

**Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 in Johnston Institute.**

**Present:** Cllrs Neil James, Young, Rowlands, Jones, Morgan, Philpott; Peter Horton (Clerk);

**Apologies :** C’Ilr Jeffries, Pratt, Spilsbury, Warlow.

**9724 – 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.

**9725 – To receive the minutes from the March 2019 monthly meeting**

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

**Matters Arising from the March 2019 monthly meeting**

**9726 – problem with inadequate lighting on the public footpath under the railway Bridge.**

C’Ilr Rowlands informed Members that an investigation into this matter was still in hand with P.C.C.

**9727 – Highway safety issues in Langford Road.**

C’Ilr Rowlands had met with officers from P.C.C., especially in relation to the speed-activated signage in Langford Road. The sign had been inspected, and deemed uneconomical to repair. P.C.C. had indicated that any replacement would need to be funded by J.C.C. As any sign installed would be owned by J.C.C., future maintenance and repair costs would also need to be considered. Highway licences would need to be applied for and granted prior to installation, and P.C.C. would need to be indemnified against any possible claims. Members agreed that this matter should be fully debated, and placed on the agenda for discussion in May. In the meantime, any available information on indicative costings to be investigated. The Clerk mentioned that a letter had been received from the Welsh Government regarding the request to consider alterations at the junction between Langford Road and the Main Road. The letter said that the matter would be considered and prioritised as part of a wider study of works across their network.

**9728 – Bus shelter / seat outside NISA Shop**

C’Ilr Rowlands informed Members that P.C.C. had contacted the NISA shop owner with proposals, but had yet to receive any reply. Matter still in hand.

**9729- Close Field Skatepark**

C’Ilr Rowlands mentioned that the work required to repair recent damage at the playparks could approach £6,000. It was important that CCTV cameras were installed in conjunction with any repair works undertaken, to lessen the likelihood of similar damage occurring in the future. He mentioned that possible funding sources were being looked at, including from the Quarry, Landfill site, and lottery fund. Exact details of the necessary work were still awaited, and C’Ilr Rowlands was planning a further meeting with P.C.C. later in the week to pursue this.

**9730 – Boundary fenceline with Dawnus development**

There was no change in the current situation, except to note that Dawnus was now in Administration. Matter to be left in abeyance for the time being.

**9731 - Discussion of possible signage for businesses around railway bridge**

C'llr Rowlands confirmed that this was essentially a Planning matter, with permission being required for any new signage put up. He confirmed that there was interest in a collaborative scheme, and a formal meeting with all the interested parties would be needed to progress the matter. Matter left with C'llr Rowlands to pursue as opportunity arose.

**9732 - Discussion of overhanging tree, Church Road**

C'llr Rowlands reported that the matter was still under consideration in P.C.C. The Landscape Officer had voiced his support for retaining the tree.

**9733 - Bolton Hill Quarry fence**

It was left with C'llr Rowlands to liaise with the Quarry and Members over a site meeting to establish the exact line of the new fence. This to be on any convenient evening, at around 6-30pm or later.

**9734 – Fence, Cunnigar Lane**

C'llr Rowlands had been in further conversation with P.C.C., and indicative costings of a suitable fence were currently awaited from them.

**9735 - Brambles on footpath to school.**

C'llr Rowlands had been in contact with P.C.C. officers over the matter. He had been informed that a works ticket for the bramble clearance had been issued. However, Members noted that the problem was still unresolved. C'llr Rowlands undertook to chase the matter up again.

**9736 - Narrow footpath outside Johnston Farm.**

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

**9737 – New business in Old Post Office, Main Road**

Members were informed that Planning Permission had now been granted, and the business was expected to open soon.

**9738 – Cycle path maintenance work**

Members were informed that the repair work to the wooden section of the path had now been completed.

**9739 – Pothole, entrance of Hall Court.**

Members were informed that the pothole had been filled with stone.

**9740 - Discussion of purchase of WW1 commemorative memorial seat**

Matter deferred for further consideration in May, when it was anticipated that more Members would be present. The Clerk confirmed that any Chairman's allowance could only be used for matters directly pertaining to the Chairman's role for the year. This would rule out using it towards the purchase of a commemorative bench.

### **9741 - Discussion of siting for defibrillator recently purchased**

C’Ilr Neil James confirmed that the new cabinet had not yet been installed. Clerk to send a message to C’Ilr Pratt to mention this.

### **9742 - Discussion of Rainbow Reef Daycare request for access gate**

A follow-up email message received by the Clerk from Bron. Parratt was read. While sympathetic to the aims of the group, Members were concerned to avoid possible misuse of public funds by supporting a commercial venture. C’Ilr Rowlands undertook to visit her and offer advice on possible alternative funding sources.

### **9743 - Discussion of lighting of recreational areas / playparks, etc.**

Matter to be placed on May agenda for discussion.

## **Planning**

### **9744 - Applications**

**18/1273/PA** - Proposed Domestic Garage, Land Near 15 Brookside Avenue, Johnston, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PQ – Members had no objection to the proposals, which were now felt to be much more appropriate in size. However, the close proximity of the development to the existing electricity sub-station was noted by Members. Clerk to send in a consultation response noting this fact.

[NOTE – C’Ilr Rowlands declared a personal interest in this application, due to a possible future involvement of the P.C.C. Planning Committee. He did not participate in the discussion on the application].

### **9745 - Decisions**

**18/1124/PA** – Erection of dwelling (outline permission) - 20, Infill Plot at 32 Church Road, South of 30 Church Road, Johnston, Haverfordwest, SA62 3HE

**18/1138/PA** - Single storey extension to rear of dwelling - 17, Hillcroft, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3QB

**18/1111/PA** - Change of use from A1 to A3 (in retrospect), Grey's Coffee Bar, 16, Rear Flat, St Peter's Road, Johnston, Haverfordwest, SA62 3PR

**18/1136/PA** - Dwelling, Land Adjacent to 38, Brickhurst Park, Johnston, SA62 3PA

## **Correspondence**

**9746** - Rainbow Reef Daycare – Further comments regarding request for financial assistance – dealt with under item 9742 above.

**9747** - St. Peter's Church – Thanks for grass-cutting donation received – noted.

**9748** – T.R.A. Acknowledgement of letter received about issues on A4076 – noted.

**9749** - P.C.C. – Confirmation of Order made to divert public footpath in the vicinity of Hays Farm, Pope Hill – noted.

**9750** - Keep Britain Tidy – Invitation to participate in forthcoming 'Great British Spring Clean' initiative – noted.

**9751** - O.V.W. – Notification of forthcoming Pembrokeshire Area Committee meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 16th April – C’Ilr Rowlands undertook to attend.

**9752** - Grant Thornton – 2018/19 Audit documentation – left with Clerk for attention.

**9753** - Seafarers UK – Invitation to participate in forthcoming Merchant Navy commemorations on 3rd September 2019 – noted.

**9754** - Pembrokeshire Rail Travellers Association – Newsletter – noted.

**9755** - Welsh Government – Response to letter sent about junction of Langford Road and possible extension of 30mph limited zone at Northern end of Village – noted, and Clerk to circulate copy of letter to Members.

## **Accounts**

### **9756 - Payments**

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

Cariad (defibrillator and cabinet) : £1400-00

The Clerk informed Members that a cheque for £75 to The Samaritans issued in March 2014 was cashed in September 2018, and was on this year's bank statements. An investigation had shown that the previous Clerk had itemised the amount as re-listed in the accounts in early 2015, presumably assuming it would not then be cashed. It was noted that the payment did not need re-approving, as the original approval in March 2014 had not been rescinded. However, as the payment had been removed under the 2014/15 reconciliation, the payment had now been re-entered in the 2018/19 accounts sheets. A copy of the cheque and email from The Samaritan's Treasurer had been obtained for auditing purposes.

### **9757 - Quarterly budget statement**

Members noted the provisional end of year accounting statement circulated. It was agreed that the balance held at the year end would be required for possible legal costs (£10,000), possible election costs (£7,000 per election), ring-fencing of the community contribution donated from the solar farm (£10,000), possible repairs to play equipment (£6000), and installation of new play equipment and CCTV equipment (£20,000 +).

### **9758 - Members' allowances**

Deferred for consideration in May. In the meantime, Clerk to prepare waiver forms for any Members who might want them.

Members approved the above items (proposer C'llr Morgan, seconder C'llr Jones).

### **9759 - Discussion of Risk assessment actions (including discussion of any remedial works needed to St. Peter's Road bus shelter)**

Matter deferred for further consideration in May, when it was anticipated that more Members would be present. It was noted that any works to the bus shelter and environs would need to take full account of H & S requirements.

### **9760 - Discussion of renewal of annual risk assessment by March 31st 2019**

C'llr Neil James confirmed that the review of the risk assessment was mostly complete. C'llr James and any other available Members to complete and forward to the Clerk by the end of the month, for forwarding to the internal auditor.

### **9761 - Discussion of date for Chairman's Dinner**

Deferred for consideration at May meeting.

### **9762 - Discussion of possible community Christmas lighting arrangements**

Deferred for consideration at May meeting.

### **9763 - Discussion of purchase of new defibrillator**

Members confirmed approval of the purchase of a further defibrillator and cabinet for installation on the Village Institute building, at a cost of £1400 (proposer C'llr Philpott, seconder C'llr Jones). Payment listed under 'Accounts' above.

C'llrs Jones and Young mentioned that separate discussions were under way about possible purchase of a defibrillator to be sited somewhere around the new school.

C'llr Neil James raised the possibility of the community council assisting with this

purchase, possibly match-funding any contributions raised by the Friends of the School. It was left with C'llrs Young / Jones to obtain more information about this.

**9764 - Discussion of possible request to rename The Close to 'Langford Close'**

C'Ilr Morgan recalled that the name had originally been changed from 'Langford Close' to 'The Close' due to confusion between the Langford Road and Langford Close addresses. C'Ilr Jones did not see the need for it to be changed again now. Members were in agreement that any change could lead to confusion. Matter to be dropped from the agenda.

**Any other business**

**9765 – Community Police Forum.** C'Ilr Rowlands informed Members that the Forum had been stopped by the Police with immediate effect. He had been approached by some Neyland residents to ask if something joint could be arranged to enable some form of regular contact with the Police to be maintained. This could possibly involve an arrangement whereby the Councils involved would share the cost of renting the hall needed. Members agreed that the community benefit would make this modest outlay worthwhile. It was left with C'Ilr Rowlands to pursue the matter. It was noted that this change would mean that the arrangement would effectively become a Community-sponsored arrangement rather than a Police-sponsored one. Matter to be placed on the agenda for discussion in May.

**9766 – Platform lighting, Johnston Station.** C'Ilr Morgan mentioned that new platform lighting had been installed at the station, and was very satisfactory.

**9767 - Grass-cutting contract.** C'Ilr Neil James mentioned that he would send out the new grass-cutting contract for the up-coming season., He also mentioned that he had met Glenn Murray on the playing field, and discussed further damage occurring due to badger activity. He mentioned that badgers are coming down the cycle path and onto the field from the direction of the quarry site. As well as damage caused, there were also possible safeguarding issues. The Sports Association were asking if J.C.C. could help with some deterrent measures to help the situation, such as possibly a new swinging gate to make access more difficult. C'Ilr Rowlands undertook to ask Sustrans if they could provide assistance in dealing with the matter. Matter to be placed on May agenda for a full discussion.

**9768 – Vine Field.** Possible re-development of the Vine Field into a mini-pitch to be placed on May agenda for discussion.

[NOTE – As the remaining agenda item was held in camera, members of the public were asked to leave the meeting at this point].

**9769 - Discussion of situation regarding land opposite Johnston Institute**

Clerk updated Members on most recent advice from solicitor.

The meeting ended at 8-20pm.

Next scheduled meeting to be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2019, to commence with the 2019 A.G.M.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....