

M11/16

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 14th November 2016 in Johnston Institute.

Present: Cllrs N. James, Jeffries, (vice-Chair), Grey, F. James, Harvey, Pratt, Young, Rowlands, Spilsbury, Wilkins; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies : C'llrs Warlow, Morgan

8493 - Minutes of the October 2016 monthly meeting

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (Proposer C'llr Grey, seconder C'llr Fran James).

8494 – Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Tuesday October 18th 2016

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (Proposer C'llr Fran James, seconder C'llr Spilsbury).

8495 – Resolution to exclude public for discussion of agenda item concerning car park opposite the Johnston Institute

Members voted unanimously to hold this item (tabled for discussion at the end of the meeting) in camera for necessary discussion of legal matters (proposer C'llr Grey, seconder C'llr Rowlands).

8496 - Johnston in Bloom.

The following awards were made :

Large garden award : Shield and certificate to Mr. & Mrs. D. Banner, 38, Langford Road.

Small garden award : Certificate to Mr. & Mrs. C. & G. Vaughan, 5, Moors Road.

Commercial : Shield and certificate to The Silverdale Inn.

Clerk to let C'llr Wilkins know the names of the runners-up in the large and small garden categories, for completion of their certificates.

Matters arising

8497 - Bolton Hill Quarry visit.

Members agreed that the visit should be deferred until the Spring, to be held on a Saturday morning. A member of the public requested permission to speak, which was granted by the Chairman. He expressed concern over the lack of 'greening' on the earth bunds, which are clearly visible from the Milford Road. Members undertook to raise this issue with the quarry during the site visit. Matter deferred until Spring 2017.

8498 - Proposed solar farm adjacent to Pope Hill.

Nothing further to report. It was thought by C'llr Neil James that there might be some movement on planning. However, it was confirmed that no planning consultations had been received.

8499– Church Road Car Park.

Matter discussed in agenda item.

8500 – Narrow footpath by Johnston Farm.

Recent correspondence from Ken Skates and Paul Davies A.M. was read to Members. Mr. Skates had undertaken to provide a further update by the end of the year. Cllr Grey felt that there was obstruction happening at the Welsh Government. Members agreed that accomplishing improvements would be difficult, but were necessary. C'llr Rowlands thought it possible that discussions may have been taking place with landowners on the opposite side of the road.

8501 – Skateboard Park.

Still awaiting completion of work.

8502 – Bus shelter, Glebelands.

Still awaiting progress, but outlook not positive. Matter to be left on agenda for future meetings.

8503 – Cashpoint outside Nisa Shop.

C'llr Rowlands had written to the Trunk Road Agency about the problem. No further progress to date.

8504 – New school, Langford Road.

C'llr Rowlands had visited the school, and been very impressed. He felt that a visit by Members might be beneficial if there was interest. Members were favourable to the idea. C'llr Rowlands to arrange this.

8505 – Road and pavement problems.

Members were informed that there was still a problem with cars parking on the corner of Langford Road and the main road. C'llr Rowlands reminded members of the planned double yellow lines at the corner of Langford Road and the main road, which should alleviate this problem. C'llr Rowlands had been lobbying for the 20mph zone in Langford Road to be extended further back along Langford Road, and this was currently under consideration.

Members discussed the bigger picture regarding problems at the junction of Langford Road and the main road, which it was felt needed

improvement. It was mentioned that the Trunk Road Agency would not attend a Community Council meeting. C'llr Rowlands to continue to press regarding this matter as and when possible.

C'llr Rowlands mentioned problems with the pavements in The Close, regarding lack of disabled crossing points and uneven pavements. He was due to have a meeting regarding this with officers of P.C.C. Any interested Members were invited to attend this meeting.

8506 – Remembrance Day commemorative event.

C'llr Grey moved a vote of thanks to all involved in the event, which had been very dignified and appropriate to the significance of the occasion.

C'llr Rowlands agreed, but felt that closer communication with church and chapel authorities was needed. People had been kept waiting for around ½ hour or more, due to the church service over-running. He felt that better liaison would be beneficial. C'llr Jeffries suggested setting up a sub-committee to co-ordinate future arrangements.

Members agreed to send a £50 donation to Milford Junior Town Band as a gesture of thanks for their involvement in the arrangements. Mention was made that there should have been a Welsh National anthem included in the ceremony. The agenda used had been that recommended by the Royal British legion. However, it was recognised that there was scope for latitude, and this could be considered next year.

8507 – Parking bays, Glebelands.

C'llr Rowlands had spoken about this to Darren Thomas in P.C.C., and would do so again. The possibility of a service level agreement between the community council and P.C.C. was suggested as a possible way forward. Matter left for C'llr Rowlands to pursue with P.C.C.

8508 – Hall Court sign / pavement.

C'llr Rowlands had been pursuing this. He felt it likely that the Community Council may need to contribute something towards the cost in order to achieve progress. C'llr Rowlands to continue to pursue.

8509 – Japanese knotweed problem at Arnold's Yard site.

C'llr Rowlands felt that any solution involving the proposed Trusts due to be set up would be a long time in the future. The Clerk was asked to write to Darren Thomas of P.C.C. expressing concern over the matter (proposer C'llr Rowlands, seconder C'llr Jeffries).

8510 – Defibrillator provision.

Members discussed possible locations for units. C'llr Fran James to contact the proprietors of the NISA shop to enquire about placing a unit

on their wall, facing the car park. C'llr Pratt to speak to the owners of The Vine regarding possible siting of a unit there.

8511 – Streetlight, Church Road.

Members were informed that the light was in place but not yet functional.

8512 - Cycle track.

C'llr Grey felt that if funding could be obtained via Sustrans or the National Lottery, then a cycle path along the route of the old railway could be possible with determined effort. It was pointed out that much of the land is now in private ownership. It was left for C'llr Rowlands to make enquiries with relevant bodies to see if anything might be possible.

8513 - Risk Assessment.

Still in hand. Members were informed that the work would need to be done before the end of March.

8514 - Church Roll of Honour.

Members were informed that the Roll of Honour had been located, and was now in C'llr Jeffries' possession. It was in need of repair. Members agreed in principle for the repairs to be carried out. C'llr Neil James to obtain prices for the work. Once ready, it was agreed that it should be mounted in the Village Institute. Members wished their thanks to the Church for its donation of the Roll of Honour to be noted in the minutes.

8515 – Car park opposite Johnston Institute.

Members were informed that the Land Tribunal hearing was still pending. Details of matter to be discussed under agenda item below. Mr. Phil Hart (member of the public) attempted to address the meeting, but was reminded that public participation in the meeting is not permitted. The Chairman commented that the sole agenda of the Community Council in the matter is to ensure that the use of the car park by members of the public is protected.

8516 - Rubbish problems.

There were still some outstanding areas of concern. C'llr Rowlands was in discussion with P.C.C. regarding these.

8517 - Disabled access between Woodlands Park and Church Road.

It was felt that part-funding by the Community Council might be needed to get progress on this. C'llr Rowlands to ask for the work to be priced up by P.C.C.

8518 - Map of Community

Still in hand with C’Ilr Neil James.

8519 - Roll of honour plaque board.

Members were informed that an event was planned for early in the New Year to unveil the plaque board, which covers the years 1901 – 1944.

8520 - Discussion of flower bed planting for 2017 season

Members agreed that planting of beds along the main road should be prioritised. It was decided to request one bed outside the Baptist Chapel, three beds outside Orchard Court, and one opposite The Vine. The beds in other locations, including those in Cadogan Close, to be left unplanted. C’Ilr Rowlands to convey this to P.C.C., with a request that the planting should utilise proper bedding plants and not wild flowers. Clerk to contact the Mormon Church to thank them sincerely for the work done on planting the bed outside the church, request that this be kept in its current shape, and planted up with proper bedding plants if possible. C’Ilr Rowlands informed Members that he had asked for the contractor to replace the daffodils lost from the verge during the road re-development.

8521 - Green area by junction of The Close and Langford Road.

The concrete blocks were still there. C’Ilr Rowlands to chase up again.

8522 - Bulford Road signage.

C’Ilr Rowlands had mentioned this again, and would continue to monitor.

8523 - Newsletter.

Members thanked C’Ilr Rowlands for the excellent newsletter produced. Some complaints had been received from residents of Langford Road who said they had not received a copy. However, C’Ilr Rowlands assured Members that he had personally delivered the newsletter to properties along Langford Road.

8524 – One way system at entrance to petrol station forecourt area.

C’Ilr Rowlands had raised this issue. Realistically it was never likely to happen. Matter to be left in abeyance.

8525 - Planning

There were no plans for discussion this month.

Correspondence

8526 - Paul Davies, A.M. – response to letter re. pavement, Johnston Farm – discussed in 8500 above.

8527 - Western Power – Forms for unmetered Christmas lighting supply – passed by C’Ilr Rowlands to electrician for completion as necessary.

8528 - P.C.C. – Survey on bus service provision - noted.

8529 - PAVS – Invitation to forthcoming funding fairs – noted.

8530 - Ken Skates – pavement issues - discussed in 8500 above.

8531 - P.C.C. – Request for planting requirements for 2017 season – discussed in 8520 above.

8532 - Welsh Government – Reply to letter regarding pavement outside Johnston Farm – discussed in 8500 above.

8533 - Zurich Municipal – insurance policy – Clerk to contact Zurich regarding changes, including addition of the noise barrier, possible removal of play equipment (depending on outcome of discussions with P.C.C.), and removal of old memorial as an asset. Description of bus shelter to be altered from ‘The Close’ to ‘St. Peter’s Road’. Clerk to enquire about potential savings by entering a long term agreement.

Accounts

8534 - Payments

D. Banfield (Bus shelter cleaning)	:	£60-00
P.C.C. (advert for Model Code of Conduct)	:	£30-00
C’Ilr Wilkins (for Johnston in Bloom)	:	£107-18
R.B.L. Poppy appeal	:	£ 25
Milford Junior Town Band	:	£ 50
C.M. James (newsletter printing)	:	£235
Johnston Football Club	:	£530

The above items were approved by Members (Proposer C’Ilr Fran James, seconder C’Ilr Jeffries).

8535 - Discussion of guidance on seeking dispensations

The Clerk outlined to Members the types of situation in which dispensations could be sought / granted. Clerk to send out copies of the relevant forms and guidance notes to all members.

Other business

8536 - Remembrance Service. Members asked C’Ilr Rowlands to thank the Community Police Officer and all involved in the arrangements.

8537 - Christmas trees. Members were informed that the lighting arrangements were in hand. Because the standard of the trees last year had been disappointing, C’Ilr Rowlands had been asking for 20’ trees from the supplier for this year, but was uncertain whether or not this would be forthcoming. He had also been in discussion with a local resident (Mr. Andrew Lye) who had a tree that may well be suitable. C’Ilr

Rowlands to pursue the matter with the current supplier if possible, but otherwise with an alternative supplier. Clerk to enquire from Merlin's Bridge Community Council where they had obtained their tree last year, as it had been quite a good specimen.

8538 - Contribution to Football Club. A letter had been received from the Football Club seeking contribution towards the £530 cost of fencing installed to combat problems with badgers digging up the pitch. It was agreed to pay the entire £530, as the Football Club were short of funds, and it was a Community facility. Formal approval covered in 8534 above.

8539 – 52, The Close. Concerns were raised about a large extension built to the rear of the property. The Clerk undertook to pass this on to planning enforcement with a request that it be investigated.

8540 - Rats in The Close. Members were informed that there was an ongoing problem, despite recent attendance and action by Welsh Water. C'llr Rowlands undertook to pass on to P.C.C.

8541 - Kerb at Merlin's Bridge. C'llr Wilkins mentioned the problem with the protruding kerb near the bus shelter in Merlin's Bridge. C'llr Rowlands to pass this on again to the Trunk Road Agency, but with little expectation that it would result in any action.

[NOTE : at this point members of the public were asked to leave the meeting, which continued 'in camera']

8542 - Discussion of situation regarding parking area opposite the Village Institute

Members were updated on recent discussions between the Community Council and P.C.C. Members agreed that a letter should be sent to P.C.C. formally requesting that the land be designated as Highway. Members noted the importance of having two Members to attend meetings with the solicitor where possible.

The meeting closed at 9-40pm.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....