

**Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 online, using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.**

**Present: Cllrs Wilkins, Young, Neil James, Fran. James, Jeffries, Philpott; Peter Horton (Clerk);  
Apologies : C’Ilr Liz Warlow, Morgan, Rowlands, Pratt, Spilsbury.**

**0576 – Declarations of known Interests**

None.

**0577 – To receive the minutes from the December 2020 monthly meeting**

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record, and retained for signature by the Chairman following the meeting (proposer C’Ilr Young, seconder C’Ilr Jeffries).

**Matters arising**

**0578 – Bus shelter / seat outside NISA Shop**

Nothing further to report, with P.C.C. understood to be organising completion of the work by the end of the financial year.

**0579- Close Field Skatepark**

The Clerk had received a certain amount of preliminary pricing information from Neil McCarthy, but this was incomplete, and thought to be out of date. Clerk to liaise with Neil McCarthy to see what can be done regarding progressing a scheme.

**0580 - Discussion of purchase of WW1 commemorative memorial seat**

Matter still in hand with C’Ilr Spilsbury, who was awaiting drawings from the fabricators.

**0581 - Discussion of action to discourage badger activity on sports field**

C’Ilr Neil James had visited the site recently, and not seen any evidence of problems caused by badgers. Matter to be left in abeyance.

**0582 - Discussion of Highway safety issues, Langford Road**

Still in hand with C’Ilr Rowlands to liaise with P.C.C. Members felt it would be better to leave the matter in abeyance until after the new housing development had been completed on the old school site.

**0583 - Discussion of possible request for yellow lines in Hall Court**

Clerk to raise with P.C.C. as an issue. C’Ilr Fran. James mentioned that she had some photographs illustrating the problem on her phone. She was asked to forward these to C’Ilr Philpott, for forwarding to Clerk to accompany message to P.C.C.

**0584 - Discussion of problems with lighting on footbridge, Langford Road**

The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted P.C.C. to ask for the bulb renewal to be prioritised on safety grounds. Nothing further had been done, however. Matter to be monitored and re-visited in February meeting.

**0585 - Discussion of possible one-way system, Glebelands**

It was felt that a better response would be received from local residents to a door to door survey as opposed to a letter drop. Matter to be placed on hold until after the lockdown was over.

**0586 - Discussion of requirement to report on progress towards producing a plan to encourage biodiversity**

Nothing further to report at present.

**0587 - Discussion of Vine Field play equipment, etc.**

The Clerk had been informed that P.C.C. had commenced inspections of the Vine Field playground.

The £2500 grant money had been received towards the formation of a community garden in Vine Field. C'llr Philpott mentioned that P.S. Terri Harrison asked to attend a meeting to discuss arrangements to progress the project. Clerk to invite her to attend the February meeting, along with the officer from Pobwl.

Discussion on new play equipment provision for Vine Field to be discussed in a future meeting, possibly in conjunction with the formation of the garden.

**0588 - Discussion of Community Land Trusts**

Matter still on hold with C'llr Rowlands for possible discussion with the Biodiversity Implementation Officer during the planned site meeting yet to be arranged.

**0589 - Discussion of link footpath between Hayston View and Church Road.**

Members were informed that the path was now open, and the matter seemingly resolved.

**0590 - Discussion of problems with illegal parking outside chip shop**

Clerk to ask Streetcare if they could carry out some evening enforcement, from around 5 – 6pm onwards, as this was the time when most problems were observed.

**0591 - Discussion of hedges / fenceline behind Moors Road**

C'llr Philpott undertook to have a look and see if the fence had been repaired. If so, Clerk to be notified, so that P.C.C. could be asked to collect their temporary fencing panel.

**0592 – Cycle path adjacent to Glebelands Field.**

C'llr Philpott mentioned that there had been another tree down along the path recently. Members were encouraged to send photos to Clerk of any problems noticed, for these to be forwarded on to P.C.C.

**0593 – Hedge / footpath along Church Road.**

C'llr Neil James had sent photos to the Clerk on the weekend, illustrating the ongoing problem with encroaching growth on the footpath. These had been forwarded to P.C.C., who had acknowledged receipt.

**0594 – Flowers displays.**

Members were informed that the displays were now complete. C'llr Fran. James was thanked by all present for the work carried out.

**0595 – Village Institute.**

C’Ilr Neil James informed Members that the Institute would now remain closed until at least mid-February, due to the lockdown in force.

**0596 - Discussion of situation at Silverdale, including possible changes of use.**

Matter of unauthorised uses / structures was understood to be still in hand with Planning Enforcement. Clerk to seek an update on the current situation.

The Clerk informed Members that he had not received or been copied in on any further complaint emails regarding activities at The Silverdale since the December meeting. Members similarly had not received any complaints. However, C’Ilr Wilkins noted that she had heard quite a lot of noise coming from the site during the holidays, and wondered whether people were just getting used to it or had given up on making complaints.

**0597 - Signage at the end of Brickhurst Park.**

C’Ilr Philpott was awaiting a response from P.C.C. Streetcare regarding the matter.

**0598 - Cars being parked near access to cycle path.**

The Clerk confirmed that the matter had been reported to P.C.C., but nothing had been heard back to date. Clerk to chase up.

**0599 - Review of contracts for mole control and bus shelter cleaning**

The Clerk confirmed that insurance details had been received from Pestforce and also from David Banfield, and were in order.

Clerk to ask Pestforce to notify the community council of all future visits made to the sites, for the ongoing situation regarding the contract to be monitored.

Clerk to email Glenn Murray and ask him to request that Pestforce visit the Glebelands Field, as C’Ilr Neil James had noticed evidence of substantial mole activity there during recent weeks.

The previous contractor who had carried out path-cutting around the Cunnigar Field pond was now unavailable to carry out the work. However, he had provided contact details for another contractor who he thought might be suitable, called Nathan Jones. Clerk to contact Mr. Jones to invite him to quote for cutting the path twice a year.

**0600 - Discussion of arrangements for insurance**

The Clerk confirmed that the arrangements had all been finalised. Clerk to contact P.C.C. to arrange for them to carry out playground inspections for the forthcoming year (proposer C’Ilr Philpott, seconder C’Ilr Neil James).

**0601 - Planning matters**

There were no planning matters for discussion this month.

## **Correspondence**

**0602** - Neil McCarthy, P.C.C. – Preliminary information on costings for CCTV system – discussed in 0579 above.

**0603** - P.C.C. – Notification of temporary road closure, Cranham Park, commencing on 11th January 2021 for 25 days – noted.

**0604** – P.C.C. – Invitation to attend an online session to discuss collaboration between P.C.C. and town and community councils, to be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January – The Clerk mentioned that he was planning to attend a part of the meeting. In addition, he understood that at least one Rosemarket C.C. councillor was planning to attend the whole meeting, and report back to her council. Clerk to report any significant information from the meeting to Members when available.

**0605** - Glenn Murray – Request for action to address broken pathway outside wooden pavilion, Glebelands Field – C’Ilr Philpott to put a notice on the Community Facebook page inviting local builders to put in a price.

## **Accounts (to include discussion of precept for 2021/22)**

### **0606 - Payments**

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning) : £ 60-00

Price and Kelway (final invoice) : £15128-00

Norrards Electrics (Christmas lighting) : £ 432-00

Wales Audit Office (external audit for 2019/20) : £ 285-25

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C’Ilr Philpott, seconder C’Ilr Jeffries).

### **0607 - Income**

Carmarthenshire County Council (grant for community garden) : £ 2500-00

### **0608 - Internal audit for 2020/21**

Clerk to ask the internal auditor for last year to carry out the internal audit of the 2020/21 accounts (proposer C’Ilr Philpott, seconder C’Ilr Jeffries).

### **0609 - Precept for 2021/22**

Members discussed the budget projections and precept notes provided by the Clerk. It was decided to add a further £8000 to this as a provisional sum for CCTV provision at the Close Field playpark. The remaining anticipated funds on hand at the end of March 2022 were held for possible unanticipated expenditure, or over-runs on approved projects.

Members resolved to maintain the precept at £35000 for the 2021/22 financial year (proposer C’Ilr Jeffries, seconder C’Ilr Wilkins).

### **0610 - Discussion of request for dog bin provision, Hillcroft**

Matter to be deferred until February, when it was hoped that C’Ilr Jones would be present. Members were uncertain, however, about whether they could or should involve themselves too much in land not in their control or ownership. C’Ilr Neil James undertook to look into biodegradable bins, which he felt might potentially be a good option for this location.

**0611 - Discussion of situation with car park opposite Village Institute (to include consideration of court order, and practical measures required in connection with cross-hatching of car park and letter drop to community).**

C’Ilr Neil James mentioned that B.D. Summons were unavailable to quote for the cross-hatching. Clerk to seek quotations for this work, including refreshing the parking bay markings.

Clerk to draft up a sample Community letter and circulate for approval / comments prior to arranging delivery via Stannp.

**0612 - Discussion of Cutting of area around Cunnigar Fields**

Discussed in 0599 above.

**0613 - Consideration of any necessary actions from asset risk assessment**

Clerk to chase up Atkins again regarding their proposed site visit. C’Ilr Philpott mentioned that the railings on the steps alongside the bus shelter had been damaged. Clerk to report this to P.C.C. with a request for action to repair the railings. C’Ilr Philpott undertook to try and get a photograph of the damage to send to the Clerk in connection with this.

**0614 - Discussion of possible development of land adjacent to Johnston School**

In hand with C’Ilr Young, who hoped to be able to pursue this within the next few weeks.

**Any other business**

**0615 – Old Post Office.** C’Ilr Jeffries enquired what was happening in the Old Post Office, as the café had closed, and work had been going on there recently. Members were unsure about this.

**0616 –** C’Ilr Philpott had received reports of broken glass in the Close Field playpark. Clerk to report to P.C.C. with a request to get this cleared up, with the cost being recharged to the Community Council if necessary.

The meeting concluded at 8-25pm.

Next scheduled meeting – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....