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Simonswood Parish Council
"Growing from Strength to Strength"

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th February 2026 at 19:00hrs in Four Lane Ends Mission Hall, Skelmersdale Rd, Bickerstaffe L39 0EZ.

PRESENT

Parish Councillors: Chairperson Cllr Mercer, vice chairperson Cllr Lewis and Cllr Rimmer.
WLBC Councillor: Cllr Rigby
Clerk: S Smith
Simonswood Moss Mr Baldwin
Residents 7

APOLOGIES – The parish council received an apology from Cllr Shaw and was accepted.

Cllr Mercer welcomed everyone to the meeting
Meeting started at 19:03 hrs

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 8th January 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Meeting was adjourned for a period of public participation

Clerk advised residents on the replies received from Clean Streets: -

New Bridge Farm ref 5292679 - Road Markings

Thank you for reporting this to Lancashire County Council. This has been assessed by our inspector, and no work has been identified as being required at this time. However, we will continue to monitor. If you become aware that this defect has deteriorated in the future, please report it again on Love Clean Streets.

Residents were not happy at the response, the council advised that individual complaints from residents may hold a bit more weight.

Stopgate Lane ref 5292612 This has been assessed by an inspector and has been recommended for inclusion in our future programme. We will continue to monitor and make safe any hazards in the meantime.

DFDS

Clerk has emailed, no reply yet.

School Bus

Bus driver speeding down Hall Lane. We've spoken to the service provider, and they have addressed this complaint with the regular driver. We trust that this will prove a satisfactory resolution and there shouldn't be any further issues.

Hall Lane - Pot holes

Resident witnessed a cyclist who flipped over the top of his cycle due to avoiding a very deep pothole.

Clerk to write to Clean Streets asking for a highways meeting on site.

1211 The meeting was advised that the old All Saints/St Gregory school site in Kirkby, contained
1212 asbestos now new houses are being built on the site.
1213 Clerk to write to write to KMBC asking if there was any asbestos on site.
1214
1215 Cllr Rigby has all planning permissions and consents to all operators on Simonswood
1216 Industrial Estate from Jonathan Haine. CCC now owns the Denholme shipping site this will
1217 be covered by CCC's original permit
1218
1219 Resident stated Simonswood Hall boundaries may be incorrect.
1220
1221 Meeting reconvened.
1222
1223 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES
1224
1225 SIMONSWOOD HALL
1226 No correspondence from WLBC enforcement office
1227 Roof is now on a structure to the rear of the hall. A pond or water feature butting up to
1228 back of hall is being built.
1229 Clerk to write to KMBC requesting updates and what steps are now about taken about
1230 remedial action now deadline of 20th Jan has passed.
1231
1232 SIMONSWOOD MOSS
1233 Mr Baldwin stated there will be another application and a meeting will be held with Parish
1234 Councillors. The Wild Fowl Trust has indicated they will take over the after care.
1235
1236 PLANNING
1237 APP 2025-1083-CON requesting conditions be removed from App 2023/1175/FUL
1238 Discharge of Conditions
1239
1240 Knowsley APP. NO: 25/00685/AGR CASE OFFICER: Reece Black
1241 APPLICANT: R.E & S. Baldwin
1242 APP. TYPE Agricultural & Forestry - Determination
1243 LOCATION: Land On The East Side Of Perimeter Road Knowsley Industrial Park
1244 PROPOSAL: PRIOR APPROVAL FOR THE ERECTION OF AN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE
1245 STORAGE BUILDING
1246
1247 2023/1175/FUL on Land South of Stopgate lane, Simonswood.
1248 From Paul Chadwick,
1249 As you are aware we have been monitoring compliance with conditions (particularly in
1250 relation to dust and mud mitigation) imposed on planning permission 2023/1175/FUL on
1251 Land South of Stopgate lane, Simonswood.
1252 By way of an update, I can confirm that we have visited the site today and have seen
1253 mitigation measures in place as per stated in the approved Construction Environmental
1254 Management Plan (CEMP) which was a requirement of condition 17 of the permission.
1255 There is currently no dry cutting taking place but we have seen the water bowsers and
1256 dust suppression on site which the site manager assures will be used for any dry cutting
1257 that occurs.
1258 We will continue to monitor compliance with conditions at the site as works progress and if
1259 you have any queries please drop me an email.
1260 Clerk to reply vehicles are coming out with mud on them and there should be a wheel
1261 wash.
1262
1263 SIMONSWOOD ROUND TABLE
1264 Environmental Agency Meetings
1265 Next Meeting 23/2/2026 Tower Hill Community and Health Centre
1266

- 1267 SIGNAGE
1268 Defer to March 2026
1269
- 1270 FOOD WASTE RECYCLING
1271 I'm one of the new Waste and Recycling Promotions Officers here at West Lancs Borough
1272 Council, along with my colleague, Carl. With the introduction of food waste recycling at
1273 the end of March, we're looking to get out in local communities to offer residents advice
1274 and information about the new initiative. If you are aware of any events happening in
1275 your local parishes over the next few months that we could take part in, we would be very
1276 interested in hearing about them. Louise Murray | Waste and Recycling Promotions
1277 Officer
1278 Clerk to invite them to a parish council meeting
1279
- 1280 LANCASHIRE GRITTING LIVE MAP
1281 You can explore the live map on our website: [Track the gritters - Lancashire County](#)
1282 [Council](#)
1283
- 1284 Cllr Lewis letter
1285 Letter sent to Cllr Owens he raised it with LCC - Response due within 10 working days.
1286
- 1287 FINANCES
1288 To pay hire of Hall for January 2026 and February 2026
1289
- 1290 PRECEPT
1291 ELECTION COSTS
1292 It would be difficult to accurately cost a hypothetical full election for Simonswood Parish
1293 at this moment.
1294 It would depend on if it were standalone or combined with a Borough election were some
1295 costs could be shared.
1296 As a rough estimate, I would expect in the region of £3k given that the Parish has a very
1297 small electorate.
- 1298 Parish Council agreed to request a precept of £3,500 for 2026-2027
1299 Meeting Closed 21.00 hrs.