**M07/2015**

The following are the **Minutes** of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on **20 July 2015**, (postponed from 13 July), in Johnston Institute.

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

**Also present:** Mr M Spilsbury, (local resident).

**Apologies for absence:** None.

**7690. Minutes of the June 2015 meeting.** It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Morgan that these should be accepted as a true record of proceedings and this was agreed.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**7691. Church Road car-park.**  The Clerk said that the Council’s solicitors had now written to Mr Bishop’s solicitors rejecting his claim to the land. It had never been part of Johnston Hall and since 1935 has been used as an open space and used by villagers as a car-park for weddings, funerals and church services and by users of Johnston Institute which was built in 1937. It had **not** been transferred to Mr Bishop on the purchase of Johnston Hall and no previous owner of the Hall had ever laid claim to it. It was agreed that any such claim would be vigorously opposed. The Council’s solicitor had also issued a form CT1, (caution against first registration), to the Land Registry, indicating that the Community Council wishes to preserve the area for community use. It was mentioned that the solicitor had not acted earlier because he had felt that the claim was so obviously wrong.

**7692. Narrow pavement near Johnston Farm.** The Clerk said that in a letter dated 17 June 2015, the Welsh Government Minister had said that design of the scheme was progressing and that subject to land purchase etc., construction would commence in 2015-2016. Cllr Morgan said that he had raised the question again with Paul Davies AM, at a recent surgery, and the Assembly Member had promised to follow-up the matter.

**7693. Bulford Road.** The opening ceremony had taken place earlier in the day, (20th July), and the road was now in full use. Cllr Grey said that the land along the new road was of high quality and queried if there was any scope for allotments. A large corner plot near Bulford Close was unused but it was thought that this would be planted with trees in due course. (It was also mentioned that the contractors for the scheme had recently delivered top-soil to the Glebelands playing fields as promised).

**7694. Skate-board park.**  Some repairs had been made to the damaged barrier and the Clerk was instructed to check if this was covered by the Council’s insurance policy. The landscape company had recently carried out some work on the barrier but the orange plastic fencing had not been removed .Cllr Rowlands said he would speak to Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) about this.

**7695. Bus shelter.** Because of the problems previously discussed, (visibility, electricity cables etc.), it appears unlikely that this will be built. However, the matter will be reconsidered when the Post Office is closed – possibly a site near there could be used.

**7696. Cash point at NISA shop.** It was confirmed that retrospective planning permission had been granted. It was believed that some drivers had recently been booked by the Police for parking outside the shop. It was suggested that members should make a note of any vehicles causing problems at the site. Mr Spilsbury suggested that parking could be discouraged by siting large concrete planters in the area, similar to those used in Pembroke. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Trunk Road Agency about this idea.

**7697. New School.**  Cllr Rowlands said that the Business Case for the school was with the Welsh Government and that it was almost certain to be agreed. Arrangements would be made for the Chief Executive of PCC and Community Council members to visit the relatives of the road traffic accident victim to discuss re-siting the memorial due to the road changes that would be needed.

**7698. Junction of St Peters Road and Langford Road.** This had been mentioned at the opening of the Bulford Road but no changes were likely until the new school had been built and was operating. Johnston Community Council (JCC) would continue to press for improvements to be made.

**7699. Playground Inspections.** Further details/instructions awaited.

**7700. Road and pavement problems.** Ongoing. Improvements to the footpath at the junction of St Peters and the Langford Roads were planned. Cllr Warlow said that the whole pavement from the corner to the bridge needed attention, i.e. outside numbers 1 and 3 Langford Road. Cllr Morgan mentioned the pavement outside 8a Bulford Road and the whole of Bulford Close also needed repair. Cllr Rowlands said he would pass on these points to PCC.

**7701. Flower borders.** It was reported that the Mormon Church had done an excellent job on their adopted border. The borders at Orchard Court had been planted but it was unclear which others needed attention.

**7702. Disabled Access to The Close field.**  Detailed costings are to be provided by PCC.

**7703. South Hook LNG Community Fund.** Cllr Rowlands said that he was in the process of making an application to the Fund for a grant of £3000 for the Institute.

**7704. Post Office.** It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mrs McKnight to thank her for her services to the community over many years. It was further agreed that the Vice-Chair would obtain flowers and that she and the Chairman would personally deliver the letter and flowers.

**7705. Grass-cutting contract.**  The Clerk confirmed that the Public Liability insurance certificate had now been provided.

**7706. Sunshine Club.**  Nothing new to report.

**7707. Rubbish on the cycle track.**  The Clerk said he had written to Pembrokeshire Housing but had not received a reply. He would therefore, write once more. It was also mentioned that a suspicious person had been seen on the path recently and this had been reported to the Police.

**7708. Hill Croft.** The Clerk said that PCC had confirmed that the request from a resident for play equipment had been passed to the appropriate department to consider.

**7709. Revised guidance on Code of Conduct.**  Clerk to review and inform Members. Cllr Rowlands said that he had obtained some copies of the “Good Councillors’ Guide” for issue to new members.

**7710. Carers Wales.** The Clerk confirmed that he had heard nothing further from this organisation.

**7711. Register of Members’ Interests.** Awaiting review by the Clerk.

**7712. Rev. Victoria Jones.** It was reported that the vicar had now been transferred to Cross Hands. This was very much regretted by many residents and by the school, where she had built strong connections with the staff and pupils. There was no news yet on a replacement vicar.

**7713. Station Approach Road.**  The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the owner of the Business Park but had not yet received a response.

**7714. Parking bays at Glebelands.**  Cllr Rowlands confirmed that a request had been made to PCC for these to be repainted.

**7715. Overgrown grass at the top of The Close.**  This has been dealt with.

**7716. Annual Return.** The Clerk said that the Auditors had queried why the noise barrier had not been recorded as an “asset”. He had simply not thought of it as such. Also, they had queried the Council’s authority to build a new war memorial. The Clerk said that he had provided full details of the decision process, a copy of the Service of Dedication leaflet, confirmed that local builders, suppliers etc. had been involved in the scheme and that it had been a project much welcomed and appreciated by the residents of the village. A response from the Auditors is awaited.

**7717. Planning Application 15/0225/PA- land west of Hayston Road.** Cllr James declared an interest in this matter but said that PCC were aware of the Community Council’s views on the design of the houses, the access and the planned pavement close to existing properties. PCC would be making a site-visit to the development.

In connection with this, Cllr Rowlands said that the developer had suggested Hayston Court or Hayston Crescent as a name for the new housing and asked for comments. After discussion, it was agreed that Hayston Park or Hayston Grove should be suggested as alternatives.

**7718. Weeds, Woodland View.**  PCC informed.

**7719. Paul Davies AM.** It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange for him to attend an autumn meeting if possible.

**7720. Chairman’s gold bars.** The Clerk confirmed that additional bars had been made and these were passed to Cllr Wilkins to attach to the ribbon.

**7721. Village magazines.** The Chairman said that these had now been downloaded to his personal website.

**7722. Johnston in Bloom competition.** It was agreed that Cllr Wilkins would arrange for collection of the trophies and the purchase of replicas.

**7723. Remembrance Sunday.** A response was awaited from PCC to the request for road closure during the service.

**7724. Sign for Hall Court.** This is being prepared.

**7725. Chairman’s Dinner.** Cllr Wilkins was thanked for making the arrangements for this.

**7726. Millennium Wood.**  Cllr Warlow was thanked for suggesting a contractor for cutting back the undergrowth etc. and Cllr James said he had shown the contractor the site and agreed terms but it was not known if the work had yet been done.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**7727. Planning.**

* **15/0040/PA -** replacement dwelling etc., Ashleigh, 30 Church Road. Permission granted. Noted.
* **15/0067/TF -** tree surgery, Church Road. Permission granted subject to conditions. Noted.
* **14/08454/PA -** ATM, NISA shop, St Peters Road. Retrospective permission granted. Noted.
* **15/0225/PA -** erection of housing, land west of Hayston Road. Already considered by planning sub-committee and support (with conditions) given. (See also Minute Number 7717 above.)
* **15/0306/PA -** first floor extension, Mayfield, Pope Hill. Support given.
* **15/0277/PA -** outline planning for 3 dwellings, rear of Brickhurst Park. Already considered and support given.

**7728. Letter from PCC – Governor for Mount Airey Primary School.** No nominations.

**7729.**  email from Welsh Government – **provision of public toilets.** Noted.

**7730. Report from PCC on Public Engagement Events.** Noted. (Clerk to try to obtain copies for Members.)

**7731. Message of thanks from First Johnston Scout Group.** Noted.

**7732. Public Services Ombudsman for Wales** - Annual Report 2014-2015. Noted.

**7733. Message & poster from ”3C Energy”** regarding plans for a solar panel farm at North Tenement, Pope Hill. (Note – the Council meeting due to be held on 13 July was postponed in order to allow Members to attend the display. Cllr Rowlands was thanked for arranging for the company to extend the length of the event to cater for this).

**7734.** The **message of thanks from retired member Roy Davies** was read out by the Clerk.

**7735. Registration form** issued to all households by PCC. It was pointed out that unless people opted-out, their name would appear on the “open” Register – a list which can be made available to businesses, charities and other organisations.

**7736**. Message from PCC – **consultation on Older Person’s Strategy.** Hard copies to be obtained by the Clerk and issued to those without internet availability.

**7737.** Notices from Citizens Advice Bureau – **“Approaching Retirement?”** Placed on notice-boards.

**7738.** Letter from PCC – advice on **“Spontaneous Events”.** Noted.

**7739.** Letter from PCC – **County Farm Estate Policy Review.** Copies to be given to Cllrs Grey and Wilkins.

**FINANCE**

**7740. Accounts for payment.** It was proposed by Cllr Morgan and seconded by Cllr Grey that the following amounts should be paid:

* £213.57 to the Clerk, July 2015 salary.
* £53.40 to HMRC, PAYE, July 2015.
* £213.57 to the Clerk, August 2015 salary. (To be paid in August).
* £53.40 to HMRC, PAYE, August 2015. (To be paid in August).
* £60.00 to Mr Banfield, bus shelter cleaning, July.
* £60.00 to Mr Banfield, bus shelter cleaning, August.
* £329.36 to the Clerk, reimbursement for travel, postage stationery etc. for the year, as checked by the Chairman.
* £70.00 to the Clerk, reimbursement for payment to Munt the Jewellers for gold bars.
* £69.46 to Cllr Wilkins, reimbursement for gifts etc. for retiring Members.
* Approximately £300 to BDO, Audit fee. (Bill due to be received in August).

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

**7741.** Cllr Young reported **trees overhanging the pavement** at 1 Woodlands View. There had also been complaints about parking on the bend.

**7742.** Cllr Young said that there were concerns about **school placements** and that some children from Johnston may have to attend schools in Haverfordwest. This would cause many problems for parents.

**7743.** Cllr Warlow reported an **overhanging tree branch** on the railway bridge close to the Railway Inn.

**7744.** Cllr Warlow said that it was believed that the Women’s Royal Voluntary Service **café in Withybush** **Hospital** was to be replaced by either a Marks & Spencer or Costa Coffee franchise.

**7745.**  Cllr Morgan said that at a recent Police Forum it was stated that **20 mph speed restrictions** were not enforceable in law. Such speed limits would be needed near the proposed new school and he had raised the matter with Paul Davies AM.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

**Signed……………………………………………………………….Chairman**

**Date…………………………………………….**