

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 12th June 2023 in the Johnston Institute, Church Road, Johnston, and also online using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.

Present: Cllrs Aled Thomas (vice-Chairman), Janet Jeffries, Yvonne Llewellyn, Neil James, Len Gale, Christine Wilkins, Tracey Young, Kaidan Alenko, Martyn Spilsbury; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies : C'Ilrs Nina Philpott, Louise Jones.

The meeting was chaired by C'Ilr Aled Thomas.

1780 - Declarations of known Interests

None

1781 - To receive the minutes from the 2023 A.G.M.

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record, and retained for signature by the Chairman following the meeting (proposer C'Ilr Janet Jeffries, seconder C'Ilr Yvonne Llewellyn).

1782 – To receive the minutes from the May 2023 monthly meeting

The page numbering was noted as needing correction. With that amendment, the minutes were accepted as an accurate record, and retained for signature by the Chairman following the meeting (proposer C'Ilr Len Gale, seconder C'Ilr Janet Jeffries).

Matters arising

1783 - Discussion of purchase of WW1 commemorative memorial bench.

No change, with C'Ilr Spilsbury still awaiting final drawings for approval.

1784 - Discussion of quotation for work on bus shelter, St. Peter's Road

C'Ilr Janet Jeffries reported that the necessary maintenance work on the bus shelter was due to be done as soon as possible.

1785 - Discussion of link footpath from Church Road to Hayston View

C'Ilr Neil James reported that the road sign had been removed from the site, but not replaced. C'Ilr Aled Thomas undertook to investigate its current whereabouts.

1786 - Discussion of arrangements for future maintenance of defibrillators

C'Ilr Janet Jeffries confirmed that she had checked the defibrillators in May. C'Ilr Louise Jones to carry out the checks in June. Further training for defibrillator use to be placed on July agenda for discussion.

1787 - Discussion of establishment of vexatious communication policy

Matter still in hand with Clerk.

1788 – Close Field playpark matters.

The Clerk reported that the new playpark sign had been installed, and then vandalised within a few weeks. Members indicated that they would be looking for compensation and community service, and that an example needed to be made of the incident. Clerk to convey this to P.C. Neil Lees, and also seek advice from him

on how he would recommend proceeding. Members discussed CCTV, or dummy cameras, as possible deterrents, but not in detail. Clerk to seek quotations for a replacement sign, and also for a possible steel alternative. Information about the recent vandalism to be placed on community Facebook page.

Regarding the problem with broken glass, P.C. Neil Lees had undertaken to carry out further patrols. Clerk to chase up detailed report from Infinity Play regarding issue of chainlink fence along roadside boundary.

1789 - New Council houses at Cranham Park

C’lir Aled Thomas had heard informally that the houses may not be ready for occupation for another 12 months or so. He undertook to seek clarification of the situation.

1790 – fly-tipping.

The Clerk had carried out a Land Registry search, and found the land in question to be in the ownership of P.C.C. Clerk to contact P.C.C. about the problem of fly-tipping onto this land from properties in Acorn Drive.

1791 - Discussion of community litter bin provision

Clerk currently awaiting further response from P.C.C. regarding bin provision in Vine Field and at Orchard Court.

1792 – request for path along main road between Bulford Road and roundabout.

Substantive update from Welsh Government was still awaited. C’lir Aled Thomas undertook to pursue the matter with Paul Davies, S.M., when possible.

1793 - Discussion of closure of GP surgery for maintenance

It had been reported on Facebook that work on the surgery building was due to be carried out in July, with GP surgery expected to re-open in August. Some services may take longer than others to be reinstated, due to the possible need for Planning approval.

1794 - Loose drain cover on main road by chip shop.

The Clerk confirmed that this had been reported again on the Trunk Road Agency website.

1795 - Discussion of provision of speed-activated signage on main road

The Clerk confirmed that no response had been received to the request for a possible installation of further SASs. On a separate matter, members discussed whether or not the impending speed limit reduction would affect traffic exiting Langford Road onto the Main Road. It was left for this to be monitored once the speed limit had been reduced. Agenda item for discussion of Langford Road junction issues to be tabled for July.

1796 - Discussion of problem with ungated access to cycle path from Glebelands

C’lir Janet Jeffries confirmed that she was due to have a site meeting with Sean Tilling to further progress on this matter. Agenda item to be tabled for discussion in July.

1797 - Discussion of situation at Silverdale

C’lir Aled Thomas mentioned that County Councillor C’lir Michelle Bateman had expressed a willingness to attend a meeting to provide an update / information on future strategy at The Silverdale. He undertook to seek availability from her with a view to arrangements being made for her to attend a future meeting.

1798 - Discussion of donation request for event on Fairview Field

The Clerk confirmed that he had sent a letter seeking more information on the donation being requested, but had heard nothing back.

1799 - Johnston Development Trust.

Arrangements for dissolution of the Trust were understood to be in hand.

1800 – Community school governor vacancy.

Clerk to contact Governor support services for clarification on the procedure for appointment of a governor, following recent reports that the correct procedure in filling the vacancy arising following the departure of Fran James may not have been followed.

Planning

1801 - Application consultations

23/0121/PA - Variation/Removal of condition 3 (site investigations) of APP/N6845/D/19/232041; Site Address: Land lying East of Vine Road, Johnston, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PQ – no comments.

Correspondence

1802 - Glenn Murray – grass-cutting quotation for 2023 season – the contract was accepted (proposer C’lir Neil James, seconder C’lir Janet Jeffries). Clerk to send signed paperwork to Glenn Murray.

1803 - Infinity Play – Messages reporting issues with loose bolts at Vine Field – dealt with in agenda item below.

1804 - Hywel Dda – Invitation to online meeting about emergency paediatric care – noted.

1805 - Johnston School – Donation request for new noticeboards – Members noted that there was already a noticeboard in the village, that was generally underutilised. It could be arranged to provide them with a key to use it. Clerk to respond accordingly. In respect of a noticeboard for the school premises, Clerk to ask them for an idea of cost in advance of the July meeting.

1806 - P.C.C. – Invitation for nominations to Standards Committee – noted.

1807 - Paul Sartori – Donation request – Agenda item to be tabled for July to discuss donation requests in general. Clerk to circulate list of all requests received during the year in advance of the meeting.

1808 - Sean Milsom – draft plans for new building at Glebelands – dealt with in agenda item below.

- 1809** - Mary Immaculate School - consultation in relation to the proposal to federate Mary Immaculate and St Teilo's Catholic schools – noted.
- 1810** – P.C. Neil Lees – response to message about damage at The Close Playpark – dealt with in 1788 above.

Accounts

1811 - Payments for approval

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning May)	: £ 72-00
Infinity Play (Remedial works and sign installation)	: £ 178-92
Sean Milsom (plan preparation)	:£1150-00
Clerk (salary / fixed expenses April – June)	: As per contract
H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax on Clerk salary)	: As per contract
Clerk (incidental expenses December 2022 – May 2023)	: £ 153-16
Martyn Spilsbury (Member & consumables allowances 23/24)	: £ 208-00
Kaidan Alenko (Member & consumables allowances 23/24)	: £ 208-00
Janet Jeffries (Member allowances 23/24)	: £ 156-00
Yvonne Llewellyn (Member & consumables allowances 23/24)	: £ 208-00
Len Gale (Member & consumables allowances 23/24)	: £ 208-00

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C'llr Kaidan Alenko, seconder C'llr Yvonne Llewellyn).

1812 - Any necessary discussion of issues connected with Vine Field

Boundary fence line. Infinity Play was understood to be planning an imminent start to work on installing the chainlink fence. Members noted the recent flurry of media attention to the issue, but which appeared to have subsided.

Picnic benches. Work had commenced on the installation.

Goalposts. The unauthorised goalpost had reappeared the previous week, but had subsequently been taken back into the owner's garden. C'llr Kaidan Alenko had witnessed problems with footballs being kicked into the playpark and into the fence when children were using this goalpost. As the goalpost had now been removed, it was not regarded as an ongoing issue. However, the problems witnessed could affect the orientation of any new goalposts installed. A quotation had been received from Infinity Play for supply and installation of a set of goalposts. Clerk to forward the specification to Glenn Murray for any comments on their suitability. Members approved the quotation subject to the goalpost specification being viewed as suitable by Glenn Murray (proposer C'llr Neil James, seconder C'llr Christine Wilkins).

Loose bolts on swings. The Clerk confirmed that a report had been received of problems with some seat bolts coming loose. These had been tightened by the Playground Inspector, and were not an ongoing issue. Subsequently, the inspector had also checked the hanger bolts, some of which were also loose. These had been tightened. An invoice had been sent to Sovereign Play seeking reimbursement of the £53 cost of rectifying these issues, and this was currently under discussion with Sovereign Play.

Maintenance gate. The maintenance access gate to the playpark was routinely being left open. Clerk to ask Infinity Play to provide a suitable chain and combination lock for this.

Antisocial behaviour. Reports had been received of some older children jumping between the roof sections of the new multiplay unit. Clerk to report to P.C. Neil Lees with a request for increased patrols / monitoring as possible.

