

Johnston Community Newsletter

Winter 2014



Welsh Government Approves Business Case for New Johnston Community Primary School

After 10 years of Campaigning on your behalf, I am pleased to announce that the Welsh Government has approved the Outline Business Case for the New Johnston Community Primary School. P.C.C. is working to the completion date of August 2016 thus allowing the new school to open in September 2016.

As reported previously the site of the new school has been chosen at the Eastern end of Langford Road in open countryside, which will be an ideal learning environment for our children.

The architect involved has already given details of the sort of facilities envisaged which will also be available to be used by community organisations in the future.

I am personally delighted of the outcome which proves once again that by working together, as a close community, we get things done.

Johnston Community Primary School Excels in Drama Festival

This good news about our new school has been

announced at a time when all of Year 6 has been recognised as budding Shakespearian Actors in the recent County Drama Festival when the whole class performed in a production of Hamlet.

The organisers of the festival were absolutely astounded by our pupils' obvious understanding of the play and their acting prowess. The production was the talk of the Education Authority and in our local hostelry.

Johnston Community Council Bucks the Trend

As reported in previous Newsletters, you can be proud of your Community Council which has given me the support to ensure funding for the community during a time of recession.

Work on Bulford Road Moves on a Pace

The new Bulford Road Scheme is progressing well and Griffiths Civil Engineering has shown itself to be very supportive of the community. Completion should take place by the summer of 2015.

The Close Field Play Park

You will recall that the Public Protection Department has ascertained that the noise levels emanating from the Skate Board Facility are too high, and that efforts should be made by the council to address this.

The Community Council has, therefore, engaged Acoustic Consultants, who are reputed to be the finest

in their field to advise in the structure of an Acoustic Barrier which will absorb the noise levels emanating from the Skate Board enthusiasts.

The Skate Board facility has proved particularly popular with parents and children, having taken our youngsters away from the danger of main road areas and the local garage in particular. They can now enjoy themselves within the safety of the play park.

This new barrier will allow for the children to continue enjoying themselves without disturbing the community at large.

It goes without saying that this has been an expensive investment and the Council wishes to give thanks to Griffiths Civil Engineers, who have offered the required topsoil to help create the foundation for the necessary Acoustic Barrier. This will go some way to help meet the costs in the region of £15,000.00 to complete this project and address the problem of noise.

New Johnston War Memorial

Village residents and those from the surrounding area have passed comment on the new War Memorial for Johnston and have not failed to praise the village for this fitting memorial to the world conflict which commenced in 1914.

The Community Council recently gave particular thanks to Cllr Neil James for his being the driving force behind the whole project. The Community Council would also like to

thank G.D.Harries & Sons for their generous gift of Tarmac and for their expertise in preparing and laying the material at the foot of the monument and providing the labour in the process. And their staff for the close liaison in organising matters. A special thank you to Sonny Clancy for his masonry work which undoubtedly enhanced the monument.

Memorial Service

There was an impressive attendance at the Commemoration Service on Remembrance Sunday when all generations congregated in large numbers to witness the dedication ceremony of the new memorial which took place before the Remembrance Service.

The Rev. Victoria Jones and Pastor Derek Trivette officiated and villagers were invited back to Johnston Baptist Church for refreshments following the proceedings.

Community Carol Service

The Community Carol Service took place on Wednesday 17th December at 7-00 p.m. at Johnston Baptist Chapel with the Johnston Community Primary School Choir conducted by Mr. Mark Denham and the Milford Town Junior Brass Band conducted by Miss Bronwen Parratt. As always this turned out to be a most enjoyable event interestingly conducted by Rev. Victoria Jones and Pastor Derek Trivette.

Development of Johnston Community Council Land bank

You will recall that the Community Council

purchased further land to improve the facilities for the community, and it has now made arrangements to discuss its future development with (PAVS) Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services and PLANED in order to progress matters in the New Year.

Joint meetings will be taking place shortly and arrangements will be made for residents to have their say to put forward individual ideas for consideration.

Representations to Trunk Road Agency via Police Community Forum

The Community Council is concerned about the increasing speed of traffic as it approaches the village at St Peter's Road from the South, particularly at the junction of St Peter's Road and Church Road where the pavement is so narrow.

Residents have already complained about this and a petition has already been presented to the Agency on previous occasions.

The matter was further discussed at the last meeting of the Area Police Forum in order to obtain support from the local constabulary. The matter will be discussed further in January

Johnston Cricket Club

Congratulations are in order for Johnston Cricket Club this year not only for their promotion to Division 1 of the Cricket League but for the recognition of their Club Scorer Mrs. Delyth Summons for winning the Pembrokeshire Sports Award for Club Organiser of the Year.

Johnston Village Institute.

The Managers and Trustees of the Johnston Village Institute were disappointed to learn of Cllr Roy Bourne's decision to step down from Johnston Community Council and resign from the Management Team at the Institute. It has been evident for some time that Roy has been one of the key players within the community being instrument in helping to deliver the progress and achievements evident within the community during a time of recession. He will undoubtedly be missed.

On a more pleasing note, Tracey Jones, St Peter's Road, Johnston has joined the management team to co-ordinate booking arrangements for the Hall.

Because of the Hall's popularity there has been need to obtain further help to ensure that the Hall's administration meets the increasing demand for its use.

A successful concert was held on Sunday featuring Milford Junior Town Band conducted by our own Bronwen Parratt.

We were pleased to show off our 21st Century Facilities at the Institute with a packed audience of 130.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a Very Merry Christmas and A Prosperous New Year.

Ken Rowlands.

**County Member for Johnston, Tiers Cross Thornton & Dreen Hill.
Tel: 01437 891069**