

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 12th April 2021 online, using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.

Present: Cllrs Wilkins, Spilsbury, Neil James, Philpott, Jones; Peter Horton (Clerk);

Apologies : C’llrs Warlow, Morgan, Pratt, Jeffries, Fran. James.

0703 – Declarations of known Interests

None

0704 – To receive the minutes from the March 2021 monthly meeting

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record, and retained for signature by the Chairman following the meeting (proposer C’llr Spilsbury, seconder C’llr Philpott).

Matters arising

0705 – Bus shelter / seat outside NISA Shop

Work had not been completed. However, an email received from P.C.C. indicated that it was imminent.

0706- Close Field Skatepark

Matter still in hand with C’llr Rowlands.

0707 - Discussion of purchase of WW1 commemorative memorial seat

C’llr Spilsbury had spoken to the fabricator on a number of occasions, but without success in achieving progress. Members debated how best to proceed. Matter left in abeyance until the opportunity should present itself to achieve progress with this matter.

0708 - Discussion of possible request for yellow lines in Hall Court

The Clerk had received a map from P.C.C. indicating the extent of Highway ownership. This could be seen to exclude the area around the base of the tree. Members were in agreement that there was little prospect of further progress with P.C.C. Matter to be left on hold pending the sale of the adjacent club premises, when the matter could potentially be taken up with the new owners.

0709 - Discussion of problems with lighting on footbridge, Langford Road

On hold while the scheduled bulb replacement on lights in Langford Road was awaited.

0710 - Discussion of possible one-way system, Glebelands

Matter still on hold until after the lockdown was over, with a view to carrying out a survey of residents then.

0711 - Discussion of requirement to report on progress towards producing a plan to encourage biodiversity

Nothing further to report at present.

0712 - Discussion of Community Land Trusts

Matter still on hold with C’llr Rowlands for possible discussion with the Biodiversity Implementation Officer during the planned site meeting yet to be arranged.

0713 - Discussion of hedges / fenceline behind Moors Road

The Clerk had asked P.C.C. to collect the metal barrier, but it was not known if this had yet been done.

0714 – Cycle path adjacent to Glebelands Field.

Cycle path still awaiting further clearance work. Members decided to leave it for another month before chasing this up further.

0715 - Discussion of situation at Silverdale, including possible changes of use.

The Clerk informed Members that a planning application was awaited in P.C.C. for the unauthorised extension / business uses at the property.

C'llr Philpott commented that no further problems had been reported in connection with misuse of the bus shelter on St. Peter's Road.

C'llr Philpott had received concerned reports about an armed Police presence at the Silverdale at least twice around 1st April. Residents reported finding this disturbing, and making them feel unsafe. Clerk to ask Sergeant Terri Harrison for a statement on this to reassure the community.

0716 - Cars being parked near access to cycle path.

Nothing further had been heard from P.C.C. in response to the most recent messages sent following the last meeting. Clerk to write to Nathan Rees, the owner of N.T.R. Cars, to bring the problem to his attention (proposer C'llr Philpott, seconder C'llr Spilsbury).

0717 – Work needed on Glebelands Field and adjacent land.

C'llr Neil James had looked again at the work done by Nathan Jones in Glebelands Field, and felt it was an excellent job. He thought the area could benefit from further work, by bringing in a machine to level it with imported topsoil, cut down some branches, and re-seed.

Members asked the Clerk to contact Nathan Jones, and ask him to contact C'llr Nail James to discuss a possible project at this location.

0718 - Discussion of request for dog bin provision, Hillcroft

The Clerk confirmed that he had passed this to P.C.C. for their attention. Matter to be left in abeyance.

0719 - Discussion of possible development of land adjacent to Johnston School

Matter with C'llr Young, who was going to look into what was happening regarding this project.

0720 – One Voice Wales.

Matter on hold with C'llr Rowlands, who had been in touch with the C.E.O. of O.V.W. regarding a possible visit.

0721 – Cranham Park.

The Clerk had reported the matter again to P.C.C. They had acknowledged that a number of complaints had been received, and undertaken to address the matter. C'llr Philpott confirmed that the situation had improved greatly.

0722 – Discussion of Community Garden project

The Clerk confirmed that the £2500 grant had been returned to Carmarthenshire County Council, and Terri Harrison informed of this. There had been no adverse response from either her or Carmarthenshire C.C. regarding the matter.

0723 – Correspondence letter from C’Ilr Bryan Morgan, referencing grass area fronting bungalows on Main Road between Bulford Road and roundabout.

C’Ilr Neil James had mentioned this location in his response to the P.C.C. consultation on public rights of way / highways. He mentioned that he had heard of a recent conversation with one of the householders at this location which suggested that they had not actually been in opposition to a footpath at this location when the new road had been constructed.

Matter to be tabled for discussion in May.

0724 - Discussion of situation with car park opposite Village Institute (to include consideration of court order requirements, and practical measures required in connection with cross-hatching of car park)

Members noted that the car park re-lining and cross-hatching had been done, thus completing the works required to be completed by the Community Council pursuant to the Court order.

Regarding sharing of legal costs between the Community Council and the Village Institute Committee, this was left for future discussion once the Hall had re-opened, and the Institute Committee had reconvened. Members acknowledged that the Institute had lost much income over the last year, and that this would need to be taken into full account when assessing how much it would be appropriate for them to contribute.

Planning

0725 - Applications

**20/1117/PA - Erection of 2 detached dwellings and catering storage shed (live/work) together with associated vehicular access, parking and landscaping
Site Address: Land at Brickhurst Park, Johnston, SA62 3PA.**

Members resolved to support the application, subject to a request that the conditions placed on the outline consent should be carried over onto any consent issued. This was of particular concern in relation to the requirement to carry out footpath construction around the road frontage of the site (proposer C’Ilr Spilsbury, seconder C’Ilr Wilkins). Members were not concerned at some of the site being outside the Village settlement limits.

0726 - Decisions

20/0975/PA - Proposed roof replacement / extension to create additional accommodation, bedrooms and playroom; Site Address: 23, Langford Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PS.

20/0911/PA - Demolition of existing 3 x display conservatories & erection of new showroom (In Retrospect) and advertisement; Site Address: Tru Plas Ltd, Vine Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3NZ.

Correspondence

0727 - Partnership Council for Wales – Information about new Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act – noted.

0728 - P.C.C. – Response regarding dust / mud issues at Cranham Park – dealt with in 0721 above.

0729 - One Voice Wales – Membership forms – Members agreed to renew membership for 2021/22 (proposer C’Ilr Neil James, seconder C’Ilr Philpott).

0730 - Neil McCarthy, P.C.C. – Response regarding various issues raised – noted.

0731 - O.V.W. – Invitation to seminar, 13th May 2021 – Clerk to attend. J.C.C. to pay 1/3 of cost of registration, estimated at £15.

0732 - W.G. – Information on new Compulsory Purchase Manual – noted.

0733 - O.V.W. – Consultation on requirements for exercise of general power of competence – agenda item to be tabled for discussion in May. Clerk to check on consultation response deadline, and circulate this information to Members. If the deadline allowed, agenda item to be pushed on to a future meeting after May.

0734 - Wales Audit Office – Information regarding changes to external audit arrangements – noted.

0735 - Ken Rowlands (copy of email to P.C.C.) – concerns over highway safety issues on A4076 at northern end of Village – Members noted that this matter had been looked at previously, without success. C’Ilr Neil James suggested that individuals could include comments on this in individual responses to the P.C.C. public rights of way consultation currently running. Matter left in abeyance.

0736 - Terri Harrison – Response regarding vehicle parked on pavement in Langford Road – noted, as the vehicle in question had now been removed.

0737 - P.C.C. – Crime and disorder survey – noted.

0738 - Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority – notification of publication of 5 year plan – noted.

0739 - Calor – notification of deadline for grant applications – noted.

0740 - Neil James – Draft grass-cutting contract – Members thanked NJ for this. Clerk to send the contract to Glenn Murray for pricing.

0741 - Neil James – Asset risk assessment – dealt with in agenda item below.

0742 - P.C.C. – W.G. consultation on rail improvements – noted.

Accounts

0743 - End of year financial report

Members had been sent an end of year financial standing report prior to the meeting.

0744 - Payments

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| P.C.C. (Line markings in car park opposite Village Institute) | : | £1306-46 |
| David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning) | : | £ 60-00 |
| Elder Meadow Nursery (Christmas tree supply) | : | £ 500-00 |
| One Voice Wales (annual membership) | : | £ 325-00 |
| JRJ Garden Services (work on Glebelands Field) | : | £ 460-00 |
| JRJ Garden Services (work at Cunnigar Woods, re-issued cheque) | : | £ 540-00 |

0745 - Returned cheques

Cheque no. 620 issued to Nathan Jones after the March meeting had been returned by the bank due to a change in requirement for the name of the payee.

The above items were approved by Members (proposer C’Ilr Neil James, seconder C’Ilr Spilsbury).

Regarding the matter of Christmas tree supply, C'llr Wilkins suggested that it might be worth contacting other suppliers next time, as a more competitive quotation might be obtained.

0746 - Discussion of possible purchase of playground equipment for Vine Field

C'llr Spilsbury had been in touch with Creative Play Wales, Adventure Playgrounds Wales, and Dragonplay.co.uk, regarding possible new play equipment for The Vine Field. He was awaiting responses / suggestions from them, and would circulate to Members once received.

C'llr Spilsbury also mentioned the Enhancing Pembrokeshire grant scheme, being run by P.C.C. This could potentially release up to approximately £12000 for qualifying projects in the Village. It was thought this could possibly include any work planned around Cocky's Pond.

Members in agreement to await further information from the play equipment suppliers, and progress the matter from there.

0747 - Discussion of possible community works at and around Cunnigar Woods

Matter to be deferred for consideration in May. C'llr Nail James to circulate any available information to inform the discussion prior to the meeting.

0748 - Discussion of actions needed pursuant to new Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

Members agreed that residents would be invited to contact the Clerk for login details for attendance at future online meetings.

Clerk to circulate draft minutes after the meetings, for informal agreement and publication on the webpage in draft form within seven working days following the meeting in question. This was felt to be the easiest way to meet the requirements of the new legislation regarding electronic publication of key information from meetings. It was noted that formal approval of the minutes would still occur at the subsequent meeting.

0749 - Discussion of any works needed as a result of the most recent playground inspection report for The Close Field Playpark

It was noted that there were no high risk items identified. Matter to be tabled for discussion in May, to consider any action required to address the medium risk items identified in the report. Clerk to re-circulate the inspection report prior to the meeting.

0750 - Discussion of Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales determinations for 2021/22

Members resolved to keep all discretionary allowances the same as for the 2020/21 financial year, as recorded in the December 2019 minute record (proposer C'llr Philpott, seconder C'llr Neil James).

Members were reminded that annual allowance cheques would be issued following the May meeting to all Members who had not waived their annual allowance in writing to the Clerk.

0751 - Consideration of any necessary actions from newly-reviewed financial and asset risk assessments

Members had received copies of the updated Asset and Financial risk assessments, both of which had been reviewed and updated as required.

There were no recommendations for actions needed arising from the Financial risk assessment.

Regarding the Asset risk assessment, C’Ilr Neil James had repaired the noticeboard door, and hoped to re-fix this to the noticeboard within the next few days

Regarding the bus shelter at St Peter’s Road, C’Ilr Neil James had prepared a tender document for pricing, for work to carry out needed maintenance to the bus shelter.

Matter to be tabled as an agenda item for May to discuss this item of work specifically. In the meantime, C’Ilr Philpott undertook to post a notice on the Facebook page, inviting quotations from qualified contractors interested in carrying out the work. The Clerk asked if it could be mentioned in the post that proper public liability insurance would be a requirement of the contract.

Regarding Cocky’s Pond, the area around the pond edge had been left to grow, and recently-felled trees placed around the pond edge. It was felt that this was a reasonable approach to address potential safety issues at this location.

Any other business

0752 – Dog mess on cycle path. C’Ilr Philpott had noted an increasing problem with dog-waste bags being dumped on and around the cycle path. She had also received complaints about this from residents. Matter to be tabled for discussion in May.

0753 – Dispensations for Members unable to attend meetings. Agenda item to be tabled for review of dispensations in May.

The meeting concluded at 8-55pm.

Next scheduled meeting – Monday 10th May 2021, to commence with the 2021 A.G.M.

Signed.....Chairman

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