

## **BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the monthly meeting held online, on  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022, 7pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Robin Howells (Chairman), John Evans, Fiona Hart, Scott Sinclair, Nia Phillips; County Councillor Danny Young; Peter Horton (Clerk).

**Apologies:** C'llrs Vicky White, John Mathias, Derek Jones, Paddy McNamara.

### **Declarations of known interests**

None.

### **Opportunity for public representation on tabled agenda items**

No members of the public were present.

### **Approval of minutes of the June 2022 monthly meeting**

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C'llr Robin Howells, seconder C'llr John Evans) and held by the Clerk for subsequent signature by the Chairman.

### **Matters Arising**

**Potholes.** No change.

**Trinity House.** No change.

**Planning enforcement, Sardis.** No change.

**Burton Ferry road markings.** Members reported that these had been completed, and work on the sea wall and pontoon railings was either complete or well in hand.

**P.C.C. provision of bin at Burton Ferry.** No progress on the details of arrangements. Clerk to contact P.C.C. again, to ask them to liaise with C'llr Scott Sinclair over provision and siting of the bin.

**Grant project to upgrade area adjacent to pontoon.** C'llr Scott Sinclair had circulated a report summarising progress on the project, which was now substantively complete. Some planting had been done at the site, by volunteers. Clerk to reclaim the grant money from P.C.C.. Clerk and C'llr Scott Sinclair to liaise over producing the necessary completion report on the project. C'llr Scott Sinclair reported that the work had come in more or less within budget, even including the additional cost of the fence, due to the change of direction on provision of the information board, and some work having been completed by volunteers. It was thought that the overall scheme should be no more than £200 or so over the original budget.

### **Planning**

#### **Decisions issued**

**21/0943/PA - Erection of a single detached dwelling and garage (revision to extant permission 12/1204/PA); Site Address: Plot Adjacent to Wood Hollow, Houghton, Milford Haven, SA73 1NN**

#### **Appeal decisions issued by Welsh Government appointed Inspectors**

**CAS-01375 - The appeal was allowed and planning permission granted for a single 3 bedroom dwelling with parking undercroft within the curtilage of the existing property at Port Hand, C3007 Junction U6114 To Junction Jolly Sailor Slip Road, Burton, Milford Haven SA73 1NX in accordance with the terms of the application, Ref 21/0369/PA, dated 21 July 2021.**

## **Correspondence**

- 1) Bronwen Scale – Letter of resignation as Council member – noted.
- 2) Stevie Lewis – Letter of thanks for donation towards Jubilee event – noted.
- 3) Scout Group – Request for use of field for scout-related events – Clerk to let them know that use of the field would be allowed on future occasions, subject to the same conditions on insurance provision and litter removal, and subject to the community council being informed in advance in case of any potential clash of events.
- 4) Local resident – Concern over state of playpark, and request for consideration to improving it – Noted, as Clerk had responded to inform her of the current initiatives being pursued by the community council.
- 5) Peter Griffiths – Expression of willingness to be co-opted as a Member – dealt with in agenda item below.

## **Accounts**

### **Payments**

Spencer Jones (signage cleaning)	:	£ 30-00
Nik Prenga (final invoice for work at Burton Ferry)	:	£642-00
Scott Sinclair (reimbursement for items for Burton Ferry)	:	£310-75
Paddy McNamara (Member allowance 2022/23)	:	£150-00
Laurence Price (Member allowance 2022/23)	:	£150-00
Vicky White (Member allowance 2022/23)	:	£150-00
John Mathias (Member allowance 2022/23)	:	£150-00
John Evans (Member allowance 2022/23)	:	£150-00
Nia Phillips (Member allowance 2022/23)	:	£150-00

The above payments were approved (proposer C’lr Robin Howells, seconder C’lr John Evans).

### **Quarterly budget review**

This had been circulated round to Members for information. There were no matters that Members wished to discuss regarding the update.

### **Discussion of co-option of new Council Member**

Members voted to co-opt Peter Griffiths as a Member (proposer C’lr Scott Sinclair, seconder C’lr Robin Howells). Clerk to contact Mr Griffiths to inform him and complete necessary administration.

### **Discussion of Member training on code of conduct for members (to include possible viewing of video supplied by the P.C.C. Monitoring Officer)**

Deferred for consideration in September, when the new Member was expected to be in place.

### **Discussion of proposed project at Houghton Play area and adjacent wooded area**

C’lr Nia Phillips explained that she had been looking into possible layouts / equipment for the playpark in association with a local resident who had assisted her. They had produced a tentative plan, which would be brought to the September meeting. It was felt that around 4-5 pieces of equipment would be needed, at around £4000 - £5000 each. C’lr Fiona Hart had been looking at the wild area to the South of the playpark in conjunction with some local residents who had assisted, including one retired landscape gardener. It was felt that, while some trees needed removal, it would be desirable to retain some features / growth within this area. C’lr Fiona Hart felt that it would be good to commence clearance of this area without undue delay. Regarding the Ash trees earmarked for removal, it was noted that C’lr Paddy McNamara had been hoping that Western Power would remove these trees. However, Western Power was now planning to place the new substation on Highway verge, and was looking for B.C.C. agreement

for this. This to be placed on agenda for discussion in September. Given this change of direction by Western Power, it was acknowledged that removal of the trees might be chargeable. C’llr Fiona Hart asked if it would be possible to obtain prices for removal of the trees. Clerk to seek quotations from John Colnet or other available contractors. Also, Clerk to check with Zurich concerning cover for volunteers assisting with the community council project to clear the land. This query to include for any volunteer input at Burton Ferry too. Members agreed for C’llr Fiona Hart to make a start once the insurance situation had been clarified. Separate issue of common land to be left in abeyance now, as the substation was not now planned to be sited on the common land. Clerk to inform C’llr Laurence Price of this.

### **Discussion of Highway safety issues at Houghton / Hill Mountain following recent site meeting with P.C.C.**

C’llrs Fiona Hart and Derek Jones had met with officers from P.C.C. Highways Department, and had circulated a set of notes providing a synopsis of the main points discussed. C’llr Fiona Hart said that the P.C.C. officers had undertaken to carry out survey work, initially by surveying road widths, and researching land ownerships, etc. It was mentioned that the officers had suggested that a Community Works grant application could be submitted for new speed-activated signage at Houghton. They had also suggested that they might be willing to consider funding the cost of two pedestrian crossing points in Houghton under their Minor Works budget, and that a request for this work should accompany any grant application submitted by the community council.

C’llr Scott Sinclair felt that the report on the site visit raised quite a lot of questions, and matters that need to be addressed. He felt that a decision on what works to be proposed by the community council needed some kind of public consultation / support. He felt, in light of the possible tight timetable for the grant application, that this should be viewed as a separate exercise from the grant application process. Clerk to try and find out from P.C.C. when the grant window was expected to open.

Members agreed to submit a Community Works grant application for two speed-activated signs, one to replace the existing sign at Houghton, and the other to be at the opposite end of the Village, possibly around the entrance of Prince of Wales Close. Application to include a request for 2 pedestrian crossing points, one to be around the location of the layby at the southern end of the Village, and the other at the location of the existing dropped kerb on the footpath adjacent to Houghton Green. Application to stipulate a £1000 contribution to be offered by B.C.C. (proposer C’llr Fiona Hart, seconder C’llr Robin Howells). Clerk to process the application once the grant window was open.

### **Discussion of dog-bin provision at Houghton Playing Field**

A response had been received from P.C.C. suggesting relocating the existing bin from the playpark. Members felt this was not workable, and would not address the issues. Clerk to contact P.C.C. again, to discuss the matter further.

### **Discussion of problems at junction at northern end of Cleddau Bridge**

This matter had been discussed in some detail between C’llrs Fiona Hart and Derek Jones in their recent site meeting with P.C.C. Highway officers. The P.C.C. officers had maintained that there was no difference in traffic volumes now compared with those prior to the abolition of the bridge tolls. There was no intention to carry out works to provide either a roundabout or traffic lights, as they did not feel these could be justified. Members decided to leave the matter in abeyance, but continue to monitor the situation.

Members also discussed the reference in the notes on the meeting with P.C.C. about an intention to review the speed limits along the main road from Merlin’s Bridge to Burton Ferry. It was explained that this was mentioned by the P.C.C. officers as an observation on what needed re-considering, rather than an actual detailed proposal of any kind at this point in time.

Members mentioned the possibility of an intention to reduce the speed limit in some areas from 30mph to 20mph. This possibility raised the knock-on possibility of the need to re-calibrate the speed-activated signs along the main road.

**Any other business**

**Sardis post box.** Members were informed that the postbox had been removed, without any known explanation. C’Ilr Danny Young had been carrying out some enquiries, but with no answers yet forthcoming. Clerk to enquire with Royal Mail about this.

The meeting ended at 8-20pm. Next meeting to be held at 7pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022.