

BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Jubilee Hall, Houghton on Wednesday 7th March 2018

Present: Cllrs Paddy McNamara, Derek Jones, Alun Williams, John Evans, Michael Pettit, Scott Sinclair, Iain Wood, Robin Howells, John Mathias; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies: C’llrs Laurence Price, Nia Phillips; County Councillor Rob Summons

Declarations of known interests

C’llr Robin Howells declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in the parking issues at New Wells Road as resident of New Wells Road.

Minutes of February 2018 monthly meeting

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C’llr Derek Jones, seconder C’llr John Evans).

Matters Arising

Drainage issues, Ashdale Lane. C’llr Alun Williams reported that some of the gullies in Ashdale Lane had been cleared out. However, the cross gullies had not been done, and as a result the chambers had re-filled during the recent wet weather. Clerk to refer it back to P.C.C. with a request for more work to resolve the situation.

Burton Ferry footpath clearance work. Members were informed that this work was due to be carried out the following week.

Speeding, Ashdale Lane. Members noted that the problem was now focussed further up Ashdale Lane, and the survey would be better carried out somewhere near Dumbledale Lane / Cleddau Close. Clerk to make the request for the changed survey location.

Rhoosferry Lane. It was noted that the gully-cleaning had been satisfactorily completed.

Royal Mail. The Clerk reported that he had escalated the matter to Royal Mail’s online complaints department, due to the failure to get a response to letters sent out regarding the non-replacement of the postbox. A response from them was currently awaited.

Plans

Applications

17/1097/PA (Erection of a dwelling in outline with access, layout and scale for consideration - The Rafters, Ashdale Lane, LLANGWM, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 4NU) – No objection, provided that the dwelling ultimately approved is sensibly sized for the small plot.

Correspondence

- 1) P.C.C. – confirmation of precept for 2018/19 at £8,000 – noted.
- 2) P.C.C. – Notification of forthcoming temporary road closure at Oxland Lane, 15th March for two days – noted.
- 3) Independent Remuneration Panel – determinations regarding allowances for members – matter to be placed on agenda for discussion in April.
- 4) W.A.G. – guidance on forthcoming review of town and community councils – note, as the guidance was aimed at Principal Authorities.
- 5) P.C.C. – Minutes from recent Cleddau Reach Board of Governors’ meeting – circulated to Members for information.
- 6) PCC – notification of proposed increases in parking charges – noted.

- 7) W.A.G. – notification of proposed review of community councils and invitation to stakeholders event on 13th March in Carmarthen – C’llr Iain Wood to attend. Clerk to submit his name, and forward details of venue and times to C’llr Wood. Matter to be placed on agenda for April meeting for a report from C’llr Wood and any necessary discussion.
- 8) P.C.C. – Changes to approach in relation to dog-related issues - noted.
- 9) P.C.C. – Response to request for bollards in New Wells Road – discussed in agenda item below.

Accounts

Payments

H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax) : £168-16

Income

From P.A.L.C. (reimbursement on dissolution) : £102-29

Internal audit

Members agreed to invite the same internal auditor as for 2016/17 to carry out the internal audit for the 2017/18 accounts. Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

The above items were approved by Members (proposer C’llr Alun Williams, seconder C’llr Michael Pettit).

Discussion of works needed on playing field

Entrance gate. Members decided that the gate should be left in situ, as it had been noted that its removal caused damage to the car park surface due to increased traffic speed of vehicles entering and leaving the car park.

Lighting. It was noted that there were currently three lights at the end of Rhooseferry Lane. One (at the T junction) simply had a bulb missing. Clerk to pass on to P.C.C., requesting the replacement of the missing bulb, and citing health and safety concerns to support the request.

Grass-cutting. Members voted to accept the One Stop quotation of £40/cut, to be carried out fortnightly, commencing on 1st April, and continuing for duration of the growing season. Clerk to contact One Stop to put the arrangements in hand. (proposer C’llr Paddy McNamara, seconder C’llr Iain Wood).

Footpath from playing field to hall. Nothing further had been heard on this matter. Clerk to chase up C’llr Rob Summons.

Discussion of situation regarding Barnlake

The Clerk had chased up P.C.C. Property Services, but heard nothing back. Matter to be placed on agenda for discussion in April.

Discussion of problem with Burton – Burton Ferry footpath

Covered in Matters Arising above.

Discussion of future of NHS services locally

Members were agreed that nothing further could be done at present. Matter to be placed on agenda for discussion in April.

Discussion of parking / traffic problems, New Wells Road

Members were read the message from P.C.C., saying that they wished to carry out their own survey of residents, and could not undertake any work in the current financial year. C’llr Robin Howells informed Members that he had visited the care home a few weeks previously, due to problems accessing / egressing his driveway because of inconsiderately parked vehicles on the road outside. The staff at the home had commented that ‘it should not be happening’. C’llr Howells said that some occasions there are up to six or seven vehicles parked there.

Emergency vehicles would not be able to get past, which is a particular concern as the road is used as an access route to Foxhall and Llangwm. Clerk to respond to P.C.C. to (1) ask for the results of the poll to be made available to the Community Council when available, (2) mention the problems for emergency vehicles arising from the current situation, and (3) mention that some residents are unable to access / egress their properties properly due to the ongoing issue. Matter to be placed on the agenda for further discussion in April.

Discussion of common land issues

Church Road. C'llrs John Mathias, Laurence Price and Alun Williams had met the P.C.C. Common Land Officer Jim Dunckley to look at the common land in Church Road. He had undertaken to get a definitive boundary of the common land to clarify responsibility for the areas affected. Clerk to chase this up with the Common Land Officer.

Houghton Green. The Common Land Officer had visited, and taken photographs of the recent damage to the wooden bollards and common surface. C'lr Laurence Price had been liaising with the Police over the matter. Clerk to write to David Dixon of Williamston Farm, and Scale of Benton Farm, to ask if there were any vehicles visiting their properties on the date in question, that might help to identify the culprits. Clerk also to speak to C'lr Laurence Price regarding the investigation, and, if necessary, contact the Police formally on behalf of B.C.C. to request necessary action to track down the persons responsible. Matter to be placed on the agenda for discussion in April.

Thurston Lane, Sardis. C'lr Alun Williams reported that the area was a complete mess, following the recent site visit with the Common Land Officer. There was a lot of construction materials, rubbish, horse-related material, grass cuttings, etc., on the land, stored illegally. It was understood that the Common Land Officer was currently looking into the matter, with a view to identifying the persons responsible, and taking necessary action to resolve the matter. C'lr Iain Wood had been speaking to a local resident who had been contacted by the Common Land Officer regarding the matter, and concluded that the matter was in hand. Matter to be placed on the agenda for further discussion in April.

Burton Hill. A small area of common land had been identified by the Common Land Officer on the hill, which was currently being used for storing building materials. There was some suggestion that the new owners of the adjacent property were intending to use it for general storage purposes. The Common Land Officer had undertaken to write to them regarding the matter.

Discussion of progress on Pride grant work to install play equipment in Houghton

Members were informed that the work was scheduled to commence the following week, with completion anticipated by the end of the week. Members pre-approved a payment of up to £6000 + VAT for the play equipment installation, on completion of the work and satisfactory invoicing, on the basis that the matter had to be concluded by the end of March to qualify for the £5000 grant (proposer C'lr Paddy McNamara, seconder C'lr Michael Pettit).

Discussion of community assets in Burton Ferry

C'lr Scott Sinclair had prepared photographs of the various assets at Burton Ferry, and these were circulated to Members to inform the discussion. He reported on the various issues that he considered needed attention, as the area had a generally neglected appearance. As a result, the following actions were agreed :

- Clerk to chase up replacement of the Pembroke Dock sign missing from the junction.
- Clerk to chase up clearance of post-mounted sign, and ask for the sign to be re-aligned to point in the right direction.
- C'lr Scott Sinclair to arrange for the replacement of the old picnic bench. To this end, Members voted to approve a ceiling of £200 for potential installation costs on top of the

£120 supply cost for the picnic bench (proposer C’llr Iain Wood, seconder C’llr John Evans).

- Clerk to obtain a price from One Stop Property Services for cleaning of the cobbled area. Clerk to put them in touch with C’llr Scott Sinclair to view the site and identify exact scope of work needed. It was agreed by Members that the work needed carrying out promptly, so Members agreed in principle a ceiling of £200 to enable the work to proceed without delay (proposer C’llr Iain Wood, seconder C’llr Derek Jones).
- Kerb around picnic area needs removal – currently in hand with Chris Owen.
- Clerk to request removal of old electricity cabinet from P.C.C., or alternatively their advice on how best to proceed.
- New seat to be put in before summer – currently in hand.
- Litter bin – Members were informed that the bin is emptied by P.C.C. Anyone can telephone in to P.C.C. at any time if it is overflowing.
- Noticeboard / bus shelter – left in abeyance for the time being.

Discussion of requested speed survey at Ashdale Lane

Covered in Matters Arising above.

Discussion of problem with inconsiderate dog owners, Ashdale Lane

Covered in Correspondence above.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

Any other business

Litter on roads. C’llr Derek Jones had received complaints from Mr. Stephen Beesley, with concerns over this matter. To be placed on agenda for discussion in April.

Surface water, Beggars Reach Road. There had been a problem, possibly due to a burst water main. C’llr John Mathias had reported the matter to Welsh Water.

The meeting ended at 8-50pm. Next meeting, Wednesday 4th April, 2018