**M02/2015**

The following are the **Minutes** of the monthly meeting of **Johnston Community Council** held on **2 February 2015** in Johnston Institute.

**Present:** Cllr C Wilkins, (Chairperson), Cllr N James, (Vice-Chair), Cllrs B Morgan, G Grey, A Harvey, K Rowlands, T Young, J Jeffries, J Ruloff, R Davies, E Warlow.

**Apologies for absence:** None.

**7473. Minutes of the January 2015 meeting.**  It was agreed that these should be accepted as a true record.

**Proposer:** Cllr Davies. **Seconder:** Cllr Rowlands.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**7474. Church Road, car-park.** The Clerk said that he had written to Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) as instructed and they had replied stating that the land was not owned by the County Council and suggesting that Johnston Community Council (JCC) should obtain legal advice. Cllr Rowlands said that he had therefore spoken to the Community Council’s solicitors and queried the process of registering the car park in the Community Council’s name. The area has never previously been registered. The solicitor thought that neither Mr Bishop nor JCC would be able to register the land unless it had been fenced off for 12 years for exclusive use. Cllr James pointed out that old Ordnance Survey maps had always shown the area as a lane. In the meantime, so as to avoid any obstruction to the entrances to Johnston Hall and to Home Farm, JCC will arrange for yellow hatching to be applied to the road surface adjacent to the gateways in order to clearly indicate that no vehicles should park there. It was proposed by Cllr Wilkins and seconded by Cllr James that, as a matter of courtesy, a letter of explanation should be sent to Mr Bishop and this was agreed.

**7475. Narrow pavement near Johnston Farm.**  The Clerk said that he had now received a response to his letter of 15 December 2014 from Edwina Hart, the Welsh Government Minister repeating the comments made in her letter to Paul Davies AM, as reported in the January Minutes.

**7476. Bulford Road.** It was reported that despite the comments made by the contractors in December, there had recently been week-end working on the site. Cllr Rowlands said that he would shortly be speaking to Gail Jones, the Community Liaison Officer for the company and would raise the question of a site visit once again.

**7477. Skate-board Park.** The Clerk said that David Rees, The County Council architect had emailed to ask for urgent agreement on the cost of the earthworks and on the appointment of a firm to landscape the bank in order to progress the project. However, after much discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should ask Mr Rees to arrange a delay of say, six weeks, by which time the weather should have improved. The main concern was the damage that might be done to the grassed areas by heavy lorries and machinery.

**7478. Wind turbines, Lawrence Landfill.** No further news. It had been rumoured that the subsidies for such installations may be reduced and also that County Councils will ask the Welsh Government to raise the planning fees for them as currently, the expenses involved in dealing with such applications are not being covered.

**7479. Bus shelter, opposite Glebelands.**  The Clerk apologised for being unable to attend the site meeting on 30 January. Cllr James said that a proposed site and design for a shelter had been agreed at the meeting but because Western Power had recently installed electricity cables through the area, this may not be acceptable. Mr Shafi Alam from the Highways & Construction department at PCC will check the position.

In connection with this matter, it was reported that

1. Vehicles are frequently parking on the pavement in order to use the cash machine,
2. Sometimes, users do not even get out of their vehicles,
3. Such parking causes obstructions to pedestrians, shop users and to the buses stopping outside.
4. There is therefore a high possibility of injuries arising.
5. The cash machine has, in any case, been installed without planning permission.

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to PCC, the Trunk Road Agency, (TRA), and the Police to report these points. The matter will also be raised at the next Police Forum.

**7480. New School.** (See Planning Application 14/0923/PA under “Correspondence” below). Cllr James said that despite claims that the number of additional cars using the new school would be low, there was already a problem at the start and end of the school day at the junction of Langford Road and St Peters Road. The Clerk was instructed to write to PCC and the TRA to raise the matter once more. The question of a new footpath on the other side of Langford Road was also mentioned – Cllr Rowlands said he would ask if this could be built in the interests of safety for the school children. It was also agreed that once planning permission has been obtained, the family of the road traffic accident casualty will be contacted as the current memorial will need to be re-sited.

**7481. Tree in Langford Road.** Additional work required – PCC are aware of this.

**7482. The Close Field.** Negotiations continuing. The Clerk gave Cllr Rowlands a copy of the survey reports received recently from Zurich Insurance for The Close and The Vine fields.

**7483. Road and pavement problems.** PCC are aware of these problems which will be dealt with in due course. Cllr James said that one resident had contacted him to complain about the poor state of the pavement between Langford Road and the Post Office.

**7484. Flower Borders.** It was agreed that the Clerk should send Mr D Baldry of 14 Brookside Avenue, a copy of the letter sent to the Mormon Church last October.

**7485. Disabled Access to The Close Field.** It was agreed that Cllr Rowlands should check if a new application was needed or if the previous one could be revived. However, it was accepted that the scheme might prove to be too expensive.

**7486. PCC budgeting/savings.** After discussion, it was agreed that the following members would attend the meeting to be held in County Hall on Wednesday 4th February: Cllrs Morgan, Grey, James, Harvey, and Rowlands.

**7487. Ditch in Glebelands Field.**  Action by PCC awaited.

**7488. Withybush Hospital.** The Clerk read out the response received from Paul Davies AM regarding the shared concerns for the future of the hospital and treatment for local patients. It was stated that another “SWAT” trip to demonstrate outside the Senedd in Cardiff had been arranged for Wednesday 4 March 2015.

**7489. Williams Report.** The Clerk read out the letter from Paul Davies AM supporting the proposals put forward by Cllr Morgan. However, it seems that the Welsh Government Minister is determined to drastically reduce the number of Local Authorities in Wales.

**7490. Resignation of Cllr Bourne.** The Clerk said that he was awaiting confirmation that no election was required before the notices inviting applications for the post could be displayed.

**7491. Feasibility Study – shared use path, Johnston to Steynton.**  Cllr Grey said that the proposal seemed over complicated and that some common sense was needed. The proposed path went through open countryside but a much better option would be to have the path alongside the existing railway line towards Milford Haven. Cllr Morgan agreed and the Clerk was instructed to write to SUSTRANS, (with copy to Darren Thomas at PCC), asking for a meeting to discuss other options. Possibly a representative could attend a future Council meeting.

**7492. Letter to Bronwen Parratt.** The Clerk confirmed that this had been sent and that a subsequent message of thanks had been received by him.

**7493. New Roundabout.**  It was reported that, as expected, this was causing great problems for commuters. Many people were using alternative routes to avoid the site of the road-works.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**7494. Planning.**

* **14/0834/PA –** alterations and extensions, 41 St Peters Road. Permission granted. Noted.
* **14/0822/PA –** erection of steel frame building, Johnston Hall. Permission refused. Noted.
* **14/0923/PA –** construction of Primary School, Langford Road. Support to be given.
* **14/0847/PA –** conversion of existing barn/shed to disabled-friendly holiday unit, Johnston Hall. Permission granted. Noted.

*Note: Cllr Rowlands took no part in these discussions.*

**7495. email re South Hook LNG Community Fund.** Copy to be forwarded by the Clerk to Cllr Rowlands.

**7496.** Letter from PCC – **move of Register Office** to Cherry Grove. Noted, but considered to be a retrograde step by some Members as other premises, (for example, the Shire Hall), would be more suitable for weddings etc.

**7497. Letter from Paul Davies AM.** It was decided that he should be invited to attend the June, July or September meeting of the Council. Cllr Grey asked that the provision of allotments should be one of the matters raised.

**7498. Pembrokeshire Rail Travellers Association.** Details of new fares, special offers etc. were distributed.

**FINANCE**

**7499. Accounts for payment.** It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Davies that the following amounts should be paid:

* £208.92 to the Clerk, February 2015 salary.
* £52.20 to HMRC, PAYE, February 2015.
* £60.00 to Mr Banfield, bus shelter cleaning.

*(Note - Cllr Wilkins to complete bank signatory forms etc. in due course).*

***The following items were admitted at the Chairperson’s discretion:***

**7500.** Cllr Jeffries reported some difficulties with **parking in The Close.** It was decided that no action by JCC was required.

**7501.** Cllr Morgan queried why the **Bulford Road no longer had all-night lighting** as it is still a “tanker route”. The Clerk was instructed to query the position with PCC.

**7502**. Cllr Warlow said that the **electronic information sign at Glebelands bus stop** was not working and appeared to be affected by heavy rain. The Clerk was instructed to take up with PCC.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

**Signed………………………………………………………………….Chairperson**

**Date……………………………………………………..**