

**M06/16**

**Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in Johnston Institute.**

**Present:** Cllrs N. James (Chairman), J. Jeffries, (vice-Chair), G. Grey, A. Harvey, F. James, B. Morgan, K. Rowlands, M. Spilsbury, E. Warlow, C. Wilkins, T. Young; Peter Horton (Clerk).

**Apologies :** C'llr R. Pratt

**8178 - Minutes of the 2016 A.G.M.**

Members voted to approve the minutes as an accurate record, and these were signed by the Chairman (Proposer C'llr K. Rowlands, seconder C'llr J. Jeffries).

**8179 - Minutes of the May 2016 monthly meeting.**

Members voted to approve the minutes as an accurate record, and these were signed by the Chairman (Proposer C'llr B. Morgan, seconder C'llr G. Grey).

**Matters arising**

**8180 - Bolton Hill Quarry.**

C'llr Rowlands had asked for a suggested dates from the quarry, but was yet to receive these. He undertook to chase up the matter again, for an evening visit sometime in the coming weeks, possibly in July. Dates to be circulated to Members when received.

**8181 - Proposed solar farm adjacent to Pope Hill.**

No further progress to date.

**8182 - Application for proposed exception site housing development at Langford Road (application ref. 15/0464/PA).**

No further information to date. However, C'llr Rowlands informed Members that there was a site meeting scheduled for 22<sup>nd</sup> June to assess the scheme.

**8183 – Church Road Car Park.**

C'llr Rowlands informed Members that he had a meeting scheduled with the solicitor the following day, with a view to deciding what to put in the forthcoming newsletter regarding the issue. Nothing else to report.

### **8184 – Narrow footpath by Johnston Farm.**

C’Ilr Morgan expressed ongoing concerns over the safety concerns relating to the footpath width. The Clerk informed Members that Paul Davies, A.M. had forwarded a letter regarding the matter from the new Minister for Transportation, Ken Skates. This letter was read out. It said there was no intention to carry out footpath widening due to cost of land acquisition, but that other options were being explored. C’Ilr Morgan felt that there were options available to address the situation. It was also mentioned that, despite comments to the contrary by the previous minister Edwina Hart, there were understood to have been no negotiations by the Welsh Assembly Government with landowners to date.

The Chairman gave permission for Mr. John Davis to address the meeting regarding the matter. Mr. Davis felt that this issue was the most dangerous situation in Johnston at this time. He was particularly aware of this, being dependent on a mobility scooter to get about in the village. Mr. Davis had provided the Chairman with a list of the correspondence on file regarding this matter, as well as other similar issues in the community area. This gave a timeline of the ongoing efforts to get this problem addressed. Copies of list were circulated to Members. He acknowledged that the Community Council had done all within its power to date, and felt the problem to be with the Welsh Assembly Government and the Trunk Roads Agency for failing to take the matter seriously. C’Ilr Rowlands offered to speak to Mr. Darren Thomas of P.C.C. to try and get him to intervene with the T.R.A. to try and get some kind of movement on the issue, and he also offered to write directly to the T.R.A. regarding the matter. He also referred to correspondence from Edwina Hart that should be available in the Community Council files claiming that negotiations with landowners had been under way. C’Ilr N. James suggested that the Council should contact the Minister Ken Skates regarding this matter, to point out that his predecessor had undertaken to negotiate, and the landowner was understood to be willing to do so. Clerk to make efforts to locate the letter from Edwina Hart, and write to Ken Skates accordingly.

Additionally, it was agreed that the Council should write to the M.P. Steven Crabb to ask what was being done to address the national problem of pavement parking (Proposer C’Ilr G. Grey. Seconder C’Ilr B. Morgan). Clerk to write to Stephen Crabb accordingly.

### **8185 – Skateboard Park.**

C’Ilr K. Rowlands had visited the skateboard park earlier in the week, and had been appalled at the condition of the acoustic barrier, the failure to carry out the remedial works, and the overgrowth around the

installation. He didn't think the contractor had come back as had been arranged to care for the planting arrangements previously discussed. He also mentioned that P.C.C. had agreed to pay around 50% of the cost of the remedial works necessary to repair the damage to the barrier, and were proposing a wire mesh screen to act as a protective measure against further vandalism. There had been a delay in the confirmation of agreement to this proposal, but this had now been resolved, and the work was expected to be put in hand in the near future.

Regarding landscaping maintenance, C'Ilr N. James questioned the exact nature of the agreement made. It was felt that more information regarding this matter was needed, to ensure that it was properly addressed. C'Ilr Rowlands was awaiting clarification on this matter. It was pointed out that if there was no satisfactory arrangement in place, the Community Council would need to take direct responsibility for the matter. This was left with C'Ilr Rowlands to gain more information.

#### **8186 – Bus shelter, Glebelands.**

Nothing to report. C'Ilr Rowlands to chase up.

#### **8187 – Cashpoint outside Nisa Shop.**

Members were read the letter from Ken Skates, indicating that options for addressing the problem were being examined. Matter to be kept under review.

#### **8188 – New school, Langford Road.**

The new school was now expected to open in January 2017. A 3<sup>rd</sup> senior teacher had now been appointed, in addition to the head-teacher and deputy head already appointed. C'Ilr Warlow asked whether or not there would be a turning bay for vehicles in the premises. C'Ilr Rowlands undertook to bring a plan of the proposals along to the next meeting, so that Members could see the detailed layout.

#### **8189 – Playground inspections.**

C'Ilr Rowlands had not been able to set up a joint meeting with P.C.C. to pursue the matter of them taking over responsibility for the playground behind the Vine Field, but the officer had offered to inspect and provide a response afterwards. This response was still awaited.

C'Ilr Harvey informed Members that she had inspected the swings in the Vine field playground, and felt they were basically sound, without any serious problems. No further action to be taken pending a response from P.C.C.

### **8190 – Road and pavement problems.**

C'Ilr Rowlands was unhappy with the state of the pavement in the Close estate, with areas of sunken pavement and cracked surfacing, which was dangerous in places. He had contacted Darren Thomas to ask for comments on what could be done about it, and was awaiting a response.

C'Ilr N. James mentioned the previous comments to the effect that certain specific works had been programmed into the schedule of works by P.C.C.. He asked if a copy of the programme of works could be obtained. C'Ilr Rowlands undertook to try and obtain this.

### **8191 – Flower borders.**

Members were very happy with the planting outside the Baptist chapel. However, it was noted that no planting had been undertaken outside Orchard Court, despite assurances that this would be done. It was not understood why this had not been done, but the planting at Cadogan Close had been. C'Ilr Rowlands to contact Katie Daly of P.C.C. to ask when the planting at Orchard Court was now due to be done.

### **8192 – Remembrance Day.**

C'Ilr Rowlands to chase up this matter again. Members noted the need to try and make substantive progress before Autumn.

### **8193 – Parking bays, Glebelands.**

Matter still ongoing. C'Ilr Rowlands undertook to chase the matter up.

### **8194 – Hall Court sign.**

C'Ilr F. James had received a call from the developers to say that provision of the sign was now in hand.

### **8195 – Japanese knotweed problem at Arnold's Yard site.**

The Clerk had sent letters to all the known landowners drawing attention to the problem, but that no replies had yet been received. Members felt it important that the issue should continue to be pursued. Members felt that it might even be worth considering acquisition of the land, as the company was understood to be in administration. C'Ilr Rowlands undertook to make some discreet enquiries.

### **8196 – Defibrillator provision.**

The Clerk reported to Members regarding insurance, which would cost around £15 per year. The Cariad organisation could undertake installation at a cost of £1350, this to include provision of a cabinet. The cabinet would need to be connected to an electricity supply. Matter to be

further reviewed, in view of the electricity supply issue. It was noted that there was an electricity supply belonging to the Community Council at the Baptist chapel site, which could make this a preferred site.

Another possible site mentioned was the petrol station, but this was dismissed as not being central enough, and too far from the sports fields. The pub was also mentioned as a possible site.

C'Ilr Rowlands to approach the Baptist chapel to sound them out about possible permission to site the unit there.

#### **8197 – Tree-planting, Bulford Road.**

C'Ilr Rowlands mentioned a problem with some tipping around the area. Regarding completion of the pavement, this had been blocked by local residents, on the basis that the road and fronting grassed area was privately owned. C'Ilr Rowlands was still pursuing the matter, to see if any planned works within the cycle path programme could be used to circumvent the problem.

#### **8198 – Streetlight, Church Road.**

No progress to date.

#### **8199 – Wind Turbine, Lawrence Landfill.**

Members were informed that the planning enforcement investigation was still in hand. The base for the second turbine unit was now in situ.

#### **8200 – Proposed solar park.**

Nothing had heard regarding planning gain from the developers. C'Ilr Rowlands to chase up again.

#### **8201 – Offer from Monitoring Officer to provide Code of Conduct training for Members.**

C'Ilr Rowlands suggested linking up with Tiers Cross Community Council for the training. Clerk to contact the monitoring officer regarding the matter.

#### **8202 – Statutory consultation on secondary school reorganisation.**

C'Ilr Rowlands informed Members that funding would now be lost due to the way the matter had turned out. The next consultation was due out in March.

#### **8203 – Postboxes.**

C'Ilr Rowlands had pursued this, and had been told that the matter was in hand.

### **8204 – Planning, Johnston Sewage Works.**

Welsh Water had sent out letters regarding a forthcoming upgrading of the sewage works. C’Ilr N. James mentioned that they were offering to attend a meeting to discuss the proposals. He mentioned the potential impact on the residents of Kiln Road, with the inevitable increase of traffic on the road, which was not an adopted highway. Clerk to invite Welsh Water to attend the July meeting (30 minutes max. to be allowed for this item). It was also suggested that residents of Kiln Road could be informed of the meeting item. This to be pursued once the invitation to attend was confirmed by Welsh Water. Clerk to inform the Chairman when a response had been received from Welsh Water.

**8205 – Chairman’s Dinner.** 30<sup>th</sup> July now looking the favoured date for most Members. Clerk to check with Gareth Nicholls regarding his availability, and email this through to the Chairman. Members to send their menu preferences to C’Ilr N. James as soon as possible.

### **8206 - Cycle track.**

C’Ilr Warlow had walked round the cycle path, close to the school. Someone had made a makeshift climbing wall on the cycle path railings next to the railway track. The railings were insecure, and in danger of collapse. She had contacted P.C.C., who had subsequently removed and replaced the damaged fence. However, subsequently she had noted new interference with the replacement fence. C’Ilr Rowlands to contact the Community Police Officer to ask for the situation to be monitored.

### **8207 – Grass-cutting contract.**

Insurance details had now been received, and the contract was ongoing.

### **8208 - Risk Assessment.**

Clerk to bring blank risk assessment forms to the next meeting.

### **8209 - Church Roll of Honour.**

This had not yet been tracked down, but C’Ilr Grey undertook to continue to try and locate its whereabouts.

### **8210 - Rubbish problems.**

Members were informed that the lane to St Peter’s Road was still in a bad condition, with broken glass, rubbish, etc.

C’Ilr Warlow mentioned that four bags of rubbish had been left on the grass between no. 22 The Close and the adjacent garage. Clerk to contact the refuse department to ask for it to be removed. Also to ask for removal of two bags of rubbish currently outside the village hall.

### **8211 - Welsh Assembly proportional representation.**

C’Ilr Morgan expressed his concern over the proportional representation method of selecting Assembly members, but asked for discussion of this matter to be deferred to allow Members to consider the issue. Matter to be placed on agenda for July.

### **Planning**

#### **Applications**

**8212 - 16/0230/PA** (Change of use of land for extension of car/van sales area, a secured storage area and small business unit/office (partly in retrospect). Retrospective permission for the demolition of the church. The Forge, St Peters Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3HB) – Members voted to support the application. [NOTE : C’Ilr Rowlands abstained from discussion of this agenda item].

### **Correspondence**

**8213 -** P.C.C. – Notification of road closures and speed restrictions in Johnston, and between Sunnycroft Roundabout and Milford Haven, scheduled for the autumn – noted.

**8214 -** Paul Davies, A.M. – Reply to letters sent regarding safety issues outside NISA shop, and narrow pavement outside Johnston Farm – covered in 8184 and 8187 above.

**8215 -** P.C.C. – Notification of publication of Budget Consultation Feedback Report – noted. C’Ilr N. James observed that some comments made during the consultation process had not been incorporated into the final report, especially relating to levels of engagement of some County Council members.

**8216 -** “Improving Mental Health Services for Young People in Pembrokeshire” – Invitation to attend a forum scheduled for 10th June 2016, 12 Noon – 2pm, venue Cleddau Bridge Hotel – noted.

**8217 -** Citizens’ Advice Bureau – Invitation to attend forthcoming AGM, scheduled for Weds. 22nd June, 2pm, venue Picton Centre, Haverfordwest – C’Ilr Rowlands undertook to attend if possible.

**8218 -** Welsh Water – notification of planned works in Johnston scheduled for the autumn, and offer to attend a community council meeting to discuss the proposals – discussed in 8204 above.

**8219 -** Paul Davies, A.M. – Notification of forthcoming advice surgery dates – copies placed on noticeboards.

**8220 -** Paul Davies, A.M. – Copy of letter from Ken Skates, Minister for Economy and Infrastructure – discussed in 8184 and 8187 above.

**8221 -** Johnston A.F.C. – Confirmation of public liability insurance – noted in 8207 above.

## Accounts

### **8222 - Internal Audit**

Members were informed that this had been completed with no matters arising.

### **8223 - Payments approved**

Clerk (salary April – June 2016, plus 8 hours for March)	:	£725-81
H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax)	:	£181-45
Denise Mayr (internal audit)	:	£ 80-00
David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning)	:	£ 60-00
Johnston Village Institute (hall hire)	:	£196-00

### **8224 - Income**

H.M.R.C. (VAT return)	:	£775-33
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The above items were approved by Members (proposer C'llr J. Jeffries, seconder C'llr K. Rowlands).

## Other business

**8225 - Johnston In Bloom.** C'llr N. James mentioned the competition. Members felt that July would be good time to do this. C'llrs Jeffries, Spilsbury and F. James to co-ordinate this along with any other interested members.

**8226 - Disabled accesses.** C'llr N. James mentioned the problem of lack of disabled access between Woodlands and Church Road, this being currently blocked by a kissing gate. It had been asked if the kissing gate could be adapted to allow a ramp for disabled access. C'llr Rowlands mentioned that he had already spoken to Streetcare about this matter, and they had suggested asking someone from the Building Construction department to look at it, and offer their comments. C'llr N. James suggested perhaps getting it costed up by P.C.C., with a view to informing further discussions about what could be done to address the issue. C'llr Rowlands to chase up further in P.C.C.

**8227 - Old post office.** C'llr Jeffries mentioned this was apparently to be used as a nail and beauty salon.

**8228 – Rubbish bin on cycle path close to the cycle barrier.** C'llr Spilsbury mentioned that this bin had not been emptied for months, and was also insecure. C'llr Rowlands undertook to pursue this.

**8229 - Faded double yellow lines on Langford Road by junction with main road.** This was raised as an issue due to problems with illegal parking close to the junction. C'llr Morgan mentioned that this matter was in hand already, as it had been raised at the recent Community Police meeting.



**8230 – Parking outside school, Cranham Park.** C’Ilr Warlow mentioned the recent problems with cars parking the pavement during ongoing British gas works in the street.

**8231 - Cycle path.** C’Ilr Wilkins referred to problems with overgrowth along some sections of the path.

**8332 - Railway Inn.** C’Ilr Young mentioned that she had received a complaint from local residents about loudspeakers in the pub garden. Members advised that the individuals concerned should be advised to contact Public Protection directly to ask for the matter to be investigated.

The meeting closed at 9-05 pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....