussed.
      It was resolved that the recent report should be discussed at the next Parish Council
      meeting.

13/59 Read Parish Council – Shady Walks footpath. A request has been received from the Parish Council
   for a representative to outline the proposals aimed at re-opening the footpath as outlined at the Read
   Parish Council meeting on the 3rd March – Shirley Bailey to report.
   It was resolved to support Read Parish Council in its efforts to have the footpath reopened.

13/60 Planning.

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| Proposal      | Proposed erection of a new agricultural building, creation of new track across land to building from existing access gate. Re submission of application 3/2/2012/716. |
Finance
a. Internal Auditor’s report for the year 2012/13 was presented.
   It was resolved that the report should be adopted.

b. Year end accounts 2012/13
   It was resolved that the Audited Accounting Statements be approved.

c. Payment of accounts
   i. Eon Electricity Christmas Tree £0.26
   ii. L. Pickering Internal audit. £55.00
   iii. Boston Seeds Flower seeds £83.99
   iv. ICO Registration Fee £35.00

Borough Councillors reports

Matters reported by members for consideration at future meetings
a. Road sign repairs.

Matters for reporting to the appropriate authorities.
   Youths playing football annoying residents on Fountains Avenue.
   A request for Cold Calling signs to be obtained.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 9th May 2013 at 7pm in the Old School, Simonstone Lane, Simonstone.

INFORMATION ITEMS (no decisions incurring finance may be taken on these items)
1) RVBC.
   a) Agenda Planning Committee meeting 17th March & 11th April 2013
   b) Minutes and Proceedings of Council and Committees 28th March 2013 Agenda Parish Liaison Committee Meeting
   c) Accounts and Audit Committee 27th March 2013.
2) LCR – Magazine
3) HMRC- New Tax Reporting procedures.
5) LCC- Stan the Van will be on the Stork Car park on Saturday 15th June 2013 12noon –4PM.

Chairman’s ……………………………