

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 11th March 2019 in Johnston Institute.

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

9682 – Declarations of known Interests

C'Ilr Rowlands declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the agenda item to discuss the Land opposite the Johnston Institute, due to an ongoing personal legal dispute relating to boundaries with his neighbour.

9683 – To receive the minutes from the February 2019 monthly meeting

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record, and signed by the Chair (proposer C'Ilr Rowlands, seconder C'Ilr Fran. James).

Matters Arising from the February 2019 monthly meeting

9684 – problem with inadequate lighting on the public footpath under the railway Bridge.

C'Ilr Rowlands informed Members that the adequacy or otherwise of the lighting was currently under investigation by P.C.C.

9685 – Highway safety issues in Langford Road.

C'Ilr Rowlands had been in further discussion with P.C.C. regarding the possible reduction of speed limit along Langford Road to 20mph. The P.C.C. officers had explained that if the speed limit were to be reduced, this would need to be accompanied by appropriate traffic calming measures, and there was currently no funding available for this. They had also said that the existing Speed Activated Sign would be unfit for purpose if the speed limit was to be reduced, and would need replacing. They would not fund this replacement, but would be supportive of a replacement funded by J.C.C. C'Ilr N. James asked about the likely cost of traffic calming measures / signage replacement. It was left with C'Ilr Rowlands to make enquiries about this.

C'Ilr Rowlands had also been in discussion with P.C.C. about the problems around the junction between Langford Road and the Main Road. P.C.C. had indicated that responsibility for this lay with the Trunk Road Agency (T.R.A.), and they understood that no plans were currently under consideration with the T.R.A. for work at this junction. C'Ilr Rowlands expressed his intention to take up this matter with the T.R.A. directly. C'Ilr N. James queried whether the T.R.A. had sole responsibility for the junction, as Langford Road was a County road. However, it was understood that primary responsibility did lie with the T.R.A., as it involved a junction with the trunk road.

Members resolved for the Clerk to write to the T.R.A. to raise the issue of problems at the Langford Road / Main Road junction (proposer C'Ilr N. James, seconder C'Ilr Jeffries).

Further to the above, C'Ilr Rowlands suggested that a further meeting should be arranged with P.C.C. to discuss these issues, with him and another J.C.C. member in attendance. No firm decision was reached on this suggestion.

9686 – Bus shelter / seat outside NISA Shop

C'Ilr Rowlands had been in further discussion with P.C.C. officers regarding this matter. There had apparently been some confusion within P.C.C. over who was dealing with the matter, and this had now been resolved. The matter was currently being looked at by the Transport Manager in P.C.C.

9687- Close Field Skatepark

C'Ilr Rowlands explained that he was currently exploring possible funding options, and was in discussion with P.C.C. officers with a view to identifying and itemising costings for suitable schemes. This information was needed before any grant applications could be submitted.

9688 – Boundary fenceline with Dawnus development

Nothing further to report. C'Ilr Rowlands had been in contact with the Planning Department, but to no effect. Members were concerned at the progressive deterioration of the fenceline. C'Ilr Rowlands mentioned that he intended to seek a further meeting with officers in the Planning Department to try and find a way to avoid these kinds of problems in the future.

The Clerk advised that it was in reality probably more of a legal issue than a planning one. Planning conditions imposed on any planning consent would always be enforceable on the landowner. This being the case, the important matter to clarify was ownership of the land on which the fence was erected. Members were unsure about this, as it was understood that the fence had been placed on the boundary. Furthermore, ownership of the development site properties would have been transferred from the developers to the owners on completion and occupation of the houses.

9689 - Discussion of possible formal signage provision for businesses around railway bridge

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands to meet with the new occupiers to discuss possible options. It was noted that some new signage had been put up by individual occupiers recently.

9690 - Discussion of overhanging tree, Church Road

C'Ilr Rowlands reported that the matter was currently with Streetcare in P.C.C., where a formal inspection was being arranged by one of their inspectors.

9691 - Bolton Hill Quarry fence

C'Ilr Rowlands explained that the previously-suggested dates had now all passed. Left with C'Ilr Rowlands to arrange a mutually convenient date / time for interested Members to meet on site with the Quarry Manager. This would almost certainly be on a convenient Friday pm.

9692 – Fence, Cunnigar Lane

C'Ilr Rowlands reiterated comments made previously, that any fence would need to be financed by J.C.C., and could potentially be quite expensive. It was left with C'Ilr Rowlands to seek an indicative price from P.C.C. for a suitable fence to meet the necessary specifications.

9693 - Brambles on footpath to school.

The Clerk confirmed that he had reported the problem again. C'llr Rowlands had also been in contact with P.C.C. regarding the matter. He had been assured that the P.C.C. Maintenance Manager would be arranging necessary cutting back of the growth alongside the path.

9694 - Narrow footpath outside Johnston Farm.

Nothing new to report. Matter understood to be progressing in Welsh Government.

9695 – New business in Old Post Office, Main Road

The planning application to regularise the change of use of the premises to a coffee shop was still be under consideration in P.C.C. C'llr Rowlands had been assured by officers in P.C.C. Planning Department that the application would be expedited. Members were very positive in their comments about the new business.

9696 – Cycle path

C'llr Rowlands had obtained confirmation that the raised wooden section of path was on land owned by Network Rail, but that Sustrans was responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the path structure. They had been reminded of the need for work to be carried out, and had indicated that they anticipated making a start on this on Monday 11th March.

C'llr Nina Philpott confirmed that the section of the path concerned was currently closed for a week. It was thought possible that this indicated that the work was in hand.

9697 – Pothole, entrance of Hall Court.

C'llr F. James confirmed that the pothole was still there, and had grown in size. C'llr Rowlands undertook to chase this up further.

9698 – Bus shelter, Milford Road, west side.

Members noted that the repairs had now been completed.

9699 - Discussion of purchase of WW1 commemorative memorial seat

C'llr F. James confirmed that nothing further had been heard from P.G.S. Fabrications. It was left with her to chase this up as needed. Clerk to enquire about whether or not the Chairman's allowance could be used towards funding of the commemorative bench.

Planning

9700 - Applications

18/1171/PA (Variation of condition 7 of planning permission 11/0069/PA - (Erection of a New Chapel & Meeting Rooms, Associated Car Parking & Landscaping) to allow for retention of existing access - Land Opposite, 42, Milford Road, Johnston, Haverfordwest, SA62 3HL – No objections.

9701 - Decisions

18/0991/CL - Use of land for log storage and timber processing and associated access track - The Beeches, Brickhurst Park, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PA. It was confirmed that this consent was not related to the stack / kiln, but solely for use of the land for wood-processing.

Correspondence

9702 - St. Peter's Church – Request for contribution towards grass-cutting – Members were very supportive of the work being done. A grant of £300 was approved by Members (proposer C'llr N. James, seconder C'llr F. James).

9703 - Kiln Road Residents' Association – Concerns over traffic speed along main road – Clerk to raise this as a concern in the letter to the T.R.A. agreed under item 9685 above.

9704 - Asbri Planning Ltd. – Pre-application consultation on proposals for 33 affordable housing units, old school site, Cranham Park – Clerk to respond to raise concerns over anticipated highway / traffic / access issues, especially in conjunction with the current increase in traffic along Langford Road already being experienced due to the new school.

9705 - Zurich – Playground Inspection reports for Close Field and Vine Field play areas – It was agreed that C'llr Rowlands should seek a quotation from P.C.C. for repair of the high and medium risk items, and ask for these to be addressed. The Clerk requested that he be copied in on any written communications, for the file record.

9706 - Greg Bishop – Request for information on legal fees associated with land opposite Johnston Institute – in hand with Clerk.

9707 - Jill Evans, M.E.P. – Letter seeking support from communities for opposition to nuclear dumping in rural communities – Clerk to respond with an objection to nuclear dumping, in support of the stance set out in Ms. Evans' letter.

9708 – P.C.C. – Playground inspection report, Close Field – ditto as for 9705 above.

9709 - Calor – Community grant funding offer – Clerk to check eligibility criteria, and liaise with C'llr Rowlands over a possible application if the community was eligible to apply.

Accounts

9710 - Payments

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning)	:	£ 60-00
Rachel Johnson (stand-in Clerk work, attending meeting and preparing minutes for February meeting)	:	£ 45-00
Clerk salary January – March 2019	:	£1209-28
H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax)	:	£ 157-14
Wales Audit Office (audit fee for 2017/18 audit)	:	£ 204-25
West Wales Pest Control (mole clearance work)	:	£ 456-00
Clerk (reimbursement for scanner and safe purchase)	:	£ 352-99
One Voice Wales (Membership 2019/20)	:	£ 290-00
I.C.O. membership	:	£ 40-00
St Peter's Church	:	£ 300-00

9711 - Income

Rosemarket Community Council (1/3 cost of scanner /safe ex. VAT):	£ 98-05
Burton Community Council (1/3 cost of scanner / safe ex. VAT)	£ 98-05

The above items were approved by Members (proposer C'llr Spilsbury, seconder C'llr Philpott).

9712 - Discussion of Risk assessment actions (including discussion of any remedial works needed to St. Peter's Road bus shelter)

C'llr Pratt mentioned that he thought an email had been sent to the Clerk with indications of pricing. The Clerk apologised if this had been received and overlooked, but was unable to locate it during the meeting.

C'llr Rowlands was concerned to ensure that any proposed works should include addressing the issue with the drop-off to the rear of the bus shelter. It was left for C'llr Rowlands to seek advice from P.C.C. on the best way to address this.

9713 - Discussion of need to renew risk assessment by March 31st 2019

It was left with C'llrs N. James, Spilsbury, Philpott, and any other available Members to complete the new risk assessment prior to the April meeting.

9714 - Discussion of part-purchase of pdf editing software subscription

This was agreed by Members at a cost of £12/year, this being a 1/3 share of the total cost (proposer C'llr Jeffries, seconder C'llr Philpott).

9715 - Discussion of date for Chairman's Dinner

Members were inclined to arrange this for sometime after Easter, possible in the Indian Restaurant. Menus would be obtained for consideration in April.

9716 - Discussion of possible community Christmas lighting arrangements

It had been confirmed that there were 20 lamp-posts on one side of the main road, and 29 on the other. Various possibilities were discussed including lighting just around junctions, on alternate lamp-posts, etc.

C'llr Rowlands offered to get in touch with the festive lighting company he had come into contact with via O.V.W., to seek an indicative quotation. However, he cautioned about committing large sums of money on such a scheme in times of austerity. It was left with C'llr Rowlands to make contact with the company concerned.

C'llr Pratt offered to speak with an electrician he knew, who had carried out the lighting arrangements in Haverfordwest some years ago. It was left with C'llr Pratt to do this, to try and obtain an indication of correct procedures and likely costings. Matter to be placed on April agenda for further discussion.

9717 - Discussion of siting for defibrillator recently purchased

C'llr Pratt confirmed that there had been no substantive contact from Glenn Murray regarding siting of the defibrillator recently purchased.

Members were agreed that the unit would need to need to be accessible to the public at all times, which would rule out placing it inside the pavilion building.

Various options on possible locations were discussed, with an agreement reached that it should be placed somewhere on the outside of the new pavilion.

It was left for the placing of the cabinet / defibrillator to be arranged on the forthcoming weekend by C'llr Pratt. The exact location on the building to be decided by C'llr Pratt after discussion with Glenn Murray. This could possibly be either on the gable end of the new pavilion or on the front of the building. Clerk to drop off the defibrillator at C'llr Pratt's home.

Members also approved the purchase of a further defibrillator / cabinet, this to be placed on the Village Institute building (proposer C'llr Philpott, seconder C'llr Jeffries). Clerk to contact Cariad to arrange this. It was felt by Members that there was no need to arrange a further presentation on this occasion.

9718 - Discussion of Rainbow Reef Daycare request for access gate

Clerk to respond to say that the Community Council would be happy for a gate to be put in. However, funding and arranging this would be the responsibility of the landlord, and not something that could be arranged or funded by the Community Council. Message to remind them that the Community Council would not be able to accept any responsibility accepted for any damage / break-ins that might arise as a result of the new access being formed. Regarding the grant request, Members concluded that grant funding from Community Council funds for a commercial business would not be appropriate use of public funds.

9719 - Discussion of lighting of recreational areas / playparks, etc.

C’Ilr Rowlands was currently looking into this in conjunction with Neil McCarthy of P.C.C. He hoped to have more information to put to Members at the April meeting.

9720 - Discussion of possible collective signage for businesses around The Vine / Brickhurst Park

C’Ilr Jeffries commented that a collaborative signage scheme could be good. However, it was acknowledged that there could be difficulties in negotiating the need for planning permission, obtaining consent from landowners, occupiers, etc. C’Ilr N. James felt that this would need to be a matter for the individual business to pursue for themselves. It was agreed by Members that, while the Community Council would be supportive of any initiative put forward, it could not commit to funding or driving forward any schemes.

Matter to be dropped from agenda, with individual members pursuing as opportunity presented.

Any other business

9721 – C’Ilr N. James thanked Members for their support during the recent tragedy that had occurred in his family. Members expressed their support.

9722 – C’Ilr Jeffries mentioned that some historical documents she had come across indicated that The Close used to be called ‘Langford Close’. She wondered about why this had been changed. C’Ilr Rowlands undertook to make some enquiries on this. Matter to be put on April agenda to discuss possible re-naming of The Close.

9723 - Discussion of situation regarding land opposite Johnston Institute

[NOTE – this item was held in private session, due to the need to discuss legal advice relating to the land in question. Members of the public were asked to leave the room during discussion of the agenda item].

Following an exchange of information, C’Ilr Rowlands left the room during discussion of the legal options, due to the conflict of interest declared at the start of the meeting. Following the discussion, C’Ilr Rowlands returned to the meeting for the concluding comments regarding the agenda item.

The meeting ended at 9-20pm.

Next scheduled meeting to be held on Monday 8th April, 2019.

Signed.....Chairman

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