

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 14th January 2019 in Johnston Institute.

Present: Cllrs Jones, F. James, Spilsbury, Warlow, Wilkins, Morgan, Jeffries, Philpott; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies : C’Ilr Rowlands, Neil James, Young.

9591 – Declarations of known Interests

C’llrs Jones and Philpott declared personal and prejudicial interests in the discussion of the letter from Johnston Community Spirit requesting financial assistance for their activities.

9592 – To receive the minutes from the December 2018 monthly meeting

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

9593 – Public Forum (ten minutes maximum)

Mr. Bishop addressed the meeting to take issue with the minuting of the public forum in respect of his address to the December meeting, which he said was not an accurate reflection of what was said. He took issue with the minute record summarising the matters discussed rather than recording them verbatim. He also took issue with the minuting of the yellow line issue in the Public Forum of the November 2018 monthly meeting.

He also mentioned the issue of parking outside his property gateway. He referred to his claimed right of way into Johnston Hall, and took issue with the perceived legal situation with parking in the area opposite the Johnston Institute.

Kathy Spurling addressed the meeting to reiterate previous grievances concerning obstruction of private entrances by vehicles, with particular reference to her perception that the Johnston Institute Committee should do more to address the problem.

Mr. Bishop continued to discuss the issue of rights of way of the car park area. He said he could put a gate at each end of the car park if he wished to do so. He referred to the meeting he has planned with the Head of Highways to discuss his various grievances, in respect of parking / pavement issues.

The Chairman noted Mr. Bishop’s concerns, that many of these did not concern the Community Council, but that if Mr. Bishop was to put them down concisely in a letter, the Community Council would consider any actions that might be possible to support action to address his concerns. The Chairman also undertook to raise the issues mentioned at the next scheduled meeting of the Johnston Institute Committee.

Mr. Bishop questioned why the regular agenda item on Land opposite Johnston Institute was still being held in camera. It was pointed out that his was still an ongoing legal issue, and would continue to be so at least until Mr. Bishop had paid the £18,591-62 costs awarded against him by the Land Tribunal judge.

Matters arising from the December 2018 monthly meeting

9594 – problem with inadequate lighting on the public footpath under the railway Bridge.

In hand with C’Ilr Rowlands.

9595 – Highway safety issues in Langford Road.

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands.

9596 – Bus shelter / seat outside NISA Shop

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands.

9597- Close Field Skatepark

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands.

9598 – Boundary fenceline with Dawnus development

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands.

9599 - Discussion of possible formal signage provision for businesses around railway bridge

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands.

9600 - Discussion of overhanging tree, Church Road

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands.

9601 - Bolton Hill Quarry fence

In hand with C'Ilr Spilsbury to obtain a map. Arrangements for a site meeting still in hand with C'Ilr Rowlands, to be arranged when convenient and possible for the members involved.

9602 – Fence, Cunnigar Lane

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands. Clerk to mention to solicitor that we would like to discuss possibility of registering ownership of access lane during his visit next month.

9603 - Brambles on footpath to school.

C'Ilr Warlow reported that the situation was still bad. When walking down there recently, her grand-daughter had caught her foot on a bramble. Another child had hurt herself in the same location. C'Ilr Jones mentioned that P.C.C. had refused to cut further back than a certain distance from the path, which was causing the problem. C'Ilr Warlow was of the opinion that the path sides would need properly scraping of along the edges to resolve the problem. C'Ilr Spilsbury undertook to make a complaint to P.C.C. regarding the matter.

9604 - Narrow footpath outside Johnston Farm.

In hand with C'Ilr Rowlands. C'Ilr Morgan mentioned that there is a new Minister in post in the Welsh Government, Mark Drakeford. C'Ilr Morgan mentioned that the Minister had expressed a willingness to listen to anyone who had not received a satisfactory response previously to their concerns, and invited contact. C'Ilr Morgan proposed writing a letter to him. However, the proposal was not seconded, Members preferring in the first instance to await an update from C'Ilr Rowlands, with the possibility of writing at a later date.

9605 – New business in Old Post Office, Main Road

The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the owners, and subsequently had a telephone conversation with them regarding the matter. They had claimed to be

unaware of the need to obtain planning consent. The Clerk confirmed that no planning application had been submitted, to his knowledge. Members decided to leave the matter in abeyance.

9606 - Community Christmas arrangements.

Members agreed in principle to sponsor a Christmas lighting competition in 2019, along similar lines to the Johnston in Bloom competition. It was agreed that this should be advertised as widely as possible in the Autumn. C'llr Wilkins suggested that the judging should be carried out on a specific, pre-arranged date. Matter to be placed on July Agenda for discussion of detailed arrangements.

C'llr Philpott had obtained contact details for a company that deals with supplying Christmas lighting to communities. Clerk to make contact with them to discuss likely costings, with a view to informing further detailed discussions.

9607 - Discussion of possible further defibrillator provision

It was confirmed that arrangements were in place for 12-30 on Saturday 19th January, at the Sports Field pavilion. Clerk to confirm arrangements with Glenn Murray and Cariad.

9608 - Discussion of possible children's home to be opened in Johnston

Members had heard nothing further regarding this matter. Matter to be kept under review, but no planning application had been received, or was anticipated as being necessary.

9609 – cycle path

Currently in hand with C'llr Rowlands. C'llr Spilsbury undertook to email Sustrans to seek an update on the current situation. Members expressed concern at the apparent possibility of the raised section of the cycle path being removed.

9610 – pothole, entrance of Hall Court.

C'llr Fran James confirmed that the pothole was still there.

9611 – bus shelter, Milford Road, west side.

Members confirmed that the repairs had still not been carried out. Clerk to chase this up again with P.C.C.

Planning

9612 - Applications

There were no applications for consideration this month.

9613 - Decisions

18/0818/PA - Erection of 3 Bedroom Dormer Bungalow (resubmission of planning permission 18/0537/PA), Land Adjacent to Northways, Brickhurst Park, Johnston, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PA.

18/0865/PA - Change of use of the first floor and part of the ground floor to office accommodation (B1 use class), Silverdale Inn & Lodge Hotel, Vine Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3NZ

Correspondence

9614 - O.V.W. – Connecting Communities Newsletter – noted.

9615 - P.C.C. – Invitation to ‘Innovative Models of Care in our Communities’ conference, to be held at the Pembrokeshire Archives, Tues. 29th January, 10am – noted.

9616 - P.C.C. – Notification of L.D.P. consultation running until 4th February 2019 – noted.

9617 - P.C.C. – Consultation of webcasting of Standards Committee hearings – noted.

9618 - P.C.C. – Consultation on application to divert public bridleway at Hays Farm, Pope Hill – Members had no objection to the proposed diversion.

9619 - Welsh Government – Information on Welsh Government proposals for policy changes towards Community and Town Council sector – noted.

9620 - Hywel Dda C.H.C. – Consultation on NHS priorities for 2019/20 – noted. C’llr Spilsbury expressed concern at the proposed cuts, in view of the proposal for approximately 700 new houses at the site in Slade, Haverfordwest.

9621 - Ateb – Johnston / Tiers Cross Local Lettings Scheme draft scheme for Maes yr Ysgol, Langford Road – noted.

9622 - P.C.C. – Invitation to Town and Community Council workshops for Replacement L.D.P., to be held on 14th and 21st January in Pembrokeshire Archives / County Hall respectively - noted.

9623 - Network Rail – Information on forthcoming bridge replacements, Merlin’s Bridge – noted.

9624 - Older Peoples Commissioner - Newsletter Special Bulletin – noted.

9625 - Johnston Community Spirit – Request for financial assistance – dealt with in agenda item.

Accounts

9626 - Payments

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------|
| David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning) | : | £ 60-00 |
| Johnston Community Spirit donation | : | £1200-00 |

9627 – Discussion of Independent Remuneration Panel 2019 report allowances for Members

Members made the following decisions regarding allowances for which a decision of the Council was required :

Determination 39 (to give £500 each to up to five Members in respect of specific duties) – not agreed.

Determination 40 (to pay mileage expenses to Members for approved duties) – agreed to retain the right to pay this where required.

Determination 41 (to reimburse the cost of overnight stays where required to carry out approved duties) – agreed to retain the right to pay this where required.

Determination 42 (to pay financial loss compensation to each of their members, where such loss has actually occurred, for attending approved duties) – agreed to retain the right to pay this where required.

Determination 44 (to provide a Civic Head payment to the Chair of the council up to a maximum of £1,500) – agreed to reserve the right to pay this.

Determination 45 (to provide a Deputy Civic Head payment to the vice-Chair of the council up to a maximum of £500) – agreed to reserve the right to pay this.

9628 - Annual review of Clerk's salary and expenses

The National pay award for the year 2019/20 had been agreed at 2.6%. It was agreed that, in line with his contract of employment, the Clerk's salary would be increased by this amount effective from April 2019. It was also agreed to increase the Clerk's fixed expenses by the same percentage.

9629 - 2019/20 precept discussion

Based on the budget projections provided by the Clerk, Members resolved to keep the precept unchanged from 2018/19 at £33,000. Balance on hand was necessary to deal with possible election costs, possible legal costs, and possible remedial works to play equipment. Clerk to notify P.C.C. accordingly.

All the above Accounts matters were approved by Members (proposer C'llr Spilsbury, seconder C'llr Philpott).

9630 - Discussion of Risk assessment actions (including discussion of any remedial works needed to St. Peter's Road bus shelter)

In hand with C'llr Pratt to obtain and circulate quotations for the necessary work to the St. Peter's Road bus shelter. Matter to be placed on February agenda for further discussion.

9631 - Discussion of purchase of WW1 commemorative memorial seat

C'llr Fran. James had P.G.S. Fabrications again, and he had requested a larger drawing to aid the work.

The quotation received from P.G.S. Fabrications for between £700 and £800 for construction and supply of a commemorative bench was agreed by Members (proposer C'llr Spilsbury, seconder C'llr Jeffries).

Clerk to take advice on possible usage of Chairman's allowance for this purpose if awarded to the Chairman. Clerk also to find out if planning consent would be required for the installation of a bench.

Possible sites for the bench were discussed, and held for a final decision at a future meeting. Matter to be placed on February agenda for further discussion.

9632 - Discussion of signage for businesses around Railway Bridge

In hand with C'llr Rowlands.

9633 - Discussion of funding for Johnston Community Spirit group

The letter received from Johnston Community Spirit was read out.

[NOTE – following the reading of the letter, C'llrs Jones and Philpott left the room prior to discussion of the letter].

Members agreed one-off payment of £1200, to cover the items listed in the letter. Further donations to be reviewed annually at the A.G.M. (proposer C'llr Wilkins, seconder C'llr Spilsbury).

[NOTE – following the discussion, C'llrs Jones and Philpott returned to the meeting].

9634 - Discussion of Community priorities for possible investment / service level agreements with P.C.C. (including specific discussion of possible weed-killing arrangements)

In hand with C'llr Rowlands. Members recognised that a list of possible service areas was needed for further consideration. It was understood that C'llr Rowlands was

initially going to seek quotations for specific items from P.C.C., including weed-killing.

9635 - Discussion of date for Chairman's Dinner

Deferred for further consideration in February.

Any other business

9636 – Dog fouling. C'llr Jones had received a number of complaints about dog mess around the Community, especially around Tall Trees Close. Questions were asked about the possibility of putting up 'no dog fouling' signs. Members agreed that something needed to be done. Clerk to ask Highways about what would be needed to get signage put up. Clerk to also enquire about the possibility of more dog bins. Matter to be placed on February agenda for discussion.

9637 - Toilet lights in ladies, Johnston Institute. C'llr Jones reported these as not working. It was left for this to be reported to the Institute Committee.

9638 - Streetlight outside Institute in Church Road. C'llr Jones mentioned that one light was not working.

[NOTE – C'llr Warlow left the meeting at this point with apologies].

[NOTE – At this point, members of the public were asked to leave the meeting, which went into private session for consideration of the remaining agenda item].

9639 - Discussion of situation regarding land opposite Johnston Institute

The current situation was assessed by Members. It was noted that a discussion with the solicitor may require further discussion of the agenda item 'in camera' at the February meeting. However, it was agreed that, following that, if the costs had been duly paid by Mr. Bishop, and in the absence of further matters requiring discussion, the matter could be left off future agendas, as the matter was currently considered as resolved.

The meeting ended at 9-05pm.

Next scheduled meeting to be held on Monday 11th February 2019.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....