

1 *Simonswood Parish Council*

2 *"Growing from Strength to Strength"*

3
4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th June 2025 at 9:30 am at Four
5 Lane Ends Mission Hall, Skelmersdale Rd, Bickerstaffe L39 0EZ.

6
7 PRESENT

8 Parish Councillors: Cllrs Mercer, Cllr Lewis, Cllr Rimmer and Cllr Shaw

9 WLBC Councillor: Cllr Rigby

10 Clerk: S Smith

11 Residents 3

12
13 APOLOGIES - none

14
15 Cllr Mercer welcomed everyone to the meeting and meeting started at 9:33 am

16
17 DECLARATION OF INTEREST - None

18
19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

20 Minutes of the previous meetings: -

21 Ordinary Meeting Thursday 8th May 2025 at 9:30am;

22 Annual Meeting Thursday 22nd May 2025 at 19:00 hrs, both approved as a true and
23 accurate records and signed by the chairman.

24
25 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

26 The meeting was adjourned for a period of public participation.

27 Land At Stopgate Lane, behind Windmill Services consisting of a 12-acre field classed as
28 B2 & B6 already designated land allocated for development up for auction.

29 Hedges on Hall Lane pedestrians are made to walk in road; suggestion is to remove hedges
30 and replaced with fence for public safety.

31 Clerk to contact LCC Highway Lead regarding grids on Stopgate Lane and try to get them
32 to a meeting with Parish Council. Sweeper using soft brushes and not wire brushes which
33 would be better.

34 Clerk to find out who now rents the fields that North West Turf originally hired.

35 Kirby Tipper drove into hedge of private property on Hall Lane not reported.

36 Cllr Shaw suggested this could be put on Web Site.

37 Cllr Mercer contacted site owner regarding the large trees surrounding lake behind
38 residents' property. Cllr Mercer to ring again.

39 Resident complained about noise coming from SED's – banging metal, machinery moving.
40 Councillors stated when noise starts to contact them and they will try and to pin point where
41 it is coming from. Resident will speak to the owner on his return. Cllrs think noise coming from
42 storage area which is hard standing with more vehicle movements. Cllr Rigby has a sound
43 meter.

44 Changing the day and time of meeting was discussed and a poll could be taken on the
45 website. To be discussed at another meeting. Clerk to request Hall availability as could clash
46 with Bickerstaffe PC

47 Three residents state they regularly turn up to find out what's going on and support
48 Simonswood PC. Simonswood PC admire the consistency of our regular attendees.

49 Meeting reconvened

50
51
52
53
54 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

55 INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

56 Reply from Marcus Hudson LCC
57 I understand that your email was in response to Jonathan Edwards' email to you regarding
58 Simonswood Industrial Estate.
59 As Jonathan explained, we have jointly considered what steps to take and, in regard to
60 the Windmill Services site, the approach taken has been for the Agency to issue
61 enforcement proceedings – in the form of a suspension notice – as the means to draw this
62 to a conclusion. There are other matters that the county council continues to deal with, in
63 the form of negotiating with operators to regularise unauthorised activities or else
64 proceedings to end activities, and we will provide you with updates should new matters or
65 actions arise. I would encourage you to seek further information from the Environment
66 Agency directly about its specific powers and the enforcement proceedings it
67 initiates. Not all operations fall under waste activity (whether authorised or unauthorised)
68 and so the Borough Council is also involved in ongoing discussions on this matter.
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75 powers and the enforcement proceedings it initiates. Not all operations fall under waste
76 activity (whether authorised or unauthorised) and so the Borough Council is also involved
77 in ongoing discussions on this matter.
78
79 The parish council have been informed that KMBC are still in continuous contact with LCC.
80 Parish Council stated that all agencies seem to be communicating more.
81 Cllr Owens has accepted a seat on the LCC Development control committee.
82 Cllr Rigby has been assured meetings will take place.
83
84 Windmill has an EA suspension; they are currently taking more off than on.
85 Clerk to ask for clarity on suspension.
86
87 PLANNING
88 Application: 2024/0313/FUL Proposal: To erect a single storey bungalow ancillary to the
89 riding school. Location: Simonswood Riding Academy, Hall Lane, Simonswood, Liverpool,
90 Lancashire, L33 4YQ
91 Decision: Planning Permission **REFUSED**
92
93 HISTORY OF SIMONSWOOD
94 Resident has some information regarding the history; this has been passed on to Cllr Shaw
95
96 FLYTIPPING MOSS LANE
97 Resident reported a dumped caravan with licence plate of vehicle that towed it there,
98 they informed the police and the caravan disappeared.
99
100 AOB
101 RECYCLING BINS
102 Two residents of Dale Lane, did not have their recycling bins emptied
103 Clerk reported this to WLBC report no RITM0379278 and RITM0379274
104
105 WEB SITE
106 Cllr Shaw suggests that “committed to assist community” be added to the web page.
107 A timeline 0-3 mths for residents to complete GDPR, need to discuss residents with no
108 computer knowledge.
109 Maybe be able to hold Community events.
110 Clerk to check insurance regarding community events, health and safety and logistics
111 Use web site for residents to contact Parish Council

112
113 FINANCES
114 To Pay
115 To reimburse Cllr Shaw for printing of News Letters £45
116 Hire of hall £28.00
117
118 PAID TO DATE FROM APRIL 2025
119 Zurich Insurance Annual premium - £214.55
120 Cllr Shaw for Microsoft 365 - £243.36
121 LALC Annual Premium - £45.85
122 HIRE OF HALL - £98.00 (3 hires 1 April and 2 x May + 1 extra hour)
123 Parish Online for Domain name and web site - £312.00
124
125 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2024/25 (AGAR)
126 Declaration of No Accounts and Certificate of Exemption (Agar Form 1 & 2)
127 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25 Form2
128 Annual Internal Report
129 Annual Governance Statement 2024/25
130 Accounting Statements 2024/25:- Section 1 & Section 2
131 All forms signed and dated
132
133 DIRECT DEBIT CARD
134 Received
135
136 NEXT MEETING
137 3rd July 2025