

BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the monthly meeting held online, on
Tuesday 6th September 2022, 7pm.**

Present: Cllrs Robin Howells (Chairman), John Evans, Fiona Hart, Scott Sinclair, Nia Phillips, Derek Jones, Peter Griffiths, Paddy McNamara; Peter Horton (Clerk).
Apologies: C'llrs John Mathias, Vicky White, Danny Young.

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to C'llr Peter Griffiths, who was attending his first meeting.

Declarations of known interests

None.

Opportunity for public representation on tabled agenda items

No members of the public were present.

Approval of minutes of the July 2022 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C'llr Robin Howells, seconder C'llr Derek Jones), and held by the Clerk for subsequent signature by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Potholes. No further update had been provided by P.C.C. regarding potholes.

Trinity House. It was understood that this work was scheduled to be completed during the current financial year.

Planning enforcement Sardis. No progress to date.

Burton Ferry Road markings. The road markings had been refreshed. It was also reported that the new bin adjacent to the seating area adjacent to the pontoon was now in situ.

Burton Ferry project. C'llr Scott Sinclair reported that some planting had been completed, and other planting remained to be carried out.

Insurance for volunteers involved in Community Council-led projects. The Clerk had made enquiries, and confirmed that volunteers were covered by the Community Council insurance while working on such projects under the umbrella of the Community Council. It had been recommended by the insurance company that attention should be given to ensuring that risk assessments were properly completed.

Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant Scheme. C'llr Scott Sinclair confirmed that the scheme was still active.

Planning

Consultations received

NP/22/0422/FUL – 2 Storey extension, Foxhall Cottage, Newton Mountain, Llangwm – No comments.

21/0504/PA : Erection of a Dwelling; Site Address: Plot 1, Kiln Park, Burton Ferry, Milford Haven, SA73 1NY – Clerk to ask P.C.C. if a response could be made after the October meeting.

Correspondence

- 1) Save Withybush – Clerk to write again to Hywel Dda to ask them what is happening regarding the new hospital. Message to include an explanation for their non-response to the previous letter. Letter to be copied to Stephen Crabb

- M.P. and Paul Davies M.S., as previously. Clerk to send in model petition to support the Save Withybush campaign.
- 2) Hywel Dda – Notification of potential closure of GP services at Johnston and Neyland. Members noted that Hywel Dda Health Board had hosted an online session concerning this. C’llr Robin Howells had planned to attend, but said that he had not received the link to the meeting from the Health Board.
 - 3) Stephen Thomas – Suicide Prevention – Clerk to write to P.C.C. to support the initiative, and ask for the rooms to be provided free of charge. Clerk to respond to C’llr Thomas to inform him of the actions taken.
 - 4) P.C.C. – Warm rooms initiative – C’llr John Evans mentioned that the Burton Jubilee Hall Committee had received the letter, and were looking into it. Agenda item to be tabled for October for any feedback from C’llr John Evans.
 - 5) Local resident – dangerous traffic at Bowling’s Corner – Members shared her concerns, but felt nothing could realistically be done. Clerk to ask P.C.C. to look at the matter and offer comments. Clerk to let the local resident concerned know of the actions being taken. Message to refer to the recent meeting with P.C.C. held to discuss highway safety-related matters, and explain that these were still ongoing.

Accounts

Payments

Clerk (salary and expenses July – September)	:	As per contract
HMRC	:	As per contract
Bevan Lawncare (grass-cutting on plying field)	:	£400-00
Diocese (land lease for Houghton playing field)	:	£200-00
Wales Audit Office (audit fee for 2020/21 accounts)	:	£226-00
MW Surveys (survey of Houghton Playpark)	:	£270-00

The above payments were approved (proposer C’llr Robin Howells, seconder C’llr John Evans).

Discussion of Member training on code of conduct for members (to include possible viewing of video supplied by the P.C.C. Monitoring Officer)

Members decided to view the video at the conclusion of the meeting.

Discussion of progress on proposed project at Houghton Play area and adjacent wooded area

C’llr Paddy McNamara wished to extend thanks to fellow councillors Nia Phillips, Fiona Hart and Derek Jones for their assistance in moving the project along. He confirmed that the Land Registry plans had been checked for accuracy, and some corrections made, which would inform the proposals being prepared, and would also be notified to the Land Registry in due course. He explained that C’llr Nia Phillips had been looking into ideas for the playpark, C’llr Fiona Hart into the adjacent wooded area, and C’llr Derek Jones and him into potential funding / grant sources. He mentioned that some local sponsors had already been tentatively identified.

C’llr Nia Phillips reported that a preliminary plan had been drawn up, and a site meeting held with a local supplier /installer of playground equipment, to discuss detailed possibilities for equipment and layout. This had thus been looked at in considerable detail. She explained that the aspiration was to complete it as a Jubilee Playpark. It was hoped that this could be achieved for around £25000. Progress was being made as fast as possible. It was still hoped that some contribution might be forthcoming from Western Power. Fencing was also in hand with C’llr Paddy McNamara.

C’lir Fiona Hart reported to Members on the situation with the wooded area below the playpark. The dead Ash trees were scheduled to be removed by John Colnet. This was currently awaited. New trees were expected to be planted in Spring. It was planned to encourage wildlife by installing bat boxes, bird boxes, etc., as well as seating areas, etc. After the tree removal exercise had been completed, it was planned to do general clearance of brambles, etc. Clerk to contact John Colnet to enquire about his proposed timescale. Clerk to contact B.T. to ask for removal of the telephone lines currently affixed to the trees in this area.

Members formally resolved in principle to approve an Enhancing Pembrokeshire grant application for work on the project (proposer C’lir Scott Sinclair, seconder C’lir John Evans).

Any necessary discussion of actions in Playing Field pursuant to recent tree report

Clerk to ask John Colnet for a quotation to carry out the works on the playing field that had been recommended in the tree report.

Any necessary discussion of Highway safety issues at Houghton / Hill Mountain

It was confirmed that the Community Works grant application window was expected to open early in the New Year. The notes in the message suggested that community consultation on any proposals may be necessary. C’lir Scott Sinclair felt this would be very beneficial. Matter to be placed on agenda for October to discuss detailed proposals. In the meantime, Clerk to chase up a response as to why the promised footpath along the main road in Hill Mountain had not been provided to date.

Discussion of dog-bin provision at Houghton Playing Field

Clerk to chase up Neil McCarthy of P.C.C. for a further response regarding bin provision.

Discussion of need to formulate a Community Council Training Policy

Clerk to prepare a draft policy for circulation prior to the next meeting.

Discussion of need to renew the Community Council Biodiversity Enhancement report

Clerk to prepare a draft in advance of the October meeting.

Discussion of approach to impending 20mph speed limits due to be implemented in 2023

The Clerk had obtained some information from P.C.C. on the process being followed. All areas currently subject to 30mph speed limits would by default change to 20mph in late 2023. However, P.C.C. was currently undertaking an exercise to identify locations which should be exceptions to this, and would deal with these via a Traffic Order, which would be put out to consultation in due course. In the meantime, any interested parties could send in their comments and views, which would be fed into the overall process.

Any other business

Jubilee Hall. C’lir Paddy McNamara felt that consideration should be given to installing Wi-fi into the Hall. C’lir John Evans mentioned that the cost would be quite high, but undertook to look into the matter again. In the meantime, Clerk to meet with C’lir Fiona Hart in Houghton when in the Village, to try and resolve the problem experienced with tethering to her mobile phone for the meeting.

Potholes, main road at Sardis. C’lir Derek Jones mentioned that the potholes had been temporarily repaired, but were now worse than ever. Clerk to report this.

Kissing gate by bus stop in Sardis, on path towards Hanging Stone. C’lir Peter Griffiths reported that the gate was virtually impassable, due to encroaching growth. Clerk to report.

The meeting ended at 8-50 pm. Next meeting to be held at 7pm on Wednesday 5th October 2022.