

BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Jubilee Hall, Houghton on Wednesday 29 June, 2016

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

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

Minutes of 2016 A.G.M.

The minutes were agreed, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C'llr Alun Williams, seconder C'llr Derek Jones).

Minutes of May monthly meeting

The minutes were agreed, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C'llr Derek Jones, seconder C'llr Alun Williams).

Matters Arising

Scout Group. C'llr Alun Williams had visited, and mentioned the possibility of allowing them use of the playing field. They had been very appreciative, and interested in the possibility of using once in a while.

Planning

Applications

16/0251/PA (Extension and access widening, Upper Milton, Burton SA73 1LG) – no comments.

16/0109/PA (Extension, 3, Penry Point, Hill Mountain SA73 1NB) – no comments.

Consents (for information)

NP/16/0207/FL (Extension, Brackenfield, Burton SA73 1PD)

16/0098/PA (Porch, 15a, Ashdale Lane)

Correspondence

- 1) Paul Davies, A.M. – Notification of forthcoming advice surgeries – Clerk to place notices in noticeboards.
- 2) Ombudsman – 2015/16 annual report – noted.
- 3) U.T.K. Solicitors – Request for agreement to wayleave request from Western Power for overhead line replacement on playing field – agreed, and Clerk to process paperwork.
- 4) S. Morris – Traffic safety problems, Ashdale Lane end of New Wells Road – C'llr Derek Jones mentioned that he had also noticed parking problems there, and that the situation had worsened since the implementation of the double yellow lines at the opposite end of the road. Clerk to send letter to P.C.C. drawing attention to this, and to attach a copy of the letter from S. Morris. In connection with this the Clerk also mentioned the response received from P.C.N.P.A. regarding the investigation into the care home at 19, New Wells Road. Members considered where there might be suitable parking available so as to reduce the problem. The Mission Hall car park was mentioned, but it was pointed out that this is in the control of the Church. C'llr Iain Wood mentioned that as the vehicles are not causing an actual obstruction, there is probably little that can be done. C'llr Alun Williams suggested leaving it for consideration next month, to see what happens during the road closure in the road. In the meantime, Clerk to write to the Church to ask their view on a possible permission to allow use of the Mission Hall car park. Clerk also to reply to S. Morris to inform her of

the steps being taken. In addition, Clerk to write to the care home, to acquaint them with the problem and inform them of the actions being taken.

Accounts

Payments

Clerk (expenses January – June 2016)	:	£ 64-58
Inland Revenue (PAYE tax April – June 2016)	:	£ 119-87
Karl Sutton	:	£1467-60
P. McNamara (reimbursement for payments made for shelter work):	:	£ 100-00

Income

Donations had been received totalling £920 towards defibrillators, from the following donors : Richard Askwith, Tim Baines, David and Julie Dixon, John and Sheila Hayman, Martin Jones, John and Gill Mathias, George and Gill Morgan, Graham and Jane Morris, Lynda and Gerald Russant, Bob Scott. A further £80 had been pledged.

Thanks were given to C’lr John Mathias for his efforts in obtaining the donations received so far.

Approved signatories

Members agreed that the Clerk, as well as C’lrs Paddy McNamara and Alun Williams, should be the signatories on the account. Clerk to process necessary paperwork.

Audit

The Clerk mentioned that all the information required for the audit had now been collated, and was ready to be sent off. He mentioned that the auditors were asking questions about frequency of budget reviews during the year, which has never been a formal process hitherto. It was thought likely that this might figure in the final audit report.

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

Discussion of possible defibrillator provision in Community

Mention was made of the four bus shelters as preferred locations for the defibrillators, along with the toilet block in Burton Ferry for a fifth unit. C’lr Alun Williams had been to visit Gareth Hughes, who was willing to fund one unit, and happy for this to be placed on the Sardis bus shelter. Regarding electricity supply, it was mentioned that the bus shelter in Sardis has provision for electricity, but this is currently disconnected. The question was discussed as to whether or not a power source would actually be needed. Silica gel was mentioned as a possible suitable alternative. It was also mentioned that the proprietor of the Jolly Sailor had expressed a willingness to give a donation towards a unit for the toilet block in Burton Ferry. Other possible sources of donation funding were briefly discussed. C’lr Alun Williams suggested contacting the Welsh Ambulance Service to discuss the possible locations with them. However, the Clerk pointed out that Cariad would undertake to do this as part of their all-inclusive package. It was agreed that C’lr Alun Williams would collate all the relevant information, and formulate a recommendation to put to the July meeting (proposer C’lr Nia Phillips, seconder C’lr John Mathias). In the meantime efforts to obtain funding would continue. C’lr Alun Williams also mentioned that some members of the scout group may be interested in attending any training sessions that are organised.

Discussion of works needed on playing field

C’lrs Nia Phillips and Paddy McNamara to inspect the pavilion building to assess it, and report back to the July meeting, to inform a decision on whether or not to keep it or have it removed. Members expressed appreciation to C’lr Paddy McNamara for cutting the grass in the field, and he said that he would be happy to continue to do this. .

C’lr Laurence Price had investigated the costs of goalposts, which had come in at around £1000 for combined football / rugby goalposts. However, C’lr Paddy McNamara had sourced

some moveable ones for around £70 each. It was felt that these might be preferable, as they would facilitate easier grass-cutting. It was agreed that C’lr Nia Phillips would investigate the options in detail, and bring a recommendation to the July meeting (proposer C’lr Paddy McNamara, seconder C’lr Alun Williams).

C’lr Paddy McNamara suggested placing a sign on the playing field gate to say ‘Community Playing Field’, or similar. He offered to obtain a price for the sign. It was also mentioned that there might be some opportunities for fundraising by renting out the field for events.

Car park matting – C’lr Alun Williams had investigated this. Suitable heavy duty matting was approximately £420 + VAT per 20m x 2m roll. Additionally the cost of pins would need to be factored in at approximately £131 + VAT per roll. It was thought likely that about four rolls would be needed. C’lrs Alun Williams and Paddy McNamara to measure up and report back to next meeting with costed plan.

Discussion of possible speed-activated signage provision

Members agreed to leave this matter in abeyance for the time being.

Discussion of dog-litter bin provision in Community

C’lr Paddy McNamara mentioned that the last time this subject had been discussed, it had been suggested that the Community Council would need to pay to empty any new bins put in. However, C’lr John Mathias mentioned that the one by the church is regularly emptied by P.C.C. Members pointed out that some other local ones are also emptied. Clerk to write to P.C.C. to ask if arrangements could be made for any additional bins placed in the Houghton playing field to be emptied in the normal run, and to stress the health and safety aspects of the matter due to the many children using the field.

Discussion of methods of communication between Community Council and local community

C’lr Paddy McNamara commented that the web page was very worthwhile, and a good means of communicating information to local residents. C’lr Alun Williams mentioned that he had put a page on Facebook called Burton Community. The Clerk mentioned that a link could be put to this from the Community Council web page. The Clerk also informed Members that Rosemarket Community Council had expressed interest in a collaborative newsletter project. However, Members were not in favour of having a printed newsletter, and not generally in favour of any joint enterprise with R.C.C. Clerk to thank R.C.C. for their interest in the idea, but convey the decision of Members to them.

Discussion of problem with fence fronting Stable Bar

C’lr Michael Pettit had raised the issue of a high fence placed around the highway perimeter of the property. Members were concerned over loss of visibility, and possible consequent safety issues for traffic. The Clerk confirmed that this matter had been reported to P.C.C., it had been ascertained that the fence requires permission, and the matter was in the process of being dealt with. Clerk to write to P.C.C. expressing concerns over safety aspects of fence. C’lr Iain Wood mentioned that a section of roadside verge might have been appropriated by the Stable Bar, and now lie behind the fence erected. Clerk to include query over this aspect in the letter sent in.

Discussion of length / height of grass on verges between Sardis and Hill Mountain

This had been raised by C’lr Alun Williams. However, the grass verges had now been cut. Comments had been made to C’lr Iain Wood by some residents about the lack of strimming around signage, etc. Clerk to contact P.C.C. to ask for this to be addressed.

Any Other Business

Members code of conduct. Members were asked about their preferences for days / dates for the training session to be held. It was generally felt that a weekday evening in early September would be preferable, apart from Mondays. Clerk to liaise with the Monitoring Officer, Rosemarket Community Council and Johnston Community Council.

Maintenance of pond. C'lr Paddy McNamara undertook to arrange for the clearance work needed at the pond, in conjunction with C'lr Nia Phillips and any other Members willing to assist. C'lr John Mathias reiterated his previous offer to remove the cleared vegetation. offered to take materials away.

Houghton Green. Members were informed that a local resident had drawn attention to the fact that some posts around the area were rotting away. He had also expressed a dislike of the stone information board surround. Members expressed support for the presence of the stone information board surround. Matter to be placed on the agenda for discussion in July.

Broadband. The wildly variable rates obtainable throughout community were mentioned. C'lr Derek Jones mentioned that the box at Bowlings Corner is at full capacity. C'lr Alun Williams to obtain information via his web page to report to next month's meeting.

Rose Cottage. Nothing further heard regarding the investigation into the unauthorised residential use of the garage outbuilding.

Posts on Sardis Green. Members noted that a number of notices advertising various events had recently been pinned to the posts.

School transport routes. Matter to be placed on agenda for July. Clerk to obtain details of the routes prior to the meeting.

Cubs' party. C'lr Nia Phillips had attended. There had been a good atmosphere, and Members were agreed that it would be good to help the group in any way possible.

Common land beyond playing field. Members were informed of proposals to carry out work on the common land for the installation of electricity poles and overhead equipment. Matter to be placed on agenda for next month. Clerk to investigate rights of the Community Council to control this.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

The meeting ended at 9-10pm. Next meeting, Wednesday 27th July, 2016, 7pm.