

BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held online on Wednesday 3rd February 2021, 6pm.

Present: Cllrs Paddy McNamara (vice Chairman), John Mathias, Nia Phillips, Bob Guy, Alun Williams (Chairman), Vicky White, Laurence Price, Derek Jones, Scott Sinclair; Peter Horton (Clerk).
Apologies: C’lir Robin Howells.

The Chairman welcomed C’lir Bob Guy to his first meeting on behalf of all present.

Declarations of known interests

None.

Approval of minutes of the January 2021 monthly meeting

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting, and kept for signature by the Chairman following the meeting (proposer C’lir Paddy McNamara, seconder C’lir Derek Jones).

Matters Arising

Western Power sub-station on Houghton Common. Nothing further to date.

Footpath Hill Mountain – Sardis. C’lir Alun Williams reported that the path had been scraped off and returned to its full width. However, the edging still remained to be done. The Clerk confirmed that nothing further had been heard from P.C.C. regarding the request for a site meeting to discuss the substantive works that needed doing to bring the path up to standard. Clerk to contact P.C.C. again to request this.

Potholes. Members reported that the potholes reported to P.C.C. as needing attention at (a) Sardis; (b) junction of Main Road and Church Road, Burton; and (c) Rhooseferry Lane were all still awaiting attention. Clerk to pursue this with P.C.C.

Slade House, Sardis Planning Enforcement investigation. The Clerk had spoken to the investigating Planning Enforcement Officer, who had confirmed that the case was in hand, with a site visit pending to assess the situation.

Burton vehicle-activated signage. C’lir Scott Sinclair informed Members that the two signs were now in place and functioning. There had been one complaint made to P.C.C. about the sign at the Brompton Grove end of the Village by a local resident. This was being followed up by the P.C.C. Highways Department. The final invoice had been received from the sign supply company Coeval, and was as per the quotation. The Clerk also confirmed that the insurance policy had been adjusted to cover the signage as a Community Council-owned asset. C’lir Sinclair also mentioned the need for a press release. An undertaking had been given to Valero that this would be done on completion of the scheme, to publicise their generous donation to the fund. C’lir Sinclair had been in conversation with Valero earlier that day about the matter. They had understood that a party to celebrate the completion of the scheme would not now be possible. However, the text of the press release was to be agreed with them prior to publication. Other acknowledgements that would need to be mentioned in the press release included the residents’ action group for their efforts in fund-raising, P.C.C. for their contribution financially and in offering expertise and advice, and Coeval for producing a bespoke sign. It was left for C’lir Sinclair to prepare and finalise the text of the press release, and then forward this to the Clerk for publication as possible in the local press.

Burton Hill footpath. C’lir Scott Sinclair confirmed that no work had been undertaken to clear encroaching growth from the path. Clerk to chase up with P.C.C.

Plans

Applications

NP/20/0623/FUL – Proposed alterations and cladding to the front façade, rear extension and new summerhouse / workshop; The Chase, 26 Port Lion, Llangwm, Haverfordwest SA62 4JT – No comments.

[NOTE – C’llr Vicky White declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application, as an immediate neighbour of the applicant. However, as there was no discussion on the application, she was not obliged to leave the meeting].

NP/21/0031/FUL – Proposed ground floor sun room; Nolton Croft Farm, Houghton, Milford Haven SA73 1NJ - No comments.

**20/0741/PA – Erection of a dwelling and associated parking - AMENDED PLANS;
Site Address: Port Hand, BURTON, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, SA73 1NX**

C’llr Bob Guy commented that the plot seemed quite small for the proposed development, but this would only be of concern to immediate neighbours. Members agreed with this, and as no representations had been made to the Community Council by any residents, it was not felt appropriate to make any comment on the application.

**20/0819/PA - Proposed single storey extension and proposed garage; Site Address: 6 ,
Brompton Grove, Burton, Milford Haven, SA73 1LR - No comments.**

Consents granted.

20/0300/PA – Residential development (outline with access for consideration), indicative layout 3 dwellings; Site Address: Lawnswood, School Road, HOUGHTON, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, SA73 1NN - C’llr Scott Sinclair asked if there had been any response to the comments made by the Community Council regarding the possible inadequacy of the sewage infrastructure provision to support the development. The Clerk confirmed that no reply had been received, but that none would have been expected. It was explained that once such comments were made, the L.P.A. would consider them in conjunction with responses from other consultees, including Welsh Water.

Applications withdrawn.

20/0657/DC - Discharge of condition 4 (method statement for biodiversity reasons) of planning permission 18/0511/PA (Residential development (determination of reserved matters of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale to outline planning permission 09/0556/PA); Site Address: Barnlake Point, Burton, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire.

Correspondence

- 1) P.C.C. / Planed – Invitation to seminar online to discuss empowering town and community councils, held on 20th January 2021 – The Clerk had attended a part of the session, and felt it had been of generally little benefit, involving mainly P.C.C. councillors encouraging networking for its own sake. However, one thing that had been mentioned which the Clerk felt could be of benefit in the future was the encouragement to use Planed to source possible grant funding for future projects.
- 2) Common Land Officer, P.C.C. – Holding response regarding fly-tipping at Sardis Common. Members were unsure whether or not the rubbish had been removed. C’llr Alun Williams undertook to check and let the Clerk know.
- 3) P.C.C. – holding response regarding various highway-related issues – noted.
- 4) Vicky Moller – enquiry about allotments at Hill Crescent – The Clerk confirmed that he had responded to Ms. Moller to explain the current situation regarding the land.

5) Planed – invitation of expressions of interest in nominating a community youth representative – C’lir Paddy McNamara commented that the idea could be a good one, but that the deadline imposed for submission of expressions of interest had been ridiculously short. C’lir Alun Williams asked if there would be insurance implications with such a scheme. The Clerk responded that this could well be the case, but that the grant scheme may possibly have addressed this need.

Accounts

Payments

Coeval (vehicle activated signage) : £8947-34 including V.A.T.
The above payment was approved by Members (proposer C’lir Scott Sinclair, seconder C’lir John Mathias).

Discussion of works undertaken at Badger Wood

The Clerk confirmed that he had received a call from Dyfed Powys Police to say that their investigations were still ongoing. Matter to be reviewed in May.

Discussion of memorial plaques / information board at Houghton Green

The Clerk had circulated a list of Council, membership from 2006 – present to all members. C’lir Paddy McNamara had obtained a map of the community area. This had been updated to reflect and highlight areas of interest in the community. Arrangements were in hand to have this plasticised and printed at A1 size, prior to being installed on the information board plinth. It was agreed that work to relocate the existing memorial plaques should be put on hold until the map had been completed and installed.

It was decided that a further discussion about the protocol for deciding on which ex-Members should have plaques made up should be left until the Archives had re-opened, and the matter could be considered in the light of full information.

C’lir Bob Guy asked if the necessary O.S. licence had been obtained for reproduction of the map. It was confirmed by C’lir Paddy McNamara that this had been done.

Discussion of action needed to address Ash Die-back on community council-controlled land

Matter to be deferred until April to allow the trees to be examined when in leaf. Matter to be tabled for discussion in April.

Discussion of whether to re-open meetings to members of the public

Members felt it better to maintain the status quo for the time being. Matter to be reviewed in April.

[NOTE – C’lir Laurence Price entered the meeting at this point in proceedings]

Discussion of proposals to improve Burton Ferry picnic area

C’lir Scott Sinclair had been doing some preliminary work to assess what might be needed at this area. He mentioned that one picnic bench needed replacing, maybe with a recycled plastic bench. Around the upper bench, the cobbles had sunk, and were in need of re-laying. The information board was in need of renovation. It was thought that costings might be higher than first anticipated. There was a need to consider a long-lasting job, and also one that would facilitate wheelchair access. The cost involved in doing this work would necessitate more than one quotation.

Based on the fact that the area was quite well used, and the need to maintain such areas to a good standard, Members were in agreement for C’lir Scott Sinclair to look into the matter in more detail, with a view to carrying out the work described.

C'lr Laurence Price suggested that the same firm that had quoted for work at the Houghton Playpark could be invited to quote for any work at Burton Ferry.

The Clerk recommended that it might be worth involving Planed in the scheme, if this could result in grants being obtained.

C'lr Derek Jones suggested asking the brewery owners of the Jolly Sailor to contribute.

It was left for C'lr Scott Sinclair to pursue the matter as possible. Clerk to pass contact details for Planed to C'lr Sinclair.

Any Other Business

Litter-picking. C'lr John Mathias mentioned that C'lr John Evans and Mrs. Evans had carried out a lot of litter-picking around the Hill Mountain area recently. Members noted their appreciation for the efforts of C'lr and Mrs. Evans. C'lr Mathias also mentioned that there was a lot of litter along the road between Mead Lodge and Houghton, which did not give a good impression of the community area. Other Members had noted similar problems around Burton Hill, Foxhall, and New Wells Road. C'lr Paddy McNamara mentioned that he had seen a P.C.C. litter-picker working in the area recently.

Dog-fouling. C'lr Laurence Price had received complaints about dog mess around the community area, especially in the playpark.

The meeting ended at 7-05pm. Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 3rd March 2021