**M05/2**

The following are the **Minutes** of the monthly meeting of **Johnston Community Council** held on **11 May 2015** in Johnston Institute.

**Present:** Cllr N James, (Chairman), Cllr J Jeffries, (Vice-Chair), Cllrs C Wilkins, B Morgan, G Grey, K Rowlands, J Ruloff, T Young

**Also present:** G Bishop, M Spilsbury, (local residents), Joyce Davies, Barbara Mills and Rose Rees, (representatives of the Sunshine Club), and G Nicholls, Clerk.

**Apologies for absence:** Cllrs E Warlow, A Harvey, Mrs F James, (newly co-opted member and R Davies, (retired).

**7595. Minutes of the April 2015 meeting.** It was agreed that these should be accepted as a true record of proceedings.

**Proposer:** Cllr Rowlands. **Seconder:**  Cllr Jeffries.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**7596. Church Road car-park.** At this point the Chairman asked Mr Bishop to leave the room to avoid a conflict of interest. Mr Bishop agreed but said that he first wanted to explain his position. He said that he wanted only to tidy-up the car –park area and did not want to claim it although he believed it had always been part of the Johnston Hall land. He also said that his “witnesses” as to the historical connection between the car-park area and Johnston Hall had been interfered with and had withdrawn their statements. The Chairman pointed out that this was at odds with the letter received from his solicitors. *(Note: This letter, addressed to Johnston Community Council (JCC) Members and dated 3 February 2015, states “My clients believe that ownership of the car-park and the boundary wall to Fairfield Nursing Home situated outside the front entrance of Johnston Hall belongs to Johnston Hall and therefore my clients”.*

He said that there had been no attempt by JCC to communicate with him before seeking legal advice. Also, the Community Council had refused to obtain a bin for the area but had spent a great deal of money on The Close Field and was now apparently prepared to spend money on employing solicitors over this matter. He said that he still wished to block off the bottom end of the car-park nearest to his gates to stop people using it as a “roundabout”, a suggestion that Members are very much opposed to. He also referred to the survey forms prepared by Cllr James to gauge the opinion of Johnston residents on the past use of the car-park. After further accusations and heated exchanges, Mr Bishop left the meeting.

The Chairman commented on Mr Bishop’s statement that JCC had made no attempt to communicate with him, by saying that dialogue had been ongoing during Mr Bishop’s attendance at recent JCC meetings. However, when the Council had received the initial letter from his solicitor, this had been deemed to have taken matters to the next level. Therefore, it had been decided that it would be best for future communications on the question of the car-park to be conducted between the two firms of solicitors.

The Chairman reported that JCC’s solicitor had not yet taken any action to refute the claims from Mr Bishop’s solicitors but had now again been asked to do so. The solicitor fully supported the survey form prepared by Cllr James. Also, it was believed that Welsh Water had valves in the car-park area so they might have information relating to the ownership of the land. The solicitor will follow-up this point and will also look into all other options to determine the future status of the area.

A vote of thanks to Cllr James for his work on this was proposed by Cllr Morgan, seconded by Cllr Grey and agreed by all.

**7597. Narrow pavement near Johnston Farm.** Nothing further heard from welsh Government and the owner of the land involved had had no contact either. It was agreed that the Clerk should write once again to enquire about this problem.

**7598. Bulford Road.** Cllr Rowlands said he was making arrangements for a site visit to be made by Councillors from both Johnston and Tiers Cross. It was stated that many people were concerned about the long closure of the new road – May to July – and Cllr Rowlands said he would speak to Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) about this. The Clerk said he would send a reminder to PCC for his letter about a new pavement between Church Road and Hayston Road.

**7599. Skate-board park.** Although planting on the new barrier had taken place this was being damaged by children. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Mr Andrew Lye concerning his email about the area.

**7600. Bus Shelter.** No reply received from PCC to latest letter – Clerk to follow-up.

**7601. Cash point at NISA shop.** It appeared that no action had been taken and that the advertising signs that had been positioned near the cash point to discourage parking were no longer being used. PCC had replied to say that a retrospective planning application had been made but this had not been published yet. It was agreed that the Clerk should write again to PCC.

**7602. New school.** It was hoped that the new building would be completed by September 2016. Cllr Rowlands said that he would arrange a meeting with the acting Chief Executive of PCC and the family of the road traffic accident victim as soon as possible.

**7603. Junction of Langford Road and St Peters Road.** It appeared that no action on this was likely.

**7604. Playground inspections.** The Clerk read out the letter from PCC concerning a new system which removed the need for JCC to carry out inspections and changed the method of funding repairs. This was welcomed and it was agreed that the Clerk should respond accepting the proposals.

**7605. Road and pavement problems.** Ongoing – being dealt with on rolling programme.

**7606. Flower borders.** Cllr Wilkins said that she had spoken to the Mormon Church representatives and they had confirmed that the Hayston Road border had not been cleared by them Cllr Rowlands said he would ask PCC if there was an intention to plant-up this border. Cllr James proposed that £100 should be made available for planting if PCC could not fund it.

**7607. Disabled Access to The Close Field.** Still under enquiry with PCC.

**7608. Shared Use Path.** No further comments were made.

**7609. South Hook LNG Community Fund.** A meeting between Cllr Rowlands and PAVS is to be arranged.

**7610. Electronic Bus Times Display board, near The Railway Inn.**  The Clerk reported that Darren Thomas of PCC had said that repairs were in hand.

**7611. Move of Post Office to NISA shop.**  The Clerk said that he had responded as instructed and received a reply saying that there would be dedicated parking available as well as disabled bays. The siting of the post-box was a matter for Royal Mail to deal with.

**7612. First Johnston Scout Group.**  Cllr Wilkins said that she had attended the opening of the new hall and was now in contact with Pat Dixon about forthcoming events. It was understood that “Johnston” would remain in the name of the Scout Group despite the change of venue.

**7613. Consultation on proposed changes to Secondary School Education.** The Clerk said that copies of the joint response from the Governors of the two schools in Haverfordwest were now available.

**7614. Mike Cole, former Clerk.** The Clerk said that he had spoken to Mike about his invitation to the Palace garden party and read out the email response received. Cllr Rowlands had also spoken to him about this.

**7615. Grass-cutting contract.** The Clerk said that he had received the proposal from the Football Club and the prices remained the same though some more early and late-season cuts might be required. (Cllr Jeffries contacted Glenn Murray and sight of the Public Liability Insurance certificate was promised). The letter received from the Club regarding litter, bins and the “rubbish dump” on the Glebelands field was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Rowlands would take a copy of this to PCC to see what help could be offered. He would ask for Cllr Jeffries to attend as a representative of the Sports Association. It was proposed By Cllr Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Jeffries that the quotation from the Football Club should be accepted.

**7616. Sunshine Club.** Prior to the commencement of the AGM and monthly meeting, Cllr James had presented a cheque for £500 to three representatives of the Club and congratulated them on 46 years of continuous service to the Community. Later, Cllr James said that he would make enquiries about any possible awards that may be available.

**7617. Rubbish on the cycle track.** Cllr Wilkins said that some rubbish had been removed but new dumping had occurred.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**7618. Planning.**

* **15/0067/TF -** tree surgery, wall of car-park/Fairfield Residential Home. As the applicant is not the owner of the land, the validity of the application has been queried with PCC.
* **15/0040/PA -** partial retrospective application, Ashleigh, 30 Church Road. Considered by planning sub-committee – no objections.
* **15/0053/PA -** horse access from Pope Hill field to public bridleway. Considered by planning sub-committee – no objections.
* **14/1082/PA -** extension to period for commencement of development, Pond Bridge Filling Station. Approval granted. Noted.averfordwest was now available.

**Other correspondence**

**7619.** Notice from PCC – **closure of Bulford Road and Studdolph Road** between 5 May and 17 July 2015. (See Minute number 7598 above).

**7620.** Notice from PCC – **surface dressing/patching of roads.** Although Johnston is mentioned in the schedule, no specific roads are mentioned.

**7621.** **Formal Response of the Governors** of Tasker-Milward and Sir Thomas Picton Schools to proposed reorganisation. (See Minute number 7613 above).

**7622.** Messages of thanks from Johnston Church, the Baptist Church and other recipients of **charitable grants** from JCC.

**7623.** email from resident concerning **Hill Croft.** As the land is owned by PCC rather than JCC, permission would be needed for play equipment and this would need to be funded by JCC. However, the Members are sympathetic to the points raised and hope to have bins made available. Also, when the new school is built, there may be new play facilities available. The Clerk was instructed to reply to the resident and to pass on the message to PCC.

**7624.** Notice from **Pembrokeshire Community Forum Network** – meeting on 14 May 2015, “Making the most of your hall”. (To be passed to the Institute Committee.)

**7625.** Letter from Public Ombudsman for Wales - **revised guidance on the Code of Conduct.** Clerk to summarise and inform Members.

**7626.** Letter from **Fields in Trust** – 2014 Impact Report. Passed to Cllr Rowlands to review.

**7627.** Information from **Hywel Dda University Health Board** regarding dates of public meetings. Posters displayed on notice-boards.

**7628.** Message from **“Carers Wales”.** Copied to all. Clerk instructed to contact the local ambassador to arrange for him to attend a council meeting.

**7629.** Message from PCC – **Register of Members’ Interests form.** Clerk to review and inform members.

**7630** Message from resident regarding **new equipment for skate-park**. Clerk to make enquiries.

**FINANCE**

**7631.** Accounts for payment. It was proposed by Cllr Morgan and seconded by Cllr Wilkins and agreed that the following amounts should be paid:

* £208.92 to the Clerk, May 2015 salary.
* £52.20 to HMRC, PAYE, May 2015.
* £60.00 to Mr Banfield, shelter cleaning.
* £2138.10 to PCC, payment for time spent by D Rees on skate-board park.
* £158.40 to Sylvan Landscapes, skate-board park planting.
* £114.00 to Zurich Insurance, Local Council Advisory Service subscription.
* £250.00 to Johnston Football Club, pre-season cuts.

***The following items were admitted at the Chairman’s discretion:***

**7632.**  Cllr Rowlands informed Members that the diocese wanted to move the **Rev. Victoria Jones.** He stated that she was popular with the community , was a governor of the school and taught Welsh there. She was an asset to Johnston and proposed that the Clerk should write to the Bishop of St David’s asking for her to remain in the village. This was seconded by Cllr Grey and agreed by all.

**7633.** Cllr Morgan reported that the **station approach road** was once again breaking up. This had been partly adopted and repaired but this part ended near the shelter. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Martin Jones, the owner of Johnston Business Park to see what could be done.

**7634.** Cllr Morgan said that a resident had been informed that **part of Bulford Road was polluted**, though it was unclear just what form this pollution took. Cllr Rowlands said he would make enquiries with PCC.

**7635.** Cllr Jeffries brought Members’ attention to the **auction by PCC of the area of land at the junction of Hill Croft and Langford Road.**

**7636.** Cllr Rowlands agreed to contact PCC regarding **repainting of parking bays in Glebelands** as requested by Cllr James.

**7637.** Cllr Rowlands said he would also ask for the **grass at the top of The Close** to be trimmed.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

**Signed……………………………………………………………………..Chairman**

**Date……………………………………………………………………**