

M 06/17 - Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 10th July 2017 in Johnston Institute.

Present: Cllrs Jeffries, (Chair), Spilsbury (vice-Chair), F. James, Pratt, Rowlands, Morgan, Philpott, Warlow; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies : C'llrs. N. James, Young, Wilkins

8843 – Declarations of known Interests

None

8844 – Public Forum (ten minutes maximum)

Mr. Phil. Hart was present, and addressed the meeting with concerns over issues at the quarry. He mentioned the lack of 'greening up' of the bunded areas. He mentioned that this was meant to have been done some years ago, and was a requirement on the planning consent for the development. C'lr Rowlands responded to say that the matter had previously been raised with the quarry. The quarry officials had said the area had been seeded. He suggested that possibly the seed may not have taken very well. Mr. Hart felt that Planning Enforcement should be asked to look into the matter. Members agreed to organise a special meeting as soon as possible to discuss this and other quarry-related issues, such as the fencing works needed (proposer C'lr Morgan, seconder C'lr Rowlands). Clerk to contact the quarry to ask for a representative to be made available to attend this meeting, and make the necessary arrangements.

Mrs. Cath. Spurling was present, and mentioned the agenda item regarding signage around the railway bridge. It was mentioned that this was a tabled agenda item for the meeting. Mrs. Spurling was asked if she had any particular comments or concerns over this issue, but she declined to make any further comment on the matter.

8845 – Approval of minutes of June 2017 monthly meeting

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C'lr Rowlands, seconder C'lr Pratt).

Matters arising

8846 - Solar farm adjacent to Pope Hill.

Members were informed that the £10,000 community benefit payment had now been received.

8847 – Narrow footpath by Johnston Farm.

C'lr Morgan expressed disappointment at the continuing lack of progress. Villagers are now using this section of footpath more than ever

as part of a circular walk around that part of the Village. C'llr Rowlands informed Members that he had been in touch with the A.M., from whom a progress report was awaited.

8848 – Nisa Shop.

C'llr Rowlands informed Members that he was awaiting a further response from Darren Thomas in P.C.C. regarding what further works could be undertaken, especially regarding the request for white-lining of the car park entrance.

8849 – Skatepark acoustic barrier.

C'llr Rowlands informed Members that there had been more incidents of vandalism at the playpark. Vandals had virtually cut through the safety restraints on the child swings, and the rubber matting had also been vandalised. As similar things had happened several times, at considerable cost, it was felt that efforts needed to be made to try and address the matter. Arrangements were in hand to have the most recent damage repaired / replaced as necessary. Regarding identifying those responsible, C'llr Warlow mentioned that busloads of children are coming in regularly from Neyland on Thursdays and Tuesdays to use the playpark. It was not known where the responsibility for the damage caused lay, but Members felt it likely that people from outside the Village were probably responsible. C'llr Philpott suggested asking the Community Police Forum to arrange more regular patrols of the playparks, and said she would mention this at the meeting scheduled for the coming Thursday. C'llr Pratt suggested obtaining costings for a cctv camera. Clerk to look into costings for this, and also to investigate whether or not the damage caused was covered under the insurance policy.

8850 – New school, Langford Road.

C'llr Philpott had arranged to attend a meeting for the following day to discuss various safety issues of concern with P.C.C. A number of interested groups and individuals were due to attend. C'llr Rowlands informed Members that arrangements had been made for the school to lease the remainder of the land from the current boundary into the wetlands. This would be good for the study of biodiversity. It was anticipated that there might well be visits there from other schools too.

8851 – Road and pavement problems.

C'llr Rowlands informed Members that the matter was still ongoing, with a mutually convenient time being sought for a planned site meeting with officers from P.C.C.

8852 – Discussion of defibrillator provision.

Members settled on 7pm on Thursday 17th August for the handover / training event to take place. Clerk to contact Cariad to confirm if this date / time would be convenient. Once confirmed, Clerk to inform Members, in order that the sub-committee could make the necessary arrangements. Clerk to also write to the donors, to invite them to the event. Provision of two defibrillators confirmed for the time being, with a possibility of further ones as funds became available.

8853 – School Roll of honour plaque board.

C’Ilr Rowlands informed Members that arrangements were still in hand.

8854 – Insurance matters.

Members were informed that the additional grass-cutting around the skateboard park acoustic barrier was now in hand with the Football Club. A letter had gone to Dawnus after the last meeting to ask them to confirm responsibility for the boundary fence with their development at Moors Road. No response had yet been received. C’Ilr Rowlands undertook to chase this up.

8855 – Mrs. Bassett, 20, Bulford Close.

C’Ilr Rowlands confirmed that he had visited Mrs. Bassett, and been able to explain to her that the trees had been planted correctly. Any trees that fail, or do not take properly, will be responsibility of the developer to replace as necessary. This information had put her mind at rest.

8856 - Double Yellow lines by chip shop.

Members were informed that the lining was now complete. However, it was noted that people were still parking on and around the junction. C’Ilr Philpott said that she would mention this at the forthcoming meeting of the Community Policing Forum on the following Thursday.

8857 – Highway outside Orchard Court.

C’Ilr Rowlands still in discussion with P.C.C. over this matter.

8858 - Old school buildings.

Members were informed that the land was due to be sold off, possibly to a local housing association.

8859 – Arrangements for Chairman’s dinner, and gifts for outgoing Members.

Covered in agenda items 8880 and 8881 below.

8860 – Land behind Mike Howlin Motors.

It was noted that there was still a lot of rubbish, drums, scrap cars, etc. on the land. C'Ilr Pratt offered to call round to see Mike Howlins about this, and ask for the area to be cleared up.

8861 – Village flower beds.

Members noted that the planting had all been completed, and looked very satisfactory.

8862 – Discussion of Community social media account.

The Facebook account was now up and running, and seemed to be working well. Members thanked C'Ilr Philpott for her work in arranging this.

8863 – abandoned car in car park opposite Johnston Institute.

Members were informed that the vehicle had gone.

8864 – Speed activated signage, Langford road.

Members were informed that the speed activated sign was still not working correctly. C'Ilr Rowlands had passed on a request for the sign to be re-calibrated to 20mph. This request was currently under consideration by P.C.C. C'Ilr Philpott mentioned that she would bring this up at the site meeting at the school scheduled for the following day.

8865 – Excessive weed growth around Village.

C'Ilr Rowlands informed Members that he had raised the matter of a possible service-level agreement with P.C.C. to cover weed-killing in the Village. P.C.C. had expressed a willingness to enter into such an arrangement, subject to formal representations from the Community Council. Similar arrangements had already been entered into with some other communities, especially in the coastal holiday areas. Finance for this would need to be covered from the Community Council precept. Members felt that the matter needed addressing, as the weed growth was becoming a serious problem. C'Ilr Warlow commented that it was getting to the stage where weed-killing would not be sufficient, but that manual labour would be needed to clear the growth. C'Ilr Rowlands to check on when the annual weed-killing session would be undertaken. C'Ilr Philpott to put out feelers in the community with a view to possibly arranging some kind of gardening group, or Village clear-up campaign. Clerk to investigate any possible insurance implications of such an initiative. C'Ilr Rowlands suggested inviting a P.C.C. officer to attend a

future Community Council meeting to discuss possible arrangements, though no decision was made regarding this suggestion.

8866 - By-election.

Members were informed that this was scheduled to take place on 20th July, and there were four confirmed candidates.

Planning

8867 - Applications

17/0030/PA - Approval of reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) following outline permission for affordable housing exception site, Land off Langford Road, Johnston, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PX – Members agreed that C’Ilr Rowlands should meet with the planning sub-committee to formulate a consultation response, and pass this to the Clerk for submission. It was mentioned by the Clerk that any response would need to be made very promptly, as special arrangements had been made with the planning case officer to allow a response to be made following the monthly meeting, as this fell after the official consultation response deadline.

17/0138/PA - Proposed Type C soakaway to serve proposed adjacent residential development, Land off Langford Road, Johnston, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PX – Response to be handled as for 17/0030/PA above.

17/0240/PA - Erection of Dwelling - (Outline with all matters reserved) - Land Adjacent to High Winds, Windy Hill, Johnston, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PA – No comments.

17/0277/TF - Tree felling, Site Address: 6, Tall Trees Close, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, SA62 3HQ – no comments.

Correspondence

8868 - 1st Johnston Scout Group – Annual report 2016/17 – noted.

8869 - P.C.C. – Notification of forthcoming temporary road closure, Lower Thornton, for two weeks, commencing Monday 24th July 2017 – noted.

8870 – P.A.V.S. – Invitation to ‘Building Stronger Pembrokeshire’ event, Letterston Memorial Hall, Friday 21st July 2017, 10am – C’Ilr Rowlands informed Members that he would be attending. Clerk to inform P.A.V.S. that C’Ilr Philpott would also be attending.

8871 – P.A.L.C. – Response to query re. use of community funds – noted, and discussed in 8881 below.

8872 - P.C.C. – Notification of Boundary Commission presentation regarding forthcoming boundary review, to be held in County Hall, Friday

28th July, 5pm – C’Ilr Rowlands informed Members that he would be attending the presentation.

8873 - P.C.C. – Feedback on problems with highway arrangements outside new school – matter left with C’Ilr Philpott for discussion with P.C.C. officers in the meeting scheduled for the following day.

Accounts

8874 - Payments

D. Banfield (bus shelter cleaning) : £60-00

8875 - Quarterly budget review

Members had been circulated a summary of expenditure and income for the year to date. It was confirmed that the amounts were broadly in line with precepted amounts and anticipated expenditure levels for the year.

The above items were approved by Members (proposer C’Ilr Spilsbury seconder C’Ilr Pratt).

8876 - Discussion of possible seating provision outside NISA shop

C’Ilr Spilsbury suggested that a seat might be a good idea, for people waiting for the bus, since a bus shelter had been ruled out. C’Ilr Rowlands commended that a decision was still awaited on a possible alternative bus shelter location. It was agreed that this should be chased up. C’Ilr Rowlands to do this. Matter to be placed on September agenda for further discussion. It was also agreed to include in the agenda item discussion of possible seating provision at other locations around the Village (such as the sports field), as there was a perceived lack of such provision at present.

8877 - Discussion of possible formal signage provision for businesses around railway bridge

C’Ilr Martyn Spilsbury had placed this on the agenda, to investigate the possibility of replacing the current individual signs on and around the railway bridge with a more professional-looking one. It was felt that this would be more beneficial for the business owners as well as improve the visual appearance of the area. This was even more significant now that permissions were in place for further units on the development. C’Ilr Rowlands undertook to speak to the site owner regarding the matter, and report back to Members.

8878 - Discussion of Community Risk Assessment

Deferred for further consideration in September, in order to allow input from C’Ilr Neil James.

8879 - Discussion of asset register

The Clerk informed Members that this matter was in hand with himself and C'lr Nail James. Matter to be placed on September agenda for further discussion.

8880 - Discussion of arrangements for Chairman's dinner

Members settled on Saturday September 23rd for the dinner. C'lr Jeffries undertook to look into arranging a suitable venue. This could be the Vine, or another venue if more suitable / more readily available.

8881 - Discussion of purchase of gifts for outgoing members

C'lr Morgan informed Members that he was still working on getting information from George Grey regarding what gift he would like to receive. This matter was left with C'lr Morgan to pursue. The advice from P.A.L.C. was that it was open to Members to fund any gifts from general Community Council funds if they wished to do so.

8882 - Discussion of responsibility for boundary fencing at Hayston View development

C'lr Rowlands informed Members that he had been in discussion with officers in the P.C.C. Planning Department about this. The comments made had been passed to C'lr Neil James who was happy with the outcome and explanations provided.

8883 - Discussion of situation regarding land opposite Johnston Institute

[NOTE : As per the standing resolution recorded in minute ref. 8755 in the May 2017 monthly meeting, the meeting went into camera for discussion of this item].

C'lr Rowlands informed Members that he had been in further discussion with the solicitor regarding arrangements. The solicitor was due to hold further discussions with P.C.C. regarding possible designation of the area under Sec. 31 of the Highways Act. Members were informed that 10th August 2017 had been set as the deadline for submission of the case opposing the land registration. The solicitor had requested a round table meeting prior to that date with all interested parties to co-ordinate the matter. C'lr Rowlands to confirm arrangements for this.

Any other business

8884 – Hole in ground on green fronting The Close. C'lr Philpott mentioned that a hole in this area had been opened, coned off and left. This had been reported to P.C.C. However, nothing had yet been done

about it. The hole was said to be quite deep. C'Ilr Rowlands undertook to look into the matter.

8885 – Overhanging tree, Church Road. C'Ilr Fran. James mentioned a problem with overhanging tree and growth on land above the Village Institute. The land was understood to be owned by Mr. Merrick Evans. There had been a recent incident in which a child walking down the road could not be seen by oncoming traffic, and it was felt that an accident could occur if nothing was done. C'Ilr Pratt undertook to speak to Mr. Evans about the matter. Item to be placed on agenda for September for any necessary discussion.

8886 - Johnston In Bloom. C'Ilr Jeffries mentioned the need to arrange this for 2017. C'Ilrs Fran. James, Philpott and Wilkins nominated to carry out the judging this year. Matter to be placed on September agenda for discussion of results. Clerk to forward details of last year's winners to the judging Members for information.

The meeting closed at 8-55pm.

Next scheduled meeting to be held on Monday 11th September 2017.

Signed.....Chairman

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