

BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held online on Wednesday 2nd February 2022, 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Robin Howells, Paddy McNamara, Nia Phillips, Laurence Price, John Evans, Fiona Hart, Scott Sinclair, Derek Jones, John Mathias; Peter Horton (Clerk).
Apologies: C’llr Vicky White.

Declarations of known interests

None.

Approval of minutes of the January 2022 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C’llr Robin Howells, seconder C’llr John Evans) and retained by the Clerk for signature following the meeting.

Matters Arising

Potholes. C’llr Paddy McNamara mentioned that there were still some unrepaired potholes along Rhooseferry Lane. Members noted the message from P.C.C., which had mentioned that the potholes reported had been scheduled for permanent repair work.

Road drain outside Trinity House. P.C.C. had advised that they were going to be undertaking repairs to the drain, but that this was unlikely to be completed in the current financial year. Clerk to inform the residents of Trinity House, who had raised the matter initially.

Sardis Planning Enforcement. No change, with the investigation still open, but without any further progress reported.

Meeting with Clerk. Members were informed that the meeting had taken place between the Chairman, vice-Chairman and Clerk. The meeting had been successful, with no issues of concern raised, and training needs and future goals discussed and recorded.

Downgrading of Withybush Hospital. Members had been circulated the letter received back from Hywel Dda Health Board. Members noted that the situation was a proposal to effectively reduce Withybush Hospital to a cottage hospital. It was felt that many local people would be concerned and unhappy with this proposal. Members were concerned about the timing of the proposed changes, and felt it important that any downgrading should only occur if and when alternative facilities were in place and fully functional. Clerk to write again to Hywel Dda Health Board, expressing concern and disappointment in the proposed downgrading of Withybush Hospital, asking them for details of their proposed strategy in relation to this matter, especially in connection with timing of the proposal to open a new hospital in relation to the proposed downgrading of Withybush Hospital.

Playground inspection reports. The Clerk confirmed that he had received the most recent quarterly inspection report, carried out in November 2021, but no other reports for the year. Members requested that a quotation be invited from Playground Repairs Ltd. for inspections during the forthcoming year.

Seesaw removal. It was confirmed that the new seesaw had been ordered, and was due for delivery in mid-April. C’llr Laurence Price undertook to see to necessary works in the playpark, including the removal of the existing seesaw, cleaning of the rubber matting, and work to the boundary fence.

Hill Crescent land. There had been no further contact from P.C.C. regarding the lease arrangements. C’llr Paddy McNamara undertook to chase this up before the March meeting.

Plans

Applications

NP/21/0817/FUL – Retrospective change of use of barns to storage and mechanics workshop and change of use of farm yard to storage compound; site location – Williamston Farm, Rhoseferry Road, Houghton, Milford Haven SA73 1NL – No comments.

Correspondence

- 1) P.C.C. – Confirmation of recommendation for approval of Enhancing Pembrokeshire grant application, to be confirmed by P.C.C. Cabinet later in February – noted.
- 2) P.C.C. – Consultation on supplementary planning guidance – noted.
- 3) Hywel Dda Health Board – Response to letter sent about services at Withybush Hospital – Dealt with in ‘Matters Arising’ above.
- 4) P.C.C. – Response to message about various Highway-related matters – Noted. P.C.C. had undertaken to realign the solar panel on the upper Burton vehicle-activated sign when in the area.

Discussion of need for temporary suspension of Standing Order 24.1 to allow for the emergency purchase of necessary defibrillator spares

Members resolved to use the provision of Standing Order No. 26.1 to temporarily suspend Standing Order No. 24.1 for the duration of the current meeting only (proposer C’lir Scott Sinclair, seconder C’lir Paddy McNamara). This was to enable the purchase of necessary spares for the defibrillators without undertaking the normal tendering process, in order to restore them to use at the earliest opportunity.

It was arranged that the Clerk would replace the defibrillators in the existing cabinets as soon as possible after receiving the new parts, and deliver the new cabinets to C’lir Robin Howells. Agenda item to be tabled for March to discuss arrangements for any possible need to relocate any of the cabinets, and to finalise arrangements to carry out the cabinet replacement work.

Accounts

Payments

Defib World (defibrillator spares) : £3681-00

The above payment was approved (proposer C’lir Scott Sinclair, seconder C’lir Paddy McNamara).

Any update on applications received for co-option onto Council

No applications had been received for the open vacancy. Matter to be kept on the agenda for future months.

Discussion of possible application to register footpath alongside Plot 1, Kiln Park, Burton Ferry

Members had been circulated the user evidence forms necessary for a formal application to register the route as a public right of way. However, due to the complexity of the form, it was felt that, initially, a more informal approach should be undertaken to ascertain the situation more clearly.

Members agreed for C’lirs Laurence Price and Scott Sinclair to seek the views of the owner of the NATO Jetty, to assist in ascertaining the most appropriate way to proceed.

Matter to be placed on March agenda for further discussion.

Members also raised concern at the situation on the adjacent plot, which had still not been granted planning approval, but had a large temporary structure placed on it. Clerk to seek information on progress with the current planning application.

Further discussion of requirements of Local Government and Elections (Wales) 2021 legal requirements due to become effective in April 2022

Annual report – Clerk to prepare a draft in advance of the March meeting.

Arrangements to facilitate public representation on agenda items– deferred for further discussion in the March meeting.

Regarding a possible return to meetings in the Jubilee Hall, the Clerk confirmed that there were no legal obstacles to resuming such meetings, providing the facility was made available for remote meeting participation and attendance. Clerk to investigate options and agenda item to be tabled for discussion in the March meeting. Clerk to investigate any available grants for this purpose. In addition, Clerk to arrange to discuss the current equipment in the hall, to see if any of this could be utilised to assist with making the necessary arrangements.

Discussion of collapse of stile on footpath between Mission Hall and Foxhall

Members were informed that the matter had been reported to P.C.C., and was in hand with them.

Discussion of possible proposal to carry out tree planting on Sardis Green

Members considered the possible planting of a Cherry tree on Sardis Green, to commemorate the forthcoming Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Members were in favour of the idea. Clerk to ask P.C.C. for permission to do this (proposer C'Ilr John Evans, seconder C'Ilr Robin Howells). In addition, Clerk to seek a price for a suitably-sized tree for this purpose.

Arrangements for renewal of community risk assessment

Members agreed for the Clerk to carry out the renewal of the asset and administrative risk assessments (proposer C'Ilr Laurance Price, seconder C'Ilr Paddy McNamara). Separately from this, Clerk to seek quotations from suitably-qualified companies for a tree inspection to be carried out on land owned and controlled by the Community Council, for consideration at the March meeting.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Any other business

Road markings at junction by Jolly Sailor. C'Ilr Derek Jones mentioned that the road markings had deteriorated further. The Clerk undertook to chase this up with P.C.C.

Vale Road surface patching work. C'Ilr Laurence Price reported that P.C.C. had commenced patching work, but then left the site with the work unfinished. The Clerk undertook to request an update on the patching work in the Community.

The meeting ended at 8-40pm. Next meeting to be held at 7pm on Wednesday 2nd March 2022.