

M 01/16

The following are the **Minutes** of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on **11 January 2016** in Johnston Institute.

Present: Cllr N James, (Chairman), Cllrs B Morgan, G Grey, A Harvey, K Rowlands, C Wilkins, T Young, R Pratt together with Mr Martin Spilsbury and Mr Jozef Polak, (residents of Johnston).

Apologies for absence: Cllr J Jeffries.

7930. Minutes of December 2015 meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Pratt that these should be accepted as a true record and this was agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

7931. Visit by Paul Davies AM. The Clerk said that Mr Davies' office had said that responses to the points made in December would be forwarded in due course.

7932. Langford Road development. Cllr Rowlands said that he had asked for this to be heard by the full Planning Committee in view of the objections from many residents. This would be heard either in January or February. It was agreed that it was important for all affected residents to be informed and perhaps a meeting should be organised so that representatives could be nominated to speak at the hearing.

7933. Church Road car-park. Cllr Rowlands said that he had finally received a letter from the Land Registry showing details of the case made by G Bishop in his claim to the land. It was now up to the Council's solicitors to respond to this and to refute the arguments put forward. It was also stated that it was important for residents of the village to write to the Land Registry to register their objections and to record their knowledge of how the land has been used in their lifetime. The Clerk said that he had not received a response from the Land Registry to his letter of 19 December 2015.

7934. Narrow pavements near Johnston Farm. It was understood that the Welsh Government was now discussing the situation with the owner of Johnston Farm.

7935. Skateboard Park. Discussions on repairs to the noise-barrier are continuing with Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC).

7936. Bus shelter. The Clerk said he had written to PCC as instructed and a reply had been received saying that the proposed site would be visited and a report sent in due course. (Note however, that in the Budget Forum discussions, it was decided to put this matter on hold).

7937. Cash-point at the NISA shop. A full response is still awaited from the Welsh Government about the problem of car driving onto the pavement.

7938. New School. Cllr Rowlands reported that work was progressing and that provision of a wetlands area had been agreed. Members said that they wished to record their thanks to Cllrs Young, Pratt and Wilkins for their work on the presentation to the retiring head-teacher, and also to Cllr Rowlands for organising the Carol Concert. He had received a letter of thanks from Mrs Davies and this was read out to the Members.

It was also announced that the old Honour Board from the school had been officially handed over to Johnston Community Council (JCC) and would now be restored before installing it in the Institute.

7939. Playground Inspections. This matter is still under discussion with PCC.

7940. Road and Pavement problems. Members welcomed the news that the “short-cut” footpath between Langford Road and St Peter’s Road had now been resurfaced. Cllr Rowlands warned that due to PCC budget cut-backs, such repairs may be more delayed in future.

7941. Flower Borders. The Clerk confirmed that had written to PCC saying that JCC wished to take up the offer of planting and planters. An answer regarding precisely which borders PCC would deal with in future was awaited.

7942. Sunshine Club. Cllrs Rowlands and N James to follow-up.

7943. Remembrance Day. Cllr Rowlands said that he would follow up JCC's request to PCC for Church Road to be closed for the service each year. Cllr N James said he was still trying to obtain a stainless steel the bar to hold wreaths in place.

7944. Parking bays at Glebelands. No further news.

7945. Sign for Hall Court. Still awaited.

7946. Millennium Wood. The Clerk said he had not been able to contact the contractor yet but would follow this up. It was agreed that a village meeting was needed in order to consider how the additional land adjoining the wood should be developed.

7947. Japanese Knotweed. No response received from the Public Protection Department at PCC despite the issue of a reminding letter.

7948. Rats, Church Road. The Clerk said that the Public the Protection Department at PCC had not replied to his query about this matter either. Cllr Rowlands said that PCC had visited his property to set traps. Mr Polak said that PCC had cleared some rubbish from the area but would not go into the water without a Risk Assessment and proper equipment. He volunteered to have his employees clear and maintain the area in future and this offer was welcomed by JCC.

7949. Draft Charter between Community Councils and PCC. No further news had been received from the Pembrokeshire Association of Local Councils (PALC). Cllr Rowlands said he would like to have a PCC officer to come and speak about this to JCC and the Tiers Cross Community Council. This was agreed - date to be arranged idc.

7950. Defibrillators. The Clerk said that Tiers Cross Community Council intended getting two machines from the Red Cross organisation. He would obtain details and report back at the next meeting.

7951. Christmas trees. It was agreed that the Clerk should comment on the poor quality of the trees supplied when paying the bill.

7952. Tree-planting, Bulford Road. Believed to be progressing.

7953. Vacant council seat. The Clerk said that notices had been place in the Institute, the SPAR shop, the NISA shop, the noticeboard at Glebelands, The Vine Inn and on the Community Council website. PCC would let him know in due course if an election was required or if the post could be filled by co-option.

7954. Dog-mess and rubbish – Glebelands. Cllr Rowlands said that he would ask PCC to provide bins as part of the construction of the shared-use path through the field.

7955. Precept for 2016-2017. The Clerk had provided details of past years expenditure, estimates of outgoings for the remainder of 2015-2016 and for 2016-2017, together with bank balances etc. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the Precept should be set at £27000.

7956. Governing Body of Mary Immaculate School. Cllr Harvey said that she was interested in applying for this post. Clerk to inform PCC.

CORRESPONDENCE

7957. Planning:

- **15/0277/PA** – outline planning for three dwellings, Brickhurst Park. Approved. Noted.

Other Correspondence:

7958. Invitation from Hywel Dda University Health Board to **Mental Health Services meeting** in Narberth 15/1/16. Noted.

7959. Invitation from Welsh Government to Engagement Event on **Draft Local Government Bill**, 2/2/16, Liberty Stadium, Swansea. Cllr Rowlands will try to attend.

7960. Report from PCC regarding **results of engagement events**. Noted.

7961. Invitation from PCC to **“Age Friendly Communities”** event, 26/1/16, Queen’s Hall, Narberth. Noted and posters displayed.

FINANCE

7962. Accounts for payment. It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Pratt that the following amounts should be paid:

- £213.57 to the Clerk, January 2016 salary.
- £53.40 to HMRC, PAYE, January 2016.
- £60.00 to Mr Banfield, bus shelter cleaning.
- £276.00 to Audrey James, Christmas trees.
- £79.00 to Cllr Young, reimbursement for head-teacher's retirement gift.

Note: reimbursement for the cost of flowers is due to Cllr Wilkinson, invoice to be supplied.

The following items were admitted at the Chairman's discretion:

7963. The Clerk said that he had displayed posters advertising the vacancy for his post and it was agreed that he would also ask PCC to advertise it.

7964. Cllr Wilkins highlighted the problems in the morning rush hour whereby traffic is queued back to the top of Pope Hill. The programming of the **traffic lights at Merlins Bridge** appears to be the cause of the problem.

7965. Cllr Rowlands said that he had asked local printers to prepare a new format for the **village newsletter** and provided a draft copy. It was agreed that the cost of printing would be borne by JCC.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2016