

M09/16

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 12th September 2016 in Johnston Institute.

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

Also present : Mr. Dickie, Mormon Church

Apologies : C'lr T. Young, A. Harvey

The meeting was chaired by C'lr J. Jeffries, as C'lr N. James was scheduled to be late arriving at the meeting.

8377 - Flower beds, land adjacent to Mormon church.

Members welcomed to the meeting Mr. Dickie, representing the Mormon Church. He was attending to present to Members plans of their proposals to alter the layout and planting in the flower bed by the corner of Hayston Lane. This was part of an initiative to integrate the church into the community. Members complimented Mr. Dickie on the work that had been done this year, which had been commented on by many local residents. On a separate note members noted the loss of the daffodils that had previously been along the road edge leading from the roundabout. C'lr Rowlands mentioned that replacing these was the responsibility of the developer, and that he was going to be chasing this up. As far as the proposals currently before the council were concerned, it was agreed that this would be considered by the full Council, a decision made, and Mr. Dickie advised as soon as possible. He left a plan of the proposals for Members' consideration.

8378 - Minutes of the July 2016 monthly meeting

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (Proposer C'lr Fran James, seconder C'lr Morgan).

Matters arising

8379 - Welsh Water

C'lr Grey again mentioned the old railway line route, which he felt was the most favourable for the proposed pipeline.

8380 - Bolton Hill Quarry.

The visit had been scheduled for the evening of 5th September, but had been a little disappointing, as on arrival no-one had been there to co-

ordinate the visit from the quarry, due to a communication breakdown. It was decided to reschedule the visit for a Saturday morning. Members settled on 1st October or failing that 8th October as a possibility. C’llr Rowlands to co-ordinate the arrangements.

8381 - Proposed solar farm adjacent to Pope Hill.

No further progress to date.

8382 - Application for proposed exception site housing development at Langford Road (application ref. 15/0464/PA).

The Planning Committee had been held. Proposals for a bungalow-only site had been rejected. The scheme was now due to be reconsidered by planning committee, with C’llr Rowlands to propose that the bungalows on the development be sited so as to address legitimate concerns from nearby residents.

8383 – Church Road Car Park.

Members were informed by C’llr Rowlands that the matter was now going to a tribunal for determination. He had spoken with the solicitors, who had expressed confidence in the outcome, and recommended that a claim for costs should be submitted to the tribunal if a successful outcome was achieved. There was a likely cost of around £4,000, including the £2,000 already paid out. Members discussed the principle of financially supporting individuals who had objected to the annexation of the land in the event of legal costs being claimed against them. The Clerk advised that this could be construed as inappropriate use of Community funds, and could also amount to issuing a blank cheque. Members noted that they would offer moral support to anyone supporting their case in the matter, but could not commit Community Council funds to support claims against any private individuals.

8384 – Narrow footpath by Johnston Farm.

C’llr Grey had been talking to the landowner, who had said they had heard nothing from the Welsh Assembly regarding the matter. Members felt that the Welsh Assembly was dragging its heels, but that the local A.M. Paul Davies was genuinely doing his best to progress matters. C’llr Morgan felt that the problem lay with the Trunk Road Agency. Matter to be kept under review.

8385 – Skateboard Park.

C’llr Rowlands informed Members that all the materials were on order, and the work would be carried out in the near future, to produce an acceptably sound-proofed unit, with better protection against potential damage.

8386 – Bus shelter, Glebelands.

Matter still under discussion.

8387 – Cashpoint outside Nisa Shop.

Nothing further to report. C’llr Rowlands informed Members that the owner had been approached by the Trunk Road Agency and P.C.C. with proposals, but that there had apparently been some disagreements on how exactly to proceed. C’llr Wilkins mentioned that the running of the shop was due to be taken over by CK. Matter to be kept under review.

8388 – New school, Langford Road.

C’llr Rowlands reported that the development was proceeding well. He had approached the Director of Education regarding also using some additional land adjacent to the development for school purposes. Budget constraints had prevented this at the current time, but he had been informed that the land is to be earmarked for potential school use in the future. Members were informed that the school due to be open from January 2017.

8389 – Playground inspections.

Nothing further to report.

8390 – Road and pavement problems.

C’llr Rowlands had hoped to have had a meeting with P.C.C. to discuss the various issues, but had not been able to arrange this to date. Matter to be kept under review.

8391 – Flower borders.

C’llr Rowlands mentioned the importance of communication between the Community Council and P.C.C. regarding the matter, in order to formulate a satisfactory service level agreement for planting schemes in the Community, and commented that in effect the ball is in the Community Council’s court. Matter to be placed on the October agenda in order to (a) produce a list of beds in the Community area, and (b) decide on which should be planted up in 2017.

8392 – Remembrance Day.

C’llr Rowlands had discussed this with Darren Thomas, who had mentioned that the requirements would need to be incorporated within an overall P.C.C. policy. He had recommended that C’llr Rowlands discuss the matter with Ben Blake of P.C.C. Members left it with C’llr Rowlands to find out the necessary information regarding what can be done to facilitate the event for this year, while expressing concern over the short time left to arrange this.

8393 – Parking bays, Glebelands.

Matter still in hand.

8394 – Hall Court sign / pavement.

Matter still in hand.

8395 – Japanese knotweed problem at Arnold’s Yard site.

C’llr Rowlands was still chasing this matter, involving both P.C.C. and Natural Resources Wales. C’llr Grey felt that P.C.C. should be required to deal with the matter. Matter to be kept under review.

8396 – Defibrillator provision.

Nothing further heard to date regarding the planned chapel meeting to discuss the proposal. Matter to be kept under review.

8397 – Streetlight, Church Road.

No further progress to date.

8398 – Wind turbines, Lawrence Landfill

The Clerk had been informed by email that the planning enforcement investigation had been completed, and the turbines found to be in accordance with the plans approved in respect of their locations and size. Email to be forwarded to C’llr Rowlands for information. Clerk to also forward to C’llr Wilkins a note of the planning application reference number, in case she wanted to check the wire frame images in the file.

8399 – Proposed solar park.

Nothing further to report.

8400 – Offer from Monitoring Officer to provide Code of Conduct training for Members.

Members noted that the training was scheduled for Wednesday 28th Sept. 7-45pm, at the Johnston Institute.

8401 – Postboxes.

C’lIr Rowlands reported that the matter had now been resolved.

8402 – Chairman’s Dinner.

Thanks to C’lIr Neil James for having arranged a very successful evening.

8403 - Cycle track.

C’lIr Rowlands to raise with Sustrans the possibility of using the old railway line between Johnston and Hook as a cycle track.

[Note : at this point, C’lIr Neil James entered the meeting]

8404 - Risk Assessment.

Matter still in hand.

8405 - Church Roll of Honour.

Nothing further to report at present.

8406 - Rubbish problems.

C’lIr Warlow reported that there was still rubbish and glass on the pathway between The Close and St. Peter’s Road. She felt that it should really be properly tarmacked. Problems with overhanging bushes and weeds in the vicinity of the currently empty house at the Close end of the track were also mentioned. C’lIrs Rowlands and Jeffries to look at this on site. The Clerk had received a reply from Network Rail to say that the rubbish on the railway line would be cleared within the next three months.

8407 - Johnston In Bloom.

The judging had been completed. Members decided that winner and runner-up prizes should be awarded in three categories – best big garden, best small garden, and commercial. It was decided to award £20 / £10 in each category. C’lIr Wilkins to make the necessary arrangements.

8408 - Disabled accesses.

C’lIr Rowlands had been discussing this with Ben Blake of P.C.C. He was hoping for an imminent site meeting to discuss detailed proposals.

8409 – Rubbish bin on cycle path close to the cycle barrier.

Members believed that this was now resolved.

8410 – faded double yellow lines on Langford Rd. by junction

Members were informed that P.C.C. had plans in hand to extend the double yellow lines from the fish and chip shop right up to the next junction along Langford Road.

8411 - Railway Inn.

The noise problems had been reported to the public protection department. It was understood that the site had been visited, and the owners spoken to. Certain restrictions had been placed on them, including one stipulating that music must stop by 9pm.

8412 – footpath behind Howlin Motors

C’llr Nail James had investigated this matter. It was possible that there had been some encroachment, but this was not certain. As the footpath was still open, and had not been obstructed, it seemed that there was little more that the Community Council could do.

Planning

8413 - applications

There were no applications for consideration this month.

8414 - decision notices

16/0230/PA (demolition of church hall and change of use of land for extension of car/van sales area – The Forge, St. Peter’s Road, Johnston SA62 3HB) – noted.

Correspondence

8415 - Pembrokeshire Housing Association – 2015/16 annual report – noted.

8416 - Mr. John Davies – Request for information on ownership of Community land assets – members suggested that C’llr Rowlands should respond. Letter passed to C’llr Rowlands for necessary action.

8417 - Stephen Crabb, M.P. – Response to letter about pavement parking – C’llr Grey suggested that the W.A.G. should be asked to implement rules on this matter. However, Members decided to leave the matter in abeyance for the time being, as C’llr Rowlands mentioned that P.C.C. was aware of the matter, and considering how best to deal with it locally.

8418 - C’llr Ken Rowlands – Information regarding car parking area outside church – dealt with in 8383 above.

8419 - P.C.C. – Notification of further road closures in Langford Road – noted.

8420 – P.A.V.S. – Information on Caring Communities Innovation grant scheme – passed to C’llr Rowlands for information.

8421 - Span Arts – Information regarding proposed ‘River of Lights’ lantern procession to be held in Haverfordwest on Saturday October 29th 2016 – noted.

8422 - One Voice Wales - Flood and Coastal Erosion Committee Consultation – noted.

8423 - P.C.C. – Consultation on proposed changes to leisure services provision – noted.

8424 - P.C.C. – Invitation to forthcoming ‘Preventions in Pembrokeshire’ event, to be held at 10am, 30th September 2016, Bloomfield Community Centre, Narberth – noted.

8425 - Pembrokeshire Rail Travellers’ Association – Newsletter – noted.

8426 - P.C.C. – Wellbeing survey – noted.

8427 - P.C.C. – Notification of completion of planning enforcement investigation into wind turbines, Lawrence Landfill – dealt with in 8398 above.

8428 - Pembrokeshire Housing Association – Reply to letter sent about Japanese Knotweed – dealt with in 8395 above.

8429 - P.A.V.S. – Information on South Hook Community grant scheme – passed to C’llr Rowlands for information.

8430 - Darren Thomas, P.C.C. – Information on various highway-related matters – dealt with in 8390 above.

8431 - P.C.C. (Mel Stephens) – Reply to query about progress on replacing street light, Hayston Road – dealt with in 8397 above.

8432 - Network Rail – Response to letter about rubbish on railway line – dealt with in 8406 above.

8433 - P.C.C. (Darren Thomas) – Information re. protocol for organising road closures for public events, ref. proposed Remembrance Day commemorations – dealt with in 8392 above.

8434 - Grant Thornton, auditors – Notification of completion of audit – noted.

8435 – P.C.C. – Informing of certain steps needed to complete the requirements in connection with the recent adoption of the model code of conduct, and offering to co-ordinate these arrangements, subject to an agreement by the Community Council to pay up to £30 towards the cost of an advertisement. This was agreed by Members (proposer C’llr Neil James, seconder C’llr Rowlands).

Accounts

8436 - Payments

Johnston Football Club (grass-cutting)	:	£ 85-00
D. Banfield (bus shelter cleaning, 2 months)	:	£120-00
Clerk (salary July – September 2016)	:	£646-98
H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax July – September 2016)	:	£161-74

D. Badham (path clearance in Johnston Woods) : £150-00
C'lr Wilkins (cost of flowers / tankard for Gareth Nicholls and Mrs. Nicholls) : £ 40-00
The above items were approved by Members (proposes C'lr Rowlands, seconder C'lr Neil James).

Other business

8437 - Map of Community. C'lr Wilkins suggested it would be a good idea to have a map available of the Community, to refer to during meetings. C'lr Neil James offered to arrange this.

8438 - Howlin Motors. C'lr Neil James mentioned that Howlin Motors had put a large advertising sign on their land, and queried if this needed permission. He thought that they had possibly also lowered the T.R.A. sign on the highway, and placed 'No Parking' signs on the highway. C'lr Rowlands to speak to the T.R.A. regarding the No Parking signs, and the possible lowering of the other sign. Clerk to find out about need for permission for the private sign if it is on private land, and to refer this to C'lr Rowlands if it was found to be on the highway.

8439 - Roll of honour plaque board. C'lr Neil James informed Members that the board was now ready to go up in the main hall. It was felt that an explanatory plaque would be a good idea to provide information about it. Members were informed that this would cost around £100. This was agreed in principle. C'lr Neil James offered to make the necessary arrangements.

8440 - Dates of road closures along main road between Johnston and Sentry Cross. C'lr Morgan asked about the dates and duration of these closures. It was pointed out that the Community Council had not been formally notified of these, that they were to be of short duration, and intermittent, over a period of time.

8441 - P.C.C. C'lr Rowlands informed Members that P.C.C. had been designated the second most successful council in Wales.

The meeting closed at 8-50pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....