

M05/16

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 9th May 2016 in Johnston Institute.

Present: Cllrs N. James (Chairman), J. Jeffries, (vice-Chair), K. Rowlands, G. Grey, B. Morgan, A. Harvey, R. Pratt, C. Wilkins, M. Spilsbury.

Apologies : C'llrs F. James, E. Warlow, T. Young.

8127 - Minutes of the April monthly meeting.

The following corrections were made to the draft minutes :

Minute ref. 8101 – The reference to Rev. Payne's loss was altered to read Pastor Trivett

Minute ref. 8111 – The record was altered to show that in gratitude for the green ginger jar, the Chairman would make a donation to charity. With these amendments, the minutes were accepted as a true record (Proposer C'llr K. Rowlands, seconder C'llr R. Pratt). The minutes were held for signature, to allow for the corrections to be made.

Matters arising

8128 – Bolton Hill Quarry. Members agreed that there had been a good response from the quarry, which was evidently a well-organised business. C'llr K. Rowlands to contact the Quarry to ask for a choice of two dates in late June, for an evening visit to the Quarry for interested Members.

8129 – Proposed solar farm adjacent to Pope Hill. No further progress to date.

8130 – Application for proposed exception site housing development at Langford Road (application ref. 15/0464/PA). C'llr K. Rowlands had attended a meeting with Hayston Planning and the Head of Planning from P.C.C. He said that the Residents' Group opposing the development recognises that the Community Council has done all that it can to represent their interests. He had the impression that there had been opposition to the scheme up to date by the Highways Department, but that adjustments to the submitted plans were being made that might address those concerns, possibly paving the way for Highways Department recommendation for approval of the scheme. He mentioned that on some previous developments locally (e.g. behind The Windsor) no undertaking had been given by D.C.W.W. regarding the adequacy of

the available sewage disposal capacity, which had paved the way for an eventual refusal of planning permission. On this occasion, no response had yet been received from D.C.W.W. in response to the planning consultation on the scheme. He was pressing for their views to be heard prior to the planning committee hearing. C'llr Rowlands said that it had been a good, constructive meeting, and that all issues had been discussed openly and frankly.

8131 – Church Road Car Park.

Nothing further to report. C'llr G. Grey said that the vicar was writing to the Land Registry on behalf of the church to support the claim for public access to the land due to established usage over a long period of time.

8132 – Narrow footpath by Johnston Farm. Nothing further to report. C'llr B. Morgan expressed disappointment at the lack of progress to date. C'llr K. Rowlands said that no negotiation had taken place with the landowners, despite claims that this had happened. C'llr N. James suggested that this should be brought to the attention of Paul Davies, A.M. Clerk to write to Paul Davies regarding the matter, pointing out to him the contradiction in the advice and information previously given. Also, C'llr K. Rowlands undertook to speak to him personally.

8133 – Skateboard Park. C'llr K. Rowlands was making arrangements for a site meeting with P.C.C. It was hoped that they could be persuaded to take responsibility for the playpark behind The Vine. He mentioned that any other available Members were welcome to attend this site meeting if they wished to do so. It was thought likely that if the swings there were not removed, the Community Council would be made directly responsible for them, and for their maintenance and upkeep.

8134 – Bus shelter, Glebelands. The matter was still in hand. C'llr K. Rowlands was due to speak with Darren Thomas further regarding the matter.

8135 – Cashpoint outside Nisa Shop. The latest letter from Edwina Hart was read to Members. Matter to be mentioned to Paul Davies in the letter to be sent pursuant to minute ref. 8132 above, and to also make reference to the pub frontage area, where there was a similar problem. C'llr M. Spilsbury mentioned the possibility of placing planters outside the shop to prevent vehicles from parking there. C'llr C. Wilkins mentioned that the shop owner had expressed support for planters, but that he could not afford to fund them himself.

8136 – New school, Langford Road. C’Ilr K. Rowlands said that matters were in progress. There was some delay in the project due to the discovery of badger setts on the site. C’Ilr N. James mentioned the Pembrokeshire Herald, and that nothing further had been published by them regarding the matter. An official response was still awaited from the board of governors regarding the capacity issues surrounding the school. C’Ilr K. Rowlands was asked if he could obtain this. He said that he had discussed the matter with the Director of Education and put it to him that, due to the anticipated increase in population as a result of the exception site and other sites approved for development, the department must surely be aware of the numbers of families / children projected for the school. He had been assured that the school had been designed with the possibility of expansion should this become necessary. C’Ilr J. Jeffries mentioned rumours circulating around the village to the effect that the current school had already been sold, with the agreement of the Community Council. Other Members had also heard similar unfounded rumours. C’Ilr K. Rowlands had been assured that the old site had not been sold, but would be sold as a full commercial site in due course. It was emphasised that the disposal of the old school site was nothing to do with the Community Council, that the Community Council had not been made aware of any specific proposals regarding its disposal, but only a general intention to sell at some future time by P.C.C. Some Members questioned the need for an exception site in Johnston at all, given the existence of this future potential development site. However, this was explained to be due to basic commercial considerations on the part of P.C.C.

8137 – Playground inspections. Nothing further to report.

8138 – Road and pavement problems. C’Ilr K. Rowlands had been told that certain works had been programmed into the forthcoming schedule of works.

8139 – Flower borders. It was noted that P.C.C. had prepared the bed outside the Baptist chapel. The flower bed being prepared by the Mormons outside their church was well under way, and apparently would be planted with sunflowers. Members were informed that Mr. Banfield had cleaned the Johnston signs, at no extra charge to the Community Council.

8140 – Sunshine Club. Nothing to report.

8141 – Remembrance Day. C’Ilr K. Rowlands said that the matter was still in hand, and was a matter of liaising between P.C.C. and the Police. C’Ilr K. Rowlands to continue his work on this matter.

8142 – Parking bays, Glebelands. C’Ilr K. Rowlands had been pursuing this matter. It had been explained that a bay for a specific individual could not be provided, whereupon it had been suggested to supply two instead. The matter was still unresolved, but in hand. Members also discussed the possibility of a one-way system in Glebelands, which was under consideration. C’Ilr J. Jeffries suggested that a one-way system might also be good in The Close. However, Members were reminded that local residents had been invited by the Police to offer their opinions on such a scheme once before, but that only a handful of responses had been received. C’Ilr J. Jeffries also mentioned problems by the skateboard park access in The Close, where there was a problem of inconsiderate parking, and consequent access problems for some residents. C’Ilr K. Rowlands offered to have a look at this.

8143 – Hall Court sign. Matter still in hand. C’Ilr K. Rowlands had asked for the sign to be made, but P.C.C. was resisting this, maintaining that the developer should have paid for the signage. C’Ilr K. Rowlands to continue to push for the sign.

8144 – Japanese knotweed problem at Arnold’s Yard site. The Clerk had carried out a Land Registry search on part of the site, and established the owners to be a London-based company. Clerk to write to registered owner. Further search also to be carried out on the remaining land, and a letter written to anyone else listed as registered owner.

8145 – Rats, Church Road. Nothing further to report.

8146 – Draft charter between Community Councils and P.C.C. This was still with P.A.L.C. P.C.C. was waiting for P.A.L.C. and One Voice Wales to respond formally with their views on the charter.

8147 – Defibrillator provision. The Clerk had obtained information from Cariad, indicating a cost of around £1350 per unit for defibrillators. Members raised questions about liabilities and insurance, and potential vandalism of units installed. Members discussed possible locations, such as the end wall of the NISA shop, or possibly near the door of the baptist church. C’Ilr N. James undertook to speak to the potential donor to keep him updated on progress. Clerk to check on insurance

implications, and contact Cariad for further specific guidance on how best to proceed. C’Ilr K. Rowlands to approach Rev. Ken Payne regarding the possibility of siting a unit on the building.

8148 – Tree-planting, Bulford Road. This was still ongoing, and Members were happy with progress, as it was almost complete. C’Ilr N. James mentioned that users of the new cycle path along new Bulford Road were forced to cut across two grass verge areas on the main road into Johnston. It was felt that this needed completing properly to correct this situation. C’Ilr K. Rowlands said that he would be attending a meeting on Wednesday and would be able to bring this matter up. C’Ilr B. Morgan offered to accompany him to the meeting.

8149 – Streetlight, Church Road. No progress to date.

8150 – Wind Turbine, Lawrence Landfill. Members were informed that a planning enforcement investigation had been formally logged. C’Ilr K. Rowlands had written to the developers regarding a planning gain contribution. He had received no response to date, but would continue to pursue the matter.

8151 – Offer from Monitoring Officer to provide Code of Conduct training for Members. Awaiting P.C.C. action to arrange the session.

8152 – Statutory consultation on secondary school reorganisation. Members were informed that the report by P.C.C. on their proposals had been published.

8153 – Drainage works, Glebelands Field. The work had been completed by Dai James, and the bill received.

8154 – Brownie Flag sponsorship. No members had been able to attend the function, partly due to a failure on the part of the Brownie Group to provide details of the exact time to C’Ilr K. Rowlands in advance. The Brownie group had apologised for this afterwards.

8155 – Postboxes. The Clerk had written to Royal Mail, but no response had been received. C’Ilr K. Rowlands offered to go into the sorting office to see if progress could be achieved.

8156 – Planning, Johnston Sewage Works. Members were informed that the planning consent had now been granted for removal of the redundant building.

8157 – Gareth Nicholls. Saturday 18th June was suggested as a possible date for the Chairman's dinner. C'llr N. James to confirm availability with The Vine. Clerk to invite Gareth Nicholls and his wife to attend as guests of the Chairman. It was noted that arrangements were in hand for a tankard to be obtained for presentation to Gareth, and flowers for Mrs. Nicholls, this to be arranged by C'llr C. Wilkins. Menus were distributed to Members, with a request that preferences be passed to the Chairman prior to the next meeting. Clerk to pass menus to C'llrs E. Warlow, F. Young, and to Gareth Nicholls.

8158 – Bed on cycle track bed. Members were informed that this had now been removed.

8159 – Bush by pedestrian crossing. This had been in hand with C'llr M. Spilsbury.

8160 – Grass-cutting contract. Members were informed that this was now under way for the season, and one cut had already been carried out.

Planning

8161 - 15/0464/PA – exception site affordable housing, land off Langford Road. Clerk to respond to consultation expressing concerns over the lack of response to date from D.C.W.W. regarding sewage disposal infrastructure capacity to support the development.

Correspondence

8162 - Port of Milford Haven – 2015 Annual Report – noted.

8163 - Pension Regulator – Notification of need to complete declaration of compliance – Members were informed that this had been completed.

8164 - Stephen Crabb, M.P. – Invitation to forthcoming meeting with BT to discuss issues over poor broadband provision and phone repair times, to be held in Crundale on 27th May 2016 - noted.

8165 - Planed – 2015/16 newsletter – noted.

8166 - Bron. Parratt – Email of thanks for donation – noted.

8167 - Planed – Invitation to forthcoming Community Transport event, to be held in Crundale Village Hall, May 25th 2016, 9-30am – C'llr B. Morgan normally attends these meetings, but could not this time around, due to other commitments. He felt it important to attend, particularly to support efforts to improve Sunday bus services. However, no other Members were available to attend, due to the timing of the meeting.

8168 - Edwina Hart – Reply to contact re. parking problems outside NISA shop – covered in 8135 above.

8169 - Bron Parratt – Invitation to accept two complimentary tickets to forthcoming summer concert – Clerk to make arrangements for tickets to be sent to C’llr G. Grey.

8170 - Hywel Dda Health Board – Invitation to stakeholder feedback event to discuss responses from recent consultation on mental health services. Event to be held on May 10th, 9-45am – 12-30pm; venue – National Botanical Gardens of Wales – noted.

8171 - P.C.C. – Notification of publication of report into the Review of Secondary Education Provision in Haverfordwest , following recent consultation exercise – noted.

Accounts

8172 - Payments approved

P.A.L.C. (annual subscription)	:	£79-00
David Banfield (window-cleaning)	:	£60-00
Dai-J Services Ltd (JCB hire)	:	£225-00
C’llr N. James (reimbursement for payment for restoration of village roll of honour board by The Haven Emporio	:	£100-00
Johnston Football Club (grass-cutting)	:	£360-00

8173 - Internal audit.

Members agreed to ask Ms. Denise Mayr of Milford Haven to carry out the internal audit. Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

8174 - Annual Governance Statement

The Annual Governance Statement on the 2015/16 audit form was discussed and approved by Members, and signed by the Chairman. Review of risk assessment to be discussed in June meeting.

The above items were approved by Members (proposer C’llr K. Rowlands, seconder C’llr J. Jeffries).

Other business

8175 - School roll of honour. C’llr J. Jeffries enquired over the whereabouts of the roll of honour. C’llr G. Grey to make enquiries regarding this.

8176 – Rubbish problems. C’llr J. Jeffries raised concerns over rubbish on the grass going down into the skatepark, to the side of No. 53, and also glass and rubbish on the lane going from The Close into St. Peter’s Road near to the Suzuki Garage. C’llr K. Rowlands offered to look at these.

8177 – Welsh Assembly, C’llr B. Morgan raised concerns about perceived problems as a result of proportional representation in the Assembly. Matter to be placed on agenda for June meeting for discussion.

The meeting closed at 9-17pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....