

BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Jubilee Hall, Houghton on Wednesday 25th May, 2016

Present: Cllrs Derek Jones, Alun Williams, Paddy McNamara (Chairman), Nia Phillips (vice-Chair), John Mathias, Laurence Price, Michael Pettit, Iain Wood; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies: C'llrs Terry Morgan, Roger Scrimshaw, Rob Summons

Presentation from B.H.F. on defibrillator provision

Members welcomed to the meeting Mr. Alan Carrington, of the B.H.F. He discussed the benefits of having defibrillators sited around local communities. He said that the cost of units ranged between £900 and £1100, plus the cost of a suitable cabinet. As far as B.H.F. was concerned, he said that they asked for up to £400 towards the cost of supplying a defibrillator, but would not accept applications fully funded by the applicants. He said that the charity would normally only fund one per community. The application process was online.

C'llr Paddy McNamara asked if a donation from the B.H.F. would compromise funding opportunities from other organisations. Mr. Carrington thought not. He also mentioned that somewhere in the vicinity of the Jolly Sailor might be a good site for a first unit.

C'llr Paddy McNamara asked about use of the unit. It was mentioned that ideally they should be reachable within 2-3 minutes to be effective. Vandalism was not a major concern, as very little damage had been reported in other areas. The use of the units was claimed to be 'idiot-proof'. Training was available from the B.H.F. in their correct use. Lifespan of the defibrillator batteries was said to be between 7 and 10 years, and maintenance work would be required if the defibrillators were used, in particular replacement pads. It was mentioned that ideally someone from the local community should be appointed to monitor this aspect. Mr. Carrington also mentioned that the defibrillators should be registered with the Welsh Ambulance Service, in order that they could be incorporated into their database for use in emergencies.

Following the discussion, Members thanked Mr. Carrington for attending, after which he left the meeting.

Discussion of possible defibrillator provision within Community

Members agreed that £400 should be committed in principle to support an application to the B.H.F. (proposer C'llr Laurence Price, seconder C'llr Derek Jones).

After discussion about various possible locations, it was agreed that the B.H.F. application would be for a unit situated on the public conveniences opposite the Jolly Sailor. In addition, it was agreed to site four further units, one on each of the shelters at Burton, Houghton, Bowlings Corner and Sardis, these to be funded as necessary by the Community Council, supplemented by any private donations that might be offered (proposer C'llr Derek Jones, seconder C'llr Iain Wood). Clerk to process the applications to B.H.F. and Cariad.

C'llr Alun Williams to speak to Gareth Hughes regarding the decision to site a defibrillator on the bus shelter instead of the garage. The outcome of this discussion to be conveyed to the Clerk, with Clerk to write to Gareth Hughes afterwards on behalf of the Community Council.

Members discussed issues of public awareness for the defibrillators. Leaflet drops and Facebook postings were both mentioned as possible means of publicising their presence. Matter to be placed on agenda for discussion in June.

[NOTE: Following discussion of this item, C'llr John Mathias offered apologies and left the meeting due to unavoidable prior commitments].

Minutes of April monthly meeting

Matters arising. The word ‘ass’ on line 9 was altered to ‘as’. With this correction the minutes were agreed, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C’llr Derek Jones, seconder C’llr Nia Phillips).

Matters Arising

Rose Cottage. Members were informed that the enforcement investigation was still under way.

Surface water, Ashdale Lane. C’llr Alun Williams had met an officer from P.C.C., to look at road drainage on the narrow part of Ashdale Lane. It had been evident that many aspects of the system were inadequate. P.C.C. had undertaken to review the whole system along this stretch of road. One possible proposal mentioned had been to lower the bank fronting Elidyr Park., and relocate the drains to the verge area. However, no specific commitment had been given regarding exactly what would be done, or to what timetable, due to budget considerations.

Bus shelter. Members were informed that the project was now complete. C’llr Derek Jones spoke in complimentary terms about the new shelter, regarding its appearance and contribution to the overall ambience of the locality. He also mentioned the ongoing issue with needed maintenance of the pond in Church Road. Members were agreed that this could be a public hazard, and should be addressed as soon as possible. Members agreed that C’llr Paddy McNamara should arrange for the previously-agreed work to be done forthwith.

Swings. Members were informed that the new swings were now in situ.

Planning

Applications

16/0142/PA (change of use from pub / restaurant to domestic storage, The Stable Bar, Burton) – no comments.

16/0124/AD (Erection of illuminated fascia sign, pylon sign, dealers clip, brand clip, welcome arch and brand banner together with non-illuminated entrance sign, demonstrators sign, flags, parking sign and MOT sign) – no comments.

16/0098/PA (Porch and conservatory, 15a, Ashdale Lane) – no comments.

Consents issued (for information only)

16/0024/PA (Extension to domestic curtilage & provision of stable block, together with ancillary works, Land north of Robin Hill, 15, Ashdale Lane, Llangwm, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 4NU). C’llr Alun Williams expressed surprise that no comment had been made regarding the fact that part of the development was outside the settlement limits. Members considered whether or not representations should be made to P.C.C. about this. However, it was felt that there was probably no point in pursuing the matter now that permission had been granted.

16/0106/CL (Certificate of Lawful use of land as domestic curtilage, Ty'r Afon, 14, Barnlake Point, Burton Ferry, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, SA73 1PF).

15/1001/PA (Garage extension, Rose Cottage, Burton).

Correspondence

- 1) Darren Thomas (by email) – Reply to letter about surface water problems, Ashdale Lane – discussed in Matters Arising.
- 2) Zurich Municipal – Insurance renewal offer – Members agreed to take up the five year long term agreement. Payment agreed in ‘Accounts’.
- 3) Llangwm Community Council – Response to enquiry about possible joint Community newsletter – noted, & matter to be placed on June agenda for further discussion.
- 4) PCC – Consultation, planning obligations & regionally important geodiversity sites – noted.
- 5) U.T.K. Solicitors – Confirmation of completion of lease for playing field – noted, and Members were pleased that a rebate had been received on the £200 lease charge made.

- 6) Mr. Scott Sinclair – Application to join community council – Members agreed to invite Mr. Sinclair to join the Community Council (proposer C’lr Laurence Price, seconder C’lr Nia Phillips). Clerk to contact Mr. Sinclair accordingly.

Accounts

Internal audit.

Members were informed that the internal audit had been completed satisfactorily.

Annual Governance Statement

Members approved the Annual Governance Statement on the 2015/16 audit return form, and this was duly signed by the Chairman.

Receipts

VAT return	:	£ 385-60
PCC (precept)	:	£2166-00
UTK Solicitors (return of part of lease payment)	:	£ 118-91

Payments

Denise Mayr (internal audit)	:	£ 50-00
Zurich Municipal (Insurance renewal for five year period)	:	£ 382-27
C’lr Paddy McNamara (for work carried out on pedestrian shelter by Mr. M. Rabjohns)	:	£ 175-00
St. David’s D.B.F. (Lease of playing field 09/2016 – 09/2017)	:	£ 200-00

The above items were approved (Proposer C’lr Nia Phillips, seconder C’lr Alun Williams).

Discussion of advertising banner outside Scout Hall

Members were reminded that it would not constitute a change of use of the hall in planning terms if it was rented out occasionally for non-scout group activities. In similar vein, the small banner on the perimeter wall was not thought to require permission. C’lr Iain Wood applauded the work done by the group, and felt it inappropriate to criticise them for a small banner. It was noted that C’lr Nia Phillips was due to attend the Cub Group 100th anniversary event in the hall on Friday evening. Members felt that it was important to offer whatever help and support possible to the group, including offering them use of the playing field.

Any Other Business

Grass-cutting, verges in Houghton. Members noted that while some verge areas had been cut, others had yet to be completed.

Dog litter bins. C’lr Nia Phillips had been asked by local residents about the possibility of having more bins provided, and also about the possibility of erecting goalposts in the playing field. Matters to be placed on agenda for June.

Playing field. Members were informed that there is water and electricity in the pavilion building, and also cricket nets on the field. It was not known who had keys to the building. It was noted by Members that responsibility for the maintenance of the building and land now rested with the Community Council. C’lr Nia Phillips undertook to try and track down a set of keys for the building. Matter to be placed on agenda for discussion in June, to include a discussion about possible provision of matting for parking purposes.

Speed-activated signage poles. C’lr Paddy McNamara mentioned that the signs and poles, complete with electricity supplies, were still in situ. Matter of possible provision of replacement signs to be placed on June agenda for discussion.

Discussion of role of community council. This to be placed on agenda for June.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

The meeting ended at 8-45pm. Next meeting, Wednesday 29th June, 2016, 7pm.