

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 9th July 2018 in Johnston Institute.

**Present: Cllrs Jeffries, N. James, Pratt, Young, Philpott, Jones, Rowlands, Wilkins, Spilsbury (Chair), Warlow, F. James; Peter Horton (Clerk).
Apologies : C’Ilr Morgan**

9353 – Declarations of known Interests

None.

Before continuing with the agenda, the Chairman read the following statement to all present :

‘In the May 2017 monthly meeting, the Community Council resolved to hold future discussions concerning the land opposite the Johnston Institute without members of the public present. This was because of the confidential legal nature of these discussions. Representations have been made recently by some members of the public suggesting that this is no longer necessary, and that these discussions should now be held in public. However, legal matters concerning this land dispute remain ongoing, and hence there is a continuing need for the community council to hold these discussions without the public present. The matter will be kept under review by the community council, and as soon as it is deemed to be in the public interest to do so, the discussions will be held in open forum.’

9354 – Public Forum (ten minutes maximum)

There were no questions / comments from members of the public.

9355 – Approval of the minutes of the July 2018 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C’Ilr Rowlands, seconder C’Ilr Spilsbury).

Matters arising

9356 – Greening of quarry bunds.

C’Ilr Rowlands had obtained a statement from the Planning Department with updated information concerning the Quarry’s efforts to green up the bunded areas at the quarry extension. The statement indicated that the Planning Department was content that reasonable efforts had been undertaken to carry out the requirements of the consent condition, but that the matter would be kept under review.

9357 – Parking, traffic and lighting issues, Church Road.

C’Ilr Rowlands had spoken to P.C.C. officers regarding street-lighting. The lights currently go off at around 1am. Officers had undertaken to look at the matter, to see if anything could be done to improve the situation.

C’Ilr Spilsbury had spoken to traffic enforcement officers regarding the traffic-related issues. They had said that as the access from The Windsor Hotel was not an access onto a main road, double yellow lines would not be an option. They mentioned that the owners could put up their own signs at the entrance of their property if they wished to do so.

9358 – Disabled access / painting of yellow strips on steps of Institute.

Members were informed that the Village Institute Committee had been informed of the comments made, and actions to address the matters raised were in hand.

9359 – problem with inadequate lighting on the public footpath under the railway Bridge.

C’Ilr Rowlands had discussed this matter with the Head of Highways. A further meeting was scheduled to look at this and other highway-related issues on the following Thursday evening.

9360 – Highway safety issues in Langford Road. The recent letter from Paul Davies, A.M., was read to Members. The letter referred to comments by the Welsh Government Minister for Transportation, in which he suggested that expenditure to improve the infrastructure at the junction of Langford Road and the main road could be funded in part by developers carrying out work along Langford Road. C’Ilr Rowlands confirmed that he had discussed the concerns with the Head of Highways. The possibility of imposing a 20mph speed limit, and re-calibrating the speed-activated signage in Langford Road accordingly, had been raised for discussion. It was anticipated that this would be further discussed at future meetings.

9361 – Bus shelter / seat outside NISA Shop

C’Ilr Rowlands confirmed that he had discussed this matter further with officers from the P.C.C. Highways Department. They had said that they would be prepared to put up a cantilevered bus shelter on the side of the NISA shop. The NISA shop owners had been approached about this possibility, but had not yet responded. Members felt that a bus shelter at the front would be preferable, for pedestrian safety reasons. C’Ilr Rowlands expressed the view that P.C.C. officers are the ones that are supposed to be the experts on this area. However, he undertook to raise this concern with P.C.C. C’Ilr Warlow raised the possibility of a canopy / cantilevered shelter being placed on the frontage of The Railway Inn, alongside the existing porchway. C’Ilr Rowlands undertook to raise this suggestion for consideration by P.C.C. officers.

9362- Close Field Skatepark

C’Ilr Rowlands mentioned that investigations into the matter of possible CCTV installation was still ongoing. It was thought that the necessary play equipment repairs had been completed.

9363 – Road and pavement problems in Community.

C’Ilrs Rowlands and Jeffries had attended a meeting in County Hall regarding these matters. A site meeting was scheduled for the following Friday evening to look at them in more detail.

9364 – Publicity for recently-acquired defibrillator provision

Still in hand with C’Ilr Pratt. Matter to be placed on agenda for discussion in September, with a view to the possible purchase of the third defibrillator, and co-ordination of the publicity and training arrangements for that with the units already acquired.

9365 – Boundary fence line with Dawnus development

It was noted that the fence line had been repaired by Dawnus. C'Ilr Rowlands was in the process of setting up a meeting with officers from the Planning Department to discuss how similar problems on other sites could be avoided by the careful wording of future planning consents.

9366 – Excessive weed growth around Village.

C'Ilr Rowlands mentioned that this was scheduled for discussion at the forthcoming meeting with P.C.C.

C'Ilrs Philpott and Warlow both mentioned that this was a particularly bad problem on parts of the cycle path. C'Ilr Warlow mentioned a recent incident in which someone had been walking from Orchard Court up to the school, and due to the narrowed pathway had almost been hit. She also mentioned a loose board on the cycle path that was a danger to cycle path users.

C'Ilr Rowlands mentioned that this issue had been reported to Sustrans previously, via P.C.C. He mentioned the importance of identifying specific areas where problems exist. He also explained that any individuals with concerns could contact the P.C.C. Highways Department directly, with specific locations. However C'Ilr Jones mentioned that she had done that before, but with no results to date.

9367 - Discussion of possible formal signage provision for businesses around railway bridge

C'Ilr Rowlands informed Members that arrangements were in hand between business owners and P.C.C. to design and produce suitable signage.

9368 - Discussion of responsibility for boundary fencing at Hayston View development

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands - ref. item 9365 above.

9369 - Discussion of overhanging tree, Church Road

C'Ilr Rowlands informed Members that the matter was still in hand with the P.C.C. Landscapes Officer.

9370 - Bolton Hill Quarry fence

The costing had been circulated round and agreed in principle, and this had been conveyed by C'Ilr Rowlands to officers at the quarry. However no indication had been received that the work had been commenced. Members were anxious to see progress quickly in view of the upcoming summer holidays. C'Ilr Rowlands undertook to chase the matter up.

9371 - Discussion of ways to promote community spirit via community events

Ongoing with C'Ilrs Jones and Philpott, who hoped to be able to arrange some events once the schools had broken up.

9372 - Walkway under railway bridge on cycle path

C'Ilr Rowlands mentioned that officers in P.C.C. had been informed of the problem, and acknowledged that it was serious. However, nothing had been done yet. C'Ilr Nina Philpott to reinforce the matter by sending an email to P.C.C. regarding the matter. Email to be copied to the Clerk for information / future reference.

9373 – Fence, Cunnigar Lane

C’Ilr Rowlands mentioned that this was due to be discussed in the forthcoming site meeting on Thursday.

9374 – Pavement parking, The Close

In hand with C’Ilr Rowlands to discuss with P.C.C. at forthcoming site meeting

9375 - Discussion of status of land behind Mike Howlin Motors

C’Ilr Rowlands informed Members that this matter was in hand with the solicitors.

9376 - Discussion of possible improvements to Village war memorials in readiness for the forthcoming commemorations of the W.W.1 100th anniversary

Matter still in hand with C’Ilr N. James. It was planned to discuss the matter with the vicar, so as to obtain a consensus on exactly what should be done.

C’Ilr Spilsbury mentioned that he had seen a nice memorial seat in Milford, and that a similar one could possibly be suitable for the Village. He undertook to find out more details of this prior to the next meeting. C’Ilr Philpott mentioned that she could get details from Milford Haven Town Council if needed.

Planning

9377 - Consents issued

18/0022/DC (Discharge of condition 3 (Construction Method Statement) of planning permission 17/0968/PA (demolition of school and erection of new bat house) - Johnston CP School, Cranham Park, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PU.

C’Ilr Philpott mentioned that there had been a fire in the old school building a couple of weeks previously. As a result security arrangements had been stepped up at the site. It was understood that demolition work had now commenced. The bat house had been erected, and work commenced, though not yet on demolition of the main building.

Correspondence

9378 - One Voice Wales – details of micro grants for Remembrance Day commemorative events – noted.

9379 - One Voice Wales – Proforma for use in publicising payments and allowances to Members – The Clerk informed Members that the publication of payments to Members for 2017/18 had been completed and sent in to the Remuneration Panel.

9380 - Milford Haven Port Authority – Stakeholder survey – noted.

9381 - Paul Davies, A.M. – June e-newsletter – noted.

9382 - P.C.C. – Invitation to ‘Options for Levels of Growth and Spatial Strategy’ workshop connected with emerging LDP2, to be held on the 19th July 2018 at 10am at County Hall – noted.

9383 - Community Health Council – Report on A&E experience – noted.

9384 - O.V.W. – e-news bulletin – noted.

9385 - O.V.W. – Notification of forthcoming One Voice Wales Conference and A.G.M. Saturday 29th September 2018, Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells – noted.

9386 - Welsh Government – Reply to letter about drop off behind St. Peter’s Road bus shelter – It was noted that the letter rejected responsibility for the safety hazard

existing. Matter discussed in agenda item 9394 below on risk assessment actions required.

9387 - O.V.W. – Notification of Annual meeting of Pembs. Area Committee, to be held on Tuesday 10th July, 7pm, County Hall – passed to C’lr Rowlands for attendance.

9388 - Clerks and Councils Direct – Newsletter – noted.

9389 - John Davis – Letter of comment following June monthly meeting – noted.

9390 - Paul Davies, A.M. – Message re. traffic in Langford Road – dealt with in item 9360 above,.

9391 - Woodland Trust – Info. Regarding Tree of the Year competition, and grants available for tree enhancement works – noted.

Accounts

9392 - Payments

There were no payments for approval this month.

9393 - Budget review

The following budget review was provided by the Clerk to Members :

Balance brought forward to April 2018	:	£45,474-80
Income April – June 2018	:	£11,000-00
Outgoings April – June 2018	:	£ 4,560-54
Balance carried forward to July 2018	:	£51,914-26
Further income anticipated up to March 31st 2019	:	£22,670-71
Further projected expenditure up to March 31st 2019	:	£30,635
Projected available balance at end of March 2019	:	£43,949-97 (including £10,000 ring-fenced solar farm community benefit payment).

It was noted that much of the projected expenditure was based on provisional sums. The Clerk was able to report to Members that the Community Council accounts were in good health.

9394 - Discussion of Risk assessment actions required

Bus shelter, St. Peter’s Road. It was agreed that C’lr Rowlands should approach P.C.C. to discuss getting suitable barrier fencing put in place.

9395 - Discussion of new data protection legislation

The Clerk informed Members that privacy notices had been prepared and sent out / publicised.

Any other business

9396 - Cycle path safety issues. C’lrs Philpott and Wilkins requested that this be tabled as an agenda item for discussion in September.

9397 - Overhanging tree on Langford Road. C’lr Jones mentioned an issue with large vehicles hitting branches on an overhanging tree in Langford Road, with consequent danger to other road users. C’lr Rowlands undertook to raise this in his forthcoming site meeting with P.C.C. officers on Thursday evening.

9398 – Portable toilet outside 25 The Close. C’lr Jones mentioned this as a safety issue, with problems for adjacent residents getting out of their driveways safely. C’lr Rowlands undertook to raise the matter in the scheduled site meeting with P.C.C.

Highway officers. In addition, C'llr Spilsbury undertook to raise the matter with Welsh Water, who were thought to be responsible for having placed it there.

9399 - Bushes growing in lane at The Close. C'llr Warlow raised this matter as an ongoing and worsening state of affairs. Members were informed that the matter was already in hand with C'llr Rowlands to discuss with P.C.C. officers.

[NOTE – at this point, members of the public were asked to leave the meeting, to facilitate confidential discussion of the remaining agenda item].

9400 - Discussion of situation regarding land opposite Johnston Institute

Members were informed that the Land Tribunal judgment had been issued in favour of Johnston Community Council, confirming that the land does not belong to Johnston Hall, and cancelling the owner's land registry application. However, it was also noted that an appeal had been lodged by the owner against the judgment. Members agreed for C'llr Rowlands to consult with the solicitors about the best next steps to be taken, and report back to the September meeting for approval on any actions recommended.

The meeting ended at 8-30pm.

Next scheduled meeting to be held on Monday 10th September 2018

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....