

BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Jubilee Hall, Houghton on Wednesday 27th July, 2016

Present: Cllrs Paddy McNamara (Chairman), Terry Morgan, Laurence Price,
Michael Pettit, Alun Williams, Iain Wood; Peter Horton (Clerk).
Apologies: C'llrs Derek Jones, Scott Sinclair, John Mathias, Rob Summons

Minutes of June monthly meeting

The minutes were agreed, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C'llr Alun Williams, seconder C'llr Michael Pettit).

Matters Arising

Stable Bar fence. The Clerk reported to Members that a planning enforcement investigation was under way into the fence, which required planning permission. The Highways Department had confirmed that no verge area had been annexed. Matter to be placed on September agenda for any necessary further discussion.

Pond, Church Road. No progress had been made to date on clearance of the pond. Matter to be placed on agenda for September for update.

Broadband speeds. Some members had carried out broadband speed checks, which indicated variable speed availability. Letter to be sent to High Speed Cymru to ask why no response has been received to enquiries and expressions of interest in high speed broadband provision offers.

Rose Cottage. Nothing further had been heard regarding the planning enforcement investigation into the residential use of the garage outbuilding. Clerk to chase up.

Verges between Hill Mountain and Sardis. Additional verge cutting had been done as requested. Members noted a problem with litter in the verges along the main road. Clerk to report this and ask for it to be collected.

Planning

Applications

NP/16/0391/FUL (Extension and alterations, Beanhill, Rhose Ferry Road, Burton SA73 1PE) – no comment.

Decisions (for information only)

16/0164/PA (signage, Seat Garage)

Correspondence

- 1) Western Power – offer of compensation for work on Houghton common land – dealt with in agenda item.
- 2) P.C.C. – Copy of school bus timetable / routes through community area – dealt with in agenda item.
- 3) Diane Campbell – Holding reply re. use of Mission Hall car park – noted.

Accounts

Payments approved

There were no payments to approve this month.

Income received

Towards defibrillator fund (from Mr. & Mrs. Mark Evans)	:	£ 50
Defibrillator fund (from Burton Jubilee Hall Committee)	:	£1,000

Approved signatories

The mandate change forms had been sent off, and a response was awaited.

Budget review

The following sums had been expended since April 2016:

pedestrian shelter	:	£1867
Insurance	:	£ 382
Clerk	:	£ 731
Administration	:	£1586

It was noted that the sums were broadly in line with anticipated expenditure, with the sum for the pedestrian shelter, when added to the £704 expended in 2015/16, amounting to a total of £2571, against the £2500 precepted in 2015/16. Administration was somewhat high, due to unanticipated expenditure on legal fees for the acquisition of the playing field. However, as there was a £1500 sum set aside for administration / miscellaneous, this was within acceptable tolerances, given the balance on hand at the start of the year.

The above items were approved (Proposer C’llr Alun Williams, seconder C’llr Laurence Price).

Discussion of possible defibrillator provision in Community

C’llr Alun Williams had prepared a report, which had been circulated to Members for consideration prior to the meeting. A decision needed to be made on which unit to go for and when. Members opted to go for option 1, which was five defibrillator units all supplied and maintained by Cariad (Proposer C’llr Iain Wood, seconder C’llr Alun Williams). Clerk to make the necessary arrangements, to order in three weeks, to give more time in the interim for obtaining further donations. Matter to be placed on agenda for September for further discussion.

Discussion of works needed on playing field

C’llr Paddy McNamara had been informed that the pavilion was the property of the Cricket Club, who had informed him that it is rotten, and should be knocked down. They were planning to make the arrangements for this. They would be willing to take the nets down too, though the nets could be retained if Members wanted them. C’llr Paddy McNamara to ask for the nets to be retained. The cost of matting for parking would be around £3000, which members were in agreement was too much. The suggestion was made of possibly getting the land land-drained, or possibly making parking on the site of the pavilion, which was the drier section of the field. C’llr Paddy McNamara to get a price for land-draining. Members discussed a privately owned area adjacent to the road, which could possibly be used for parking, subject to agreement by the owner.

Tree planting in memorial of Claire Zawadzki – matter to be placed on agenda for discussion in September.

Discussion of date for Members’ training / alternative date for September monthly meeting

Members agreed to bring the September meeting forward by one week to September 21st, to facilitate the Members’ training session on 28th September.

Discussion of any needed work on Houghton Green

C’lr Paddy McNamara had inspected the posts, all of which were more or less rotted through. Clerk to contact C’lr Rob Summons, to ask him to request replacement posts from P.C.C. It was mentioned that the map in the information board was also in need of replacement, due to its condition, and the fact that it was out of date. Clerk to investigate possibilities for obtaining a replacement via the signs unit in P.C.C. Matter to be placed on agenda for September.

Discussion of proposed Western Power work on common land, Houghton

C’lr Paddy McNamara had been to visit the Palmers to discuss their proposals. Clerk to contact Western Power to say that the Community Council would agree to the work being done if (a) there was an agreement in principle to replace the equipment with ground-mounted units at the earliest opportunity, and (b) they agreed to fund a defibrillator unit.

Discussion of school bus routes

The Clerk had circulated the routes to Members prior to the meeting. There were some apparent discrepancies between the actual route being followed, and the printed schedule. The matter had been raised due to questions over the routes of buses down Ashdale Lane. C’lr Alun Williams to take the matter up, to obtain an explanation for the apparent discrepancies. Matter to be placed on agenda for next meeting.

Any Other Business

Sewage problem. Members were informed that there had been further problems with overflowing sewage in Houghton. C’lr Laurence Price had been dealing with the matter. Clerk to write to Welsh Water to ask for their comments on the problem.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

The meeting ended at 8-15pm. Next meeting, Wednesday 21st September, 2016, 7pm.