

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 11th March 2024 in the Johnston Institute, and also online using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.

Present: Cllrs Nina Philpott, Janet Jeffries, Yvonne Llewellyn, Len Gale, Neil James, Tracey Young, Kaidan Alenko, Martyn Spilsbury, Aled Thomas; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies : C'Ilrs Louise Jones.

2036 - Declarations of known Interests

None

2037 – To receive the minutes from the February 2024 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C'Ilr Aled Thomas, seconder C'Ilr Tracey Young).

Matters arising

2038 - Discussion of link footpath from Church Road to Hayston View

C'Ilr Neil James reported that the streetlights were still non-functional. It was thought likely that P.C.C. would not assume responsibility for these until the path had been formally adopted. C'Ilr Aled Thomas undertook to discuss with officers in Highways.

2039 - Discussion of arrangements for future maintenance of defibrillators

The Clerk confirmed that the new pads had been obtained and installed in the defibrillators as necessary. C'Ilr Nina Philpott had posted a message on the Facebook page drawing attention to the problem of litter being placed in the defibrillator cabinets.

2040 – request for path along main road from Bulford Road to roundabout.

Nothing further heard to date.

2041 - Discussion of traffic issues at junction of Langford Road / Main Road

C'Ilr Aled Thomas had spoken again to Paul Davies, A.M., about the matter. This had previously been raised in an informal setting with the Welsh Government minister, but was now going to be raised more formally. A further response was expected in due course.

2042 - Discussion of speeding problems and pavement provision, Hayston Road and Church Road

C'Ilr Aled Thomas had discussed this with officers in P.C.C., and a scheme was currently being costed out, for possible inclusion in the minor works programme for 2024/25. He had raised the matter of the need for a 'safe route to school', but this aspect had not been directly addressed to date.

2043 - Discussion of possible purchase of planter for village entrance

A response had been received from the W.G., offering a site meeting to discuss the requirements. Clerk to forward contact details to C'Ilr Aled Thomas, to enable contact to be made with the W.G. officer specified, and for a site meeting to be arranged.

2044 - Accounts, annual asset risk assessment

In hand with C'llr Neil James, and due for completion by end of March. It was mentioned that an Ash tree in the Glebelands Field boundary hedgebank would need to be included in the next bi-annual tree survey.

2045 - Discussion of provision of lighting at Close Field playpark

Agenda item to be tabled again for April, as some Members wanted to discuss the matter further.

2046 - Bus stops at Milford Road, Glebelands.

Members reported that the broken panes on the two affected bus shelter remained unrepaired.

Planning

2047 - Consents issued

23/0887/PA - Non material amendment of planning permission 23/0421/PA (Proposed new outbuildings); Site Address: Springfield, Kiln Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PE.

2048 - Correspondence

- 1) Welsh Government - offer to meet on site to discuss possibility of placing planters on verge at Village entrance - dealt with in 2043 above.
- 2) Infinity Play - contract quotation for playground inspections for 2024/25 - agreed as per quotation (proposer C'llr Neil James, seconder C'llr Nina Philpott). Clerk to make arrangements accordingly.
- 3) P.C.C. - Notification of intention to close Pembstcc.co.uk website from April 2025 - noted, and Members agreed to monitor suggestions for possible replacements that may be forthcoming from P.C.C., and consider in more detail at a future meeting. C'llr Aled Thomas mentioned that he had a website that could potentially be used in a case of necessity.
- 4) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales - 2024 report and determinations - Agenda item to be tabled for discussion in April.
- 5) P.C.C. - Consultation on no waiting proposals for Hall Court - Clerk to respond to say that, due to the large tree on the corner of the plot, the installation of double yellow lines was supported by Members. However, consultation response to ask how these would be effectively enforced. In addition, response to note that, as P.C.C. had purchased the site with a view to re-development, Members would like to see the tree removed, and a redesign of the junction, as part of any redevelopment of the site carried out (proposer C'llr Neil James, seconder C'llr Nina Philpott).

Accounts

2049 - Payments for approval

Grayham Passmore (Member allowance / consumables allowance pro rata for current year 2023/24)	: £ 34-67
Infinity Play (playground inspections, 2023/24)	: £ 1524-00
Clerk (salary and fixed expenses January - March 2024)	: As per contract
H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax for above)	: As per contract
Defibstore.co.uk (defibrillator pads)	: £ 444-00
Andrew Gray (advance payment for Glebelands work)	: £10800-00
Andrew Gray (final invoice for work at Glebelands Field)	: £24000-00

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning)	: £ 72-00
West Wales Pest Control (mole clearance)	: £ 456-00
Hayston Tree Services (tree removal, Vine Field)	: £ 100-00
Infinity Play (goalpost supply and installation)	: £ 2608-27

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C'llr Len Gale, seconder C'llr Janet Jeffries).

2050 - Any necessary discussion of issues connected with Vine Field

Goalposts. It was confirmed that these were now complete.

Unofficial equipment in field. Members were concerned at the increase in numbers of unauthorised equipment in the field, which presented a risk of liability for the council. Decisions made to address the problem included the following :

- Facebook notice to be posted, to draw attention to the problem, and mention that such equipment is unauthorised, and will be removed;
- Clerk to order suitable stickers, for placement on unauthorised items, warning that these are unauthorised, and will be disposed of if not removed from the field within 14 days. Stickers to be passed to playground inspector, for placement as needed;
- sign to be commissioned to draw attention to the matter, to state that unauthorised equipment is not permitted, and will be removed.

General playpark sign. The Clerk confirmed that this had now been received.

Infinity Play to be asked to quote for installation on stand-alone metal posts.

Pedestrian access to rear of 13, Brickhurst Park. Members reported that the gate had still not been installed by the landowner as arranged. Clerk to write to him and ask for the gate to be installed promptly.

Unsafe tree on southern boundary. It was confirmed that this had been removed.

Parking issues on Brickhurst Park. C'llr Aled Thomas had passed this to P.C.C. officers for consideration, and was awaiting a response. He did not feel that an agreement for 'residents only' parking along the road was likely to be agreed, based on discussions with other councillors who had been in discussion with officers about similar situations. The matter was one reserved for the Council cabinet, which had previously been reluctant to agree such requests.

2051 - Discussion of measures to address unauthorised earth bank, Close Field

Matter still in hand with C'llr Louise Jones, who was going to discuss the matter informally with Year 6 pupils, to assess their wishes in the matter. C'llr Martyn Spilsbury suggested removing the excess earth bank that currently protruded beyond the end of the sound barrier as a possible way to address the problem. Matter to be tabled for further discussion in April.

2052 - Discussion of provision of roller-skating rink in Close Field Playpark

Questions for a public consultation were currently being formulated.

Members discussed the possible methods available for a public consultation. Letter drops, direct consultation with school pupils via the school, and online consultation, were all considered viable methods. Reply boxes situated around the community in convenient locations were also considered. C'llr Aled Thomas mentioned that he was due to send out a circular to the community in April, and could possibly include a questionnaire with this if needed. He undertook to discuss with the Conservative office, to see if this could be accommodated. Agenda item to be tabled for further discussion in April.

2053 - Discussion of progress towards possible replacement of wooden pavilion

C'Ilrs Neil James and Nina Philpott had met with National Lottery staff to discuss the matter. It had been stressed to them that a high quality application would be needed in order to stand any realistic chance of success. The National Lottery officer had commended the work to date, but mentioned the need for much more comprehensive public consultation, and inclusivity in the project proposed. It would be necessary to demonstrate that the whole community had been involved in the decision-making process.

Various possible uses of the proposed building were briefly discussed, as well as how to take the project forward.

As an initial step, C'Ilr Aled Thomas undertook to print off the National Lottery application forms, for these to be available to all Members. Matter to then be tabled for further discussion in April, to discuss setting up a working group to take the project forward.

2054 - Any necessary discussion of progress on project to develop land at Glebelands Field

New pathway / gate installation. Members were informed that the project was complete, and had been executed to a high standard.

The need to complete a synopsis of the project to support the P.C.C. - administered Places for Nature grant was mentioned. The need to prevent the gate into the Glebelands sports field from being left open was mentioned. It was decided to monitor the situation for the present, and consider how best to address this.

Future projects. Members briefly mentioned future plans for the land, including addressing drainage issues in the sports field, completing further sections of pathways, etc. The duty to maintain the pathway completed under the current grant scheme was also stressed as something that would need ongoing input. C'Ilr Nail James suggested arranging to map out the works on a suitable plan, so that future projects could be accurately assessed and planned.

Cherry trees. Clerk to follow up supply and planting of these, as previously resolved.

2055 - Discussion of WW1 memorial bench provision

Members were informed that the matter was currently held up due to equipment failure, but was in hand.

2056 - Discussion of littering problem in community

C'Ilr Nina Philpott had received numerous reports of littering problems around the community.

Clerk to email the P.C.C.- contracted envirocrime team to report issues, citing Close Field, Hillcroft, and the cycle track, as areas of particular concern.

2057 - Any other business

There was no other business to report this month.

The meeting ended at 8-35pm. Next scheduled meeting – Monday 8th April 2024.

Signed.....Chairman

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