

## **BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the monthly meeting held at the Jubilee Hall, Houghton on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2017**

**Present:** Cllrs Paddy McNamara (Chairman), Laurence Price, Nia Phillips, Michael Pettit, Scott Sinclair, Iain Wood, John Mathias; County Councillor Rob. Summons; Peter Horton (Clerk).

**Apologies:** C'llrs Derek Jones, Alun Williams.

#### **Declarations of known interests**

None.

#### **Minutes of February monthly meeting**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the Chairman (proposer C'lr John Mathias, seconder C'lr Nia Phillips).

#### **Matters Arising**

**Information board.** C'lr Laurence price had met the officer from P.C.C., and had obtained a suggested draft map showing the Community Council area. He had been asked to get marked on the map the points of interest that Members would like to have included on it. Members asked C'lr Laurence Price to mark it up, and bring to the next meeting for review / approval. Matter to be placed on agenda for April for further discussion.

**Ashdale Lane traffic problems.** Still in hand with P.C.C.

**Mud on road, main road, Burton.** C'lr John Mathias informed members that he had spoken to the responsible parties, but felt that the Police were likely to become involved, due to the non-resolution of the problem.

**Elections.** Members were reminded of the deadline to submit nomination papers, i.e. April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Footpath, Hill Mountain - Sardis.** Members noted that the path had been edged and cleaned by P.C.C. Matter to be left in abeyance for the time being.

**Pond, Church Road.** The pond clearance had been completed. C'lr John Mathias mentioned the W.I. bench there, which had collapsed. C'lr Nia Phillips to pass this on to the W.I. for information / attention. Matter to be placed on April agenda in case of any discussion required.

#### **Planning**

There were no plans for discussion this month.

#### **Correspondence**

- 1) P.C.C. – consultation on future funding of Milford Haven Pontoon System – Clerk to respond to the consultation, mentioning that (a) the pontoons are needed to support tourism in the Haven, by promoting use of the waterway, so ideally should not be reduced in number or removed; (b) M.H.P.A could possibly be asked to contribute more; (c) the issue of competitive tendering is important to getting best value; (d) there would be health and safety implications to the proposals that would need carefully looking into.
- 2) St. Mary's Church, Burton – request for assistance with graveyard maintenance – deferred for consideration in May. Clerk to send holding reply accordingly.

## **Accounts**

### **Payments**

H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax for January – March 2017) : £119-87

### **Charity donations**

Due to the pre-election period, it was decided to discuss charity donations at the May meeting.

### **Internal audit.**

Members agreed to invite the same internal auditor as last year to carry out the internal audit. Scope of audit to include all items on the audit form. Clerk to make arrangements accordingly.

The above items were agreed by Members (proposer C’lIr Laurence Price, seconder C’lIr Nia Phillips).

## **Discussion of works needed on playing field**

C’lIr Paddy McNamara thanked all who contributed to the outcome achieved in getting agreement for the developer to provide a car parking area on the playing field, as well as carrying out other works as agreed. The pavilion Had already been demolished, but it still remained to remove the debris. Work had been deferred for a few weeks until weather permits entry. C’lIr Paddy McNamara had arranged for a proper plan which formed the basis of the agreed works, to include a stoned car parking area with some drainage into the adjacent culvert. It had been suggested that the gate into the car park would need to be left open, otherwise people may not use it as intended. It had been suggested to possibly put up a length of post and rail fencing some way inside, to protect children playing there, while enabling the gate to be left open. The cost of this would be in the region of £17/m. Members were in favour of the expenditure, but left a decision until at least the May meeting. It was also decided to defer discussion about possible expenditure on matting to be placed near the cricket nets to the May meeting, though it was suggested that this matter might be better addressed by the Cricket Club.

## **Discussion of development over Houghton Common**

C’lIr Paddy McNamara had received a call from the developer regarding problems on the site. They had been using the bridleway adjacent to the site for access purposes, to construct a bat house at the bottom end of the site. A message had been received from P.C.C. instructing them to cease this forthwith, and mentioning possible Planning Enforcement involvement. The developers had explained that, due to prevailing ground conditions and time constraints, it was necessary to build the bat house, but difficult to achieve access across the site. They had explained that access across the bridleway for three weeks would resolve the issue, that there would be no subsequent attempt to use it for vehicular traffic, and that the surface would be left in good condition. They were asking the Community Council for support in this matter. Members were concerned at a possible precedent being set. However, they felt that the request was reasonable, and they should support the request. Members resolved that the Clerk should write a letter of support to P.C.C. (proposer C’lIr Nia Phillips, seconder C’lIr Laurence Price). Letter to mention the undertaking given by the developer to reinstate the surface of the bridleway, and the undertaking regarding the timescale of proposed works. Letter to acknowledge the legal situation, but to request discretion in the matter. Copy of letter to be provided to C’lIr Rob Summons to inform his intended meeting with David Popplewell.

C’lIr Rob. Summons had received a message from the developer’s agent Hayston Planning. The message attached a document consisting of a letter to P.C.C. outlining principles underpinning their proposals for possible changes to the approved development, while seeking ways to avoid the Section 106 levies that might be required as a result of any such changes. It had been agreed by the developers via their agent for this document to be made available to the Community Council for information. C’lIr Rob. Summons to forward the document to the Clerk, for circulation to Members. Members noted that any proposed alterations would need to be approved via a planning application, and would hence come before the Community Council for consideration in any case.

### **Discussion of progress on bus shelter maintenance**

The Clerk informed Members that One Stop Property Development Ltd. had informed him that they would not now be in a position to quote for the rendering work on the Sardis bus shelter. C’lr Paddy McNamara felt that filling and painting the cracks would be a more appropriate course of action in any case. Matter to be placed on April agenda for discussion, when it was anticipated that C’lr Alun Williams would be present.

### **Discussion of possible bus shelter provision close to Cleddau Bridge**

The Clerk had been in discussion with P.C.C. regarding the matter. They had indicated that they might well be willing to form a scheduled bus stop there, though not fund infrastructure for this. They had commented, though, that based on their information, there would be little use of this stop even if it was provided, based on the level of use currently by people hailing the bus. Members discussed various possible options, including the possibility of a bus stop on the Barnlake side of the road, and / or one at the Jolly Sailor. As a point of clarification, C’lr Iain Wood also noted that the request made to him by a local resident had suggested a bus stopping point, rather than specifically a bus shelter. Matter to be placed on the May agenda for further discussion.

### **Discussion of well close to Trinity House, Burton Ferry**

The Clerk had carried out enquiries, and confirmed that the land was not common land. C’lr Laurence Price referred to an occasion around five years ago when he had visited the owners of Min yr Afon at the behest of the Community Council, to discuss public access to the well. Clerk to look up the minute record for this. Matter to be placed on April agenda for further discussion. In the meantime, Clerk to arrange for a Land Registry search of Min yr Afon, to check on the extent of ownership, as well as any mention of public rights of access. C’lr Scott Sinclair mentioned that he did not think that obstruction of public access was a current issue, or particularly likely to become one. However, Members were concerned at the legal rights of access.

### **Discussion of possible change of regular meeting dates to first Wednesdays**

The Clerk confirmed that the Hall is available for use on the first Wednesdays of the month. Members resolved to alter the regular meeting date to the first Wednesday of the month, effective September 2017 (proposer C’lr Laurence Price, seconder C’lr Nia Phillips).

### **Any Other Business**

**Terry Morgan.** Members discussed the request for some form of memorial to Terry Morgan to be placed on the pedestrian shelter. Members were supportive of the idea. Matter to be placed on the April agenda for further discussion. In the meantime, Members to consider possible form and wording of the memorial.

### **Public Forum**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

The meeting ended at 8-15pm. Next meeting, Wednesday 26th April, 2017, 7pm.