

Notice of Ordinary Meeting of
Simonswood Parish Council 5th March 2026
Growing from strength to strength

To Members of the Council

I hereby give notice that a meeting of Simonswood Parish Council will be held on Thursday 5th March 2026 at 19:00 pm in Four Lane Ends Mission Hall, Skelmersdale Rd, Bickerstaffe L39 0EZ.

THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING IS BELOW.

PRESENT

APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for absence

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To consider the Minutes of the last meeting 5th February 2026 and to approve them as a true and accurate record.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- i to receive any changes to the current register of interests,
- ii to receive any Declarations of Interest for any item on this agenda,
- iii dispensations.

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

- i to adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation,
- ii to reconvene the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

FOOD WASTE

Clerk emailed asking them to attend a parish council meeting

Reply from Waste and Recycling Promotions Officer

Unfortunately we aren't available outside of office hours. We do have some events coming up in the local area that perhaps you could inform your local residents about:

Ormskirk Market 9-1pm Thursday 26th Feb

Parbold Parish Coffee Morning, Parbold Village Hall 9.30-12 Tuesday 10th March

Skelmersdale Concourse 10-2 Friday 13th March

Ormskirk Market 9-1 Thursday 19th March

Hesketh Bank Christian Centre 9-12 Thursday 26th March

PLANNING

KEALSHORE APP LCC/2026/0002

Objections are:-

Excess dust from crushing machine.

Crushing machine is very close to residential properties.

More mud will be distributed onto the roads.

75,000 tonnes means extra vehicles on already too busy roads.

Washing plant collection of water could be contaminated by dust and asbestos, how will this be checked.

HGV's from this company already do not stick to the correct roads and use weight limited roads.

Who will be checking that this company complies to all the licences. Google Earth map from 2012 what use is that it is 14 years out of date.

The application form states change of use was 2011, why wasn't this picked up in 2011?

The objections have also been sent Cllr Owens

KMBC -25/00685/AGR

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PRIOR APPROVAL FOR THE ERECTION OF AN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE STORAGE
Application is on the Knowsley side of Boundary Lane.

APP 2023/1175/FUL on Land South of Stopgate lane, Simonswood.
Clerk has replied to Paul Chadwick, stating there should be a wheel wash on site.

SIMONSWOOD HALL

HALL LANE/STOPGATE LANE

HIGHWAYS

Highways reply to Cllr Owens

CF12556 Speeding on Stopgate and Hall Lanes Simonswood L33

Thank you for your enquiry of 2 February 2026 about speeding traffic, including HGV vehicles, on Hall Lane and Stopgate Lane in Simonswood.

We take road safety seriously. We check information from the police, the Speed Management Team and our own assessments to understand each route and identify where action may help.

We reviewed both routes several times. We put temporary speed reminder signs in place from April to June 2025 and again from October to December 2025.

We also placed a Speed Indicator Device on Hall Lane between 13 November and 11 December 2025, and we will keep this route in our programme for future deployments.

We focus on reducing risk wherever we can. We check casualty data, traffic speeds and the layout of a route to understand how drivers use it. Lancashire Constabulary recorded one injury incident on Stopgate Lane and two on the Lancashire section of Hall Lane in the past five years. These incidents appear linked to speed and individual driver behaviour, and none involved HGV vehicles.

You raised a concern about the safety of horse riders, cyclists, walkers and runners. These users form part of normal rural road activity. The Highway Code sets clear rules for how drivers should behave. We checked both routes and found no facilities or access points that would create unusually high activity. Because of this, we must rely on safe driver behaviour and the guidance in the Highway Code.

You asked for a site meeting on Hall Lane and Stopgate Lane. We receive many similar requests across the county, and we must use our time in a fair and consistent way. A site meeting helps when it gives us new information that we cannot gather through our assessments. Our reviews of the casualty record, speed data and the layout of the routes give us enough information to understand the conditions. A site meeting would not change our assessment, so we cannot agree to one at present. We will keep both lanes under review.

You also raised a concern about difficulties when entering or leaving private driveways. We checked the layout and casualty record and found no pattern that shows a safety issue at private accesses. These issues often relate to driver behaviour rather than the layout of the road.

We also reviewed the speed and casualty data for Stopgate Lane. The results show no clear speeding issue. The average 85th percentile speed was 43.1 mph. This figure is the speed at or below which 85 per cent of vehicles travel. It helps us understand how drivers use the route and whether their speeds match the character of the road.

You asked about HGV movements. The casualty record for both routes shows no injury incidents involving HGV vehicles in the past five years. Residents can report details of any specific HGV concerns to the police for review.

The Parish Council's comments show that the community feels strongly about these routes. We checked all available evidence, and we will continue to monitor both lanes. We will take further action if the evidence shows that it is needed.

If residents witness regular incidents of nuisance or dangerous driving, they can contact the police directly either by the non-emergency telephone number: 101, or on the Lancashire Constabulary '[Do It Online](#)' webpage, with a record of the registration numbers of the vehicles.

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In addition, there is a Lancashire Speed Toolkit which gives examples of how residents can raise awareness of speeding or road safety issues in their local area, and is available on the [Lancashire Road Safety Partnership website](#)

Residents can use the Lancashire Speed Toolkit on the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership website to help raise awareness of local road safety issues. They can report unsafe or nuisance driving by calling 101 or by using the Lancashire Constabulary Do It Online service. They can also send footage to the police through [Operation SNAP](#).

We hope you find this information helpful. Kind Regards, Highways Enquiries Team

On 9th February Simonswood Industrial Estate was getting gridlocked due to Stopgate Lane and Headbolt lane being closed for repairs to the potholes. The relevant authorities were notified and staff and police were sent out to sort it out. The problem was HGV's where ignoring the diversions signs

SIMONSWOOD MOSS

No details

CIL

Clerk wrote to CIL to ask if we get any money from developments on Simonswood Industrial Estate

It is unlikely that we would receive CIL from developments on the Simon Industrial Estate. CIL is predominantly received from residential development, or retail which sells mainly everyday essential items, including food, drinks, newspapers/magazines and confectionery. Would you be able to please provide me with a copy of your Parish's annual CIL report for the financial year 2024/25. I have been unable to locate a copy of this report on your webpages

Clerk has asked for details of a report, this has now been received it is a form that needs to be done annually prior to 31st December every year.

ELECTIONS

As you will most likely be aware, the Government announced on Monday 16 February that the planned postponement of elections was to be rescinded.

Therefore, the Borough Council elections for West Lancashire will be taking place on Thursday 7 May, in combination with any contested Parish areas..

As such, the information contained in the briefing note around standalone Parish elections is now obsolete. Borough Poll Cards will be issued and will contain Parish wording were applicable. Costs around polling stations, staffing, and other items will be split if Parish areas are contested. Postal Votes will continue to be issued as a standalone item for contested Parish areas.

The Notice of Election will be published on Friday 27 March, and nominations can be accepted between 9am-4pm each working day from Monday 30 March until Thursday 9 April.

Nomination packs can be obtained from the Electoral Commission via

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/2026-02/Nomination%20pack%20PARISH.pdf> or we can provide paper copies on request.

If you have any questions, please get in touch.

Kind regards, Tom Lynan AEA (Dip) |

RETIREMENT

Jonathan Haine will be retiring end of March 2026

20.30 hrs signage

Simonswood road sign options.

- a) WLBC
- b) Glasdon

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FINANCES

Pay hire of hall March 2026 £28

Pay for printer cartridges

MAY MEETINGS

Dates in May as election day is on our normal meeting date.

Open meeting

NEXT MEETING 2nd April 2026