

M02/16

The following are the **Minutes** of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on **8 February 2016** in Johnston Institute.

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

**Apologies for absence:** Cllrs T Young and R Pratt.

**7966. Minutes of the January 2016 meeting.** It was proposed by Cllr Rowlands and seconded by Cllr Morgan that these should be accepted as a true record and this was agreed.

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

**7967. Paul Davies AM.** The Clerk said that he had not yet received responses to the points raised during the Assembly Member's visit in December.

**7968. Langford Road development.** It was reported that residents from Langford Road had met recently and set up a group to oppose the plans. Cllr Rowlands had attended and had made it clear that he was unable to take sides in the matter but did explain the planning process to the residents. He had also offered to arrange a meeting for the residents with the Chief Planning Officer at Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) but this had not been taken-up as yet. He said that Mr & Mrs Brown, two of the residents, had done a great deal of work in researching the matter and putting together arguments against the development. The original plans had been amended and it was not clear when any application for the land would be considered by PCC. Members were surprised that the Chairman of the Community Council had not been invited to the residents' meeting.

**7969. Church Road car-park.** The Clerk read out the copy of the letter sent to the Land Registry by PCC objecting to the claim for registration by Mr Bishop as some highway land was involved. Also, Mr Roy Bourne had provided a copy of a 1937 Ordnance Survey map showing the car-park area as being part of the highway. The Chairman confirmed that the Council's solicitors were aware of

the position and would be submitting their evidence and objections to the Land Registry in the near future. It was mentioned that a new vicar had been appointed in Johnston and it was agreed with the Parochial Church Council that a letter would be sent to the Land Registry confirming that the car-park area had always been used by those attending church services.

**7970. Narrow pavements near Johnston Farm.** The Clerk said that he had not heard any more from the Welsh Government and it was believed that no approach had been made to the owner of Johnston Farm as yet. It was agreed that the Clerk should write once again to the Welsh Government to query this.

**7971. Skateboard Park.** Cllr Rowlands said that discussions were ongoing regarding the cost of the repairs to the skate-park noise barrier.

**7972. Bus shelter.** Although it had been agreed that this would not be pursued in this financial year, the Clerk was instructed to contact PCC to see if the proposed site was feasible now that work on the Railway Inn had been completed.

**7973. Cash-point at Nisa shop.** The Clerk said that he had heard nothing further from the Welsh Government and it was agreed that the position should be queried again.

**7974. New school.** The Chairman and Cllr Rowlands had attended a ceremony recently when a time-capsule had been buried at the site. It was reported that work was on refurbishing the old Roll of Honour Board was continuing.

**7975. Playground Inspections.** Cllr Rowlands will continue discussions on this point with PCC.

**7976. Road and Pavement problems.** The work is ongoing but Members were pleased with the improvement made to the path between Langford Road and St Peter's Road. Cllr Warlow reported damaged pavements outside 20 The Close and it was thought there were other areas needing attention in the village including Glebelands. Cllr Rowlands said that he would ask for an officer from PCC to walk around the village with him to note problems. Cllr Warlow also reported that cars were often parked on the pavements and corners in The Close and asked if some of the grass verge areas could be converted to parking spaces. Cllr Rowlands said that he would enquire. Cllr Wilkins asked if

the part of Brickhurst Park between the gates of the old naval stores could be resurfaced but it was thought that this road had not been adopted by PCC.

**7977. Flower borders.** The Clerk had not heard anything further from PCC but it was noted that the Mormon church had prepared the border on the A477 ready for replanting.

**7978. Sunshine Club.** Cllr Rowlands and the Chairman to follow-up.

**7979. Remembrance Day.** Cllr Rowlands agreed to pursue the question of closing the road in future years and the Chairman will try to obtain a bar to hold wreaths.

**7980. Parking bays at Glebelands - repainting.** Cllr Rowlands to follow-up.

**7981. Sign for Hall Court.** Cllr Rowlands to follow-up.

**7982. Japanese knotweed.** Cllr Harvey said that it was the landowner's responsibility to deal with this and it could be very costly. The Clerk was instructed to write to the current owners of the old Arnolds' Yard to ask them to take action.

**7983. Rats, Church Road.** It was understood that PCC was attending to the problem although Mr Polak may have already dealt with it. (See Minute Number 7948, January 2016).

**7984. Draft Charter between Community Councils and PCC,** The Clerk was instructed to contact the Pembrokeshire Association of Local Councils (PALC) to establish the current position. Cllr Rowlands will try to arrange a joint meeting with a PCC officer and Johnston and Tiers Cross Councils to discuss the proposed Charter.

**7985. Defibrillators.** The Clerk said that the British Heart Foundation had said that no further funding would be available in this financial year but that he would be contacted when further help became available. Although not recorded in the Minutes, several members recalled Mr Polak offering to fund a machine for the village. It was agreed that the Clerk should establish the cost of a machine and also that he should contact the Nisa shop to see if they could agree to having a defibrillator mounted on the wall of the shop as this would be an ideal central location in the village.

**7986. Tree-planting, Bulford Road.** It was reported that this was continuing.

**7987. Vacant Council seat.** The Clerk said that PCC had confirmed that no election had been requested and that therefore, a new member could be co-opted. The required notices had been displayed with a closing date of 19 February 2016. So far, only one application had been received.

**7988. Dog-mess and rubbish, Glebelands.** It was reported that the contractors/designers of the new Shared-Use Path had agreed to provide two rubbish bins for the Glebelands field. However, the Chairman suggested that a biodegradable bin for dog waste would be useful. Cllr Rowlands agreed to check on this.

**7989. Precept for 2016-2017.** The Clerk confirmed that this had been agreed with PCC at £27,000.

**7990. Governing Body of Mary Immaculate School.** Cllr Harvey said she was awaiting a decision on her application for the post of Governor.

**7991. Appointment of replacement Clerk.** It was confirmed that advertising in the village and on the website had not produced any results. However, since the vacancy had been published by PCC, an application had been received and the email from the applicant was read out. Members were very impressed with the qualifications and experience of the candidate and it was agreed that the Chairman, Vice-Chair, County Councillor and current Clerk should meet with the applicant to discuss the matter. It was agreed that the Clerk should suggest 7pm on Monday 22 February in the Institute for this meeting. This would also allow time for any other applications to be received.

**7992. Traffic lights at Merlins Bridge roundabout.** It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Trunk Road Agency to highlight the problems at busy times and also to suggest that part of the pavement between the bus-stop and the roundabout should be slightly narrowed as this would allow for the two lanes leading to the roundabout to be used.

**7993. Village Newsletter.** Cllr Morgan congratulated Cllr Rowlands on the new-style publication and this was echoed by Members who reported favourable comments from many residents.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**7994. Planning.** For the first time within memory, there were no planning applications to be discussed.

**7995. GoSafe News Bulletin.** Cllr Morgan reported that a new scheme had been set-up which involved five local residents being trained by the Police in the use of hand-held speed cameras. This was the first such scheme in the county and the Langford Road had been chosen for the trial. However, because of the building of the new school, this was not yet in operation. Cllr Morgan said that personally, he was more concerned with speeding on the A4076 through the village.

**7996. email newsletter from Paul Davies AM.** Noted.

**7997. email from PCC – “Improvement Objectives 2016-2017”.** It was recorded that Cllr Rowlands and the Chairman had provided PCC with their comments at recent meetings with Council officers.

**7998. email from resident to PCC regarding removal of street light, 30/32 Church Road.** It was explained that the light had been on a telegraph pole which had been moved to allow for the new footpath. It was reported that this was to be replaced in due course. It was also mentioned that it appears that no lighting is to be provided along the new path into the proposed housing estate.

**7999. Publication from PCC – “What has Convergence Funding done for Pembrokeshire?”** This concerned European funding for schemes, businesses etc. including the new Bulford Road. Passed to the Chairman to review.

**8000. email invitation to “Planning Aid Wales” training event, November 2016.** After discussion it was thought that this was from a private company rather than a government-backed organisation.

**8001. Proposal for a joint meeting between Johnston and Tiers Cross Community Councils and the management of Bolton Hill quarry.** Cllr Rowlands said that he was happy to arrange this but would like to know what issues should be on the agenda for such a meeting. The Clerk was instructed to contact the Chairman of Tiers Cross CC to query this point.

## **FINANCE**

**8002. Accounts for payment.** It was proposed by Cllr Jeffries and seconded by Cllr F James that the following amounts should be paid:

- £213.57 to the Clerk, February 2016 salary.
- £53.40 to HMRC, PAYE, February 2016.
- £60.00 to Mr Banfield, bus shelter cleaning.
- £235.00 to Design & Print, village newsletters.
- £10.00 to Cllr Wilkinson, reimbursement for flowers, head-teacher's retirement.
- £552.00 to Norrard Electrics, Christmas lighting.

***Note: The Clerk reported that Barclays Bank now insisted on one of the signatories handling the transfer of funds from the "Drawing" account to the "Current" account. Cllr Rowlands said that he would take the transfer form to the bank.***

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

**8003.** Cllr Warlow said that she wanted to record her objection to the steep rise in charges for **garden waste bins** provided by PCC.

**8004.** Cllr Warlow said that it was essential that **lighting was provided on the new footpath to the new school.**

**8005.** Cllr F James reported that rubbish from The Meadows had been blowing out of containers and into Hall Court. It was agreed that the Clerk would telephone the Home about this.

**8006.** Cllr Wilkins said that the **wind turbines at Lawrence Landfill** had now been constructed but she felt that these were bigger than planned. The Clerk agreed to pass the original plans to her to review and would also write to the Planning Department at PCC to ask for confirmation that the turbines complied with the planning consent for the scheme.

**8007.** Cllr Morgan said that the **Haverfordwest to Tenby bus service (349)** had now been supplemented by an additional half-hourly service to Monkton.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

**NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016**