

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 13th September 2021 online, using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.

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

0888 – Declarations of known Interests

None.

0889 – To receive the minutes from the July 2021 monthly meeting

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record, and retained for signature by the Chairman following the meeting (proposer C’llr Philpott, seconder C’llr Neil James).

Matters arising

0890- Discussion of purchase of WW1 commemorative memorial seat

Sill in hand with C’llr Spilsbury to follow up with the fabricators.

0891 - Discussion of possible request for yellow lines in Hall Court

The Clerk had informed P.C.C. of the Community Council’s preferred option to deal with the issue, following the July meeting. Nothing further had been heard from them to date. C’llr Rowlands undertook to follow this up. Clerk to forward email exchange to C’llr Rowlands to assist this.

0892 - Discussion of problems with lighting on footbridge, Langford Road

No change, with work to replace bulbs in the vicinity of the footbridge still outstanding.

0893 - Discussion of possible one-way system, Glebelands

Matter still on hold until after the lockdown was over, with a view to carrying out a survey of residents then.

0894 - Discussion of requirement to report on progress towards producing a plan to encourage biodiversity

Matter in hand with C’llr Rowlands to arrange a site meeting with the Biodiversity Officer.

0895 - Discussion of Community Land Trusts

C’llr Rowlands commented that there was nothing further to report at present. He felt that the Community Council would need to carefully consider what type of development would be preferred / possible on the land before any progress could be made. Some parts of the land might be better developed for biodiversity, especially given restrictions on building development over much of the land.

0896 - Discussion of situation at Silverdale, including possible changes of use.

The Clerk reported no progress on the situation in P.C.C. Planning.

The Clerk had been informed by P.C.C. that there was no intention of housing Silverdale residents or homeless people in Orchard Court.

0897 – Work needed on Glebelands Field and adjacent land.

Members were informed that the mattress had been removed from the cycle path. The Clerk reported that no quotation had been received from J.R.J. Garden Services for the proposed work at Glebelands Field. Members asked the Clerk to chase this up for one last time.

0898 - Discussion of any works needed as a result of the most recent playground inspection report for The Close Field Playpark

Still in hand with C'llr Spilsbury, who was awaiting updates from the contractors.

0899 - Discussion of possible footpath provision between Bulford Road and new roundabout.

Clerk to respond to the current 'Active Travel' consultation, suggesting that pavements in the Village be linked with those running east and west from the roundabout at the South end of the Village by means of a new linking footpath, with the new section of footpath running along either the east or west side of the main A4076. Clerk to send copy of the response to P.C.C.

0900 – Broken glass at Close Field playpark.

C'llr Philpott thought the glass had been removed.

0901 - Discussion of new bus shelter on main road

The Clerk had contacted the window cleaner to request a revised quotation to include the new bus shelter. However, he had declined to charge extra, saying he was happy to include this in the existing price charged. Members felt this was not right, especially as the current price had not gone up for many years. Clerk to contact the window cleaner again to press the matter (proposer C'llr Philpott, seconder C'llr Young).

0902 - Discussion of possible need for additional litter bin provision at entrance to Glebelands

The Clerk had contacted the school to follow up the matter of the bench that had been offered, but had heard nothing beyond a holding reply. Clerk to chase up again.

0903 - Discussion of purchase of litter-picking equipment

It was confirmed that further sets of litter-picking equipment had now been received from P.C.C. Some had been distributed, and the rest were currently at C'llr Philpott's home, and available for collection by anyone interested in using them.

0904 - Hedges down Church Road.

Members reported that the overhanging hedge had still not been cut back, despite the matter having been reported to P.C.C. Streetcare following the last meeting. As leaves were now falling, the pavement was liable to become slippery, and even more dangerous as a result. Clerk to chase up the matter with P.C.C. again.

0905 – Ash trees, Langford Road.

The Clerk had received no message to confirm whether or not the promised inspection had been carried out. Clerk to seek further information from Streetcare. Clerk to send copy of the email exchange to C'llr Rowlands, for him to pursue the matter in his meeting with P.C.C. later in the week.

0906 – Grass-cutting.

The Clerk had reported the lack of grass-cutting to the grassed area fronting The Close to P.C.C. as requested.

0907 - R.B.L. – Arrangements for ordering Remembrance Day wreaths.

Clerk to order a wreath from R.B.L., this to be delivered to C'llr Neil James' home, or to be collected by him from them, as appropriate.

0908 - Discussion of quotation for work on bus shelter, St. Peter's Road

The Clerk had confirmed the letting of the contract to DecoTec following the July meeting, and requested confirmation of their public liability insurance. Nothing had been heard from them regarding the matter. Clerk to chase this up further with DecoTec.

0909 - Discussion of request for zebra crossing outside school

Members present in the meeting had not heard any updates on the situation following the request made to P.C.C. for a site meeting to discuss the matter. Matter held over for an update at the October meeting.

Planning

0910 - Applications

21/0314/PA – Convert former scrapyard / breakers yard into container and caravan (partially in retrospect); Site Address: Halfway Motor Spares, Vine Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3NY – No consensus on a consultation response had been received from Members following the email sent round by the Clerk, and no response had therefore been made.

21/0365/PA - Freestanding canopy to the southern elevation of school.

Site Address: Johnston Cp School, Langford Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PY – No comments.

21/0478/PA - Attic conversion and extensions to rear & side (south & west elevations); Site Address: 7, Bulford Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3EU – No comments.

0911 - Decisions issued

21/0230/PA – Demolition of existing dwelling & proposed replacement dwelling with detached garage; Site Address: Fair Lawns, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3HJ

21/0300/PA – Proposed two-storey side extension and replacement of flat roof.

Site Address: THE OLD FARMHOUSE, Popehill Bridge, POPE HILL, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3NX

Agenda item to be tabled for the next meeting to discuss delegated powers for the Clerk to respond to consultations between meetings where necessary.

Correspondence

0912 - P.C.C. – Acknowledgement of message about hedges in Church Road overhanging pavement – dealt with in 0904 above.

0913 - P.C.C. - Response to message about situation at old school site – noted. C'llr Philpott mentioned that P.C.C. had placed signage at the site entrance, but that there was currently no work ongoing.

0914 - Ocon – Information to inform decision on CCTV provision at Close Field – dealt with in agenda item below.

0915 - P.C.C. – Response to message querying possible intention to place homeless people in Orchard Court – dealt with in 0896 above.

0916 - Glenn Murray – Concern over children accessing railway track from footbridge on Langford Road – The Clerk had reported this to Network Rail, who had said they would arrange for cutting back of the trees around the footbridge.

0917 - Local resident – letter of concern over speed limits / signage at South end of Village – dealt with in agenda item below

0918 - Martyn Spilsbury – Message / information to inform decision-making on possible redevelopment of Vine Field – dealt with in agenda item below.

0919 - P.C.C. – Acknowledgement of Community Works grant application – noted.

0920 - W.G. (copy of letter to C'llr Rowlands) – Information concerning possible proposal for inland border post at Johnston – C'llr Rowlands had attended a meeting with an officer from W.G., who had suggested that further meetings at present would be premature, as no decision had been made on where to site the facility. C'llr Rowlands had also expressed concern about the possible siting of the facility in close proximity to a large number of new houses proposed for development nearby. C'llr Rowlands mentioned that he had a meeting scheduled for the next Wednesday with officers from P.C.C., and would be raising the matter for discussion with them. C'llr Neil James expressed the view that the matter had been as good as decided by W.G. already, and that they would site the facility where they wanted to irrespective of any objections made. He mentioned that he had discussed with the W.G. representative the fact that Fishguard Port may not even have a long-term future anyway, which should factor into the decision-making process. It was left for C'llr Rowlands to pursue the matter as possible, and report back to Members with any substantive developments.

0921 - Johnston Institute Committee – Proposal for contribution towards legal costs from recent court action – Deferred for discussion in the October meeting. Clerk to prepare detailed figures to inform the discussion.

0922 - I.R.P. for Wales – Consultation on remuneration framework – noted.

0923 - O.V.W. – Information on forthcoming Queen's Platinum Jubilee – noted.

0924 - W.G. – Guidance on requirement for multi-locational meetings – dealt with in agenda item below.

0925 - C.H.C. – Newsletter – noted.

0926 - Glenn Murray – Message about ditch around the edge of Glebelands Field – The Clerk had passed the matter on to P.C.C., who were currently looking into who was responsible for clearing out the ditch.

0927 - W.G. – Consultation on second home tax – noted.

0928 - P.C.C. – Active Travel consultation – dealt with in 0899 above.

0929 - Local resident (copy of letter sent to External auditors) – comments objecting to aspects of Community Council accounts currently subject to audit – noted.

Accounts

0930 - Payments for approval

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning, July / August)	:	£120-00
Clerk (salary and fixed expenses, July – September 2021)	:	As per contract
H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax on Clerk's salary and fixed expenses):	:	As per contract
P.C.C. (Flowers for community beds)	:	£310-00
Johnston Village Institute	:	£176-00

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

0931 - Discussion of possible redevelopment of Vine Field

C'llr Spilsbury had obtained quotations from three playground equipment suppliers, and was seeking a decision from Members on which quotation to accept. Members noted that only one of the quotations included for boundary fencing around the play area, which would be a requirement for any play area formed.

A letter drop had been carried out to around 80mproperties in the vicinity of the Vine Field. There had been five responses received, with three in favour, and two opposed for various reasons. Comment had been made about needing more open space in the development, for children to be able to play football, etc. C'llr Neil James felt that this could be addressed by fine-tuning the development. Having asked local residents for their comments, it was important to show that the Council was listening to their concerns.

C'llr Rowlands felt it important to consider the maintenance costs and implications of any proposed development. It would need to be easily maintained to be acceptable. In view of events at The Close playpark, he also felt it important to consider potential vandalism issues. Some Members felt that, as the facility would be more for younger children, it would hopefully not attract problems with vandalism.

Members asked the Clerk to contact C'llr Spilsbury, to ask him if it would be possible to arrange for the quotations to be amended, so that all included for fencing as well. Matter to be discussed further in October. C'llr Neil James felt it would be best to simply concentrate on the play equipment for the present, with details of the design of the remainder of the site to follow progressively afterwards.

0932 - Discussion of work on Close Field towards eventual CCTV installation

Clerk had obtained quotations from P.C.C. for electricity supply to the site, and information from Ocon regarding camera installation. Members discussed the options.

Clerk to contact Neyland Town Council to seek any comments / information from them, as they had installed CCTV cameras at Brunel Quay.

Clerk to ask Ocon to meet C'llr Neil James at The Close Field to discuss the matter in more detail.

Clerk to contact P.C.C. regarding the matter of electricity supply, to ask if there would be any cost to J.C.C. for ongoing electricity usage, if so how any electricity supply charges would be made, and for an indication of the possible cost of this.

0933 - Discussion of request from Rainbow Daycare for defibrillator provision in vicinity of their business premises

Clerk to write to Martin Jones mentioning the request that had been received from Rainbow Daycare, seeking his views on the matter, including inviting his view on a possible location for a defibrillator. Message to say that J.C.C. Is considering part-funding a defibrillator, and asking him if he would be willing to fund 50% of the cost (proposer C'llr Neil James, seonder C'llr Philpott).

with Cariad possibly no longer being available, Members felt that there was a need to discuss the ongoing maintenance of all the community defibrillators. Clerk to check on status of Cariad, by attempting to contact them directly. In addition, Clerk to contact the Welsh Ambulance Service, to seek their advice on maintenance of the units. In addition, C'llr Rowlands undertook to contact O.V.W. to seek any advice they might have to offer.

0934 - Discussion of arrangements for future meetings, in the light of recent W.G. advice on multi-locational meetings

C'llr Neil James mentioned that there was still a six person limit in force for use of the Village Institute Committee Room, which would therefore be unsuitable for Community Council meetings for the foreseeable future.

Clerk to contact O.V.W. to ask for any available advice on dealing with the requirement to put facilities in place to enable physical meetings to have multi-locational capability, in line with the requirements of the new legislation.

Members were agreed that it would be necessary for meetings to continue online for the time being, until suitable arrangements could be made.

Clerk to make enquiries with Johnston School, to ask if their hall could be made available to hire, and if so, whether it would have suitable facilities to meet the requirements of the legislation.

Matter to be placed on the October meeting agenda for further discussion.

0935 - Discussion of speed limits / signage at South end of Village

Members read a letter sent in from a local resident, seeking to have the speed limited zone extended, and signage relocated. C'llr Neil James felt that the matter might be overtaken by the potential border post development in any case.

It was noted that similar requests had previously been made to P.C.C., but always rejected. However, it was agreed that C'llr Rowlands would take the matter up in his forthcoming meeting with P.C.C. Clerk to forward to C'llr Rowlands the letter that had been received, to inform his discussion with P.C.C. In addition, Clerk to contact P.C.C., supplying them with a copy of the letter received, and expressing complete support for the measures being requested (proposer C'llr Nail James, seconder C'llr Rowlands).

Any other business

0936 - Link footpath between Church Road and Hayston View. The Clerk confirmed that he had reported the matter to P.C.C. Planning, who were currently dealing with the matter via Planning Enforcement. As the path had not yet been adopted, the matter was not within the remit of Highways. C'llr Neil James also mentioned that a streetlight at this location had been broken, possibly deliberately. As the path was not yet adopted, this would not be repairable by P.C.C. Matter to be placed on agenda for any necessary discussion in October.

0937 - Election. C'llr Rowlands asked Members to be mindful of encouraging good, community-minded individuals to stand for the forthcoming election, in the best interests of the Village. He mentioned that he would not be standing for re-election.

0938 - Fly-tipping, Church Road. This had been noticed by C'llr Philpott. The Clerk undertook to report this to P.C.C.

The meeting concluded at 9-45pm.

Next scheduled meeting – Monday 11th October 2021.

Signed.....Chairman

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