

BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held online on Wednesday 5th January 2022, 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Robin Howells, John Evans, Fiona Hart, Scott Sinclair, Derek Jones, Vicky White; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies: C'lr Paddy McNamara.

Declarations of known interests

None.

Approval of minutes of the December 2021 monthly meeting

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

Matters Arising

Potholes. Members reported that these had still not been repaired, and were getting worse. Clerk to report to P.C.C. again. Members were unsure whether or not the potholes in Rhoseferry Lane had been attended to.

Road drain outside Trinity House. Nothing further had been heard to date. Clerk to chase up progress with P.C.C.

Sardis Planning Enforcement. No change, with nothing having been heard regarding progress on the investigation.

Meeting with Clerk. It was confirmed that this had been arranged for 19th January.

Enhancing Pembrokeshire grant application. It was confirmed that the application was in, with a decision expected to be received later in the month.

Services at Withybush Hospital. Clerk to chase up a response to the enquiry sent in some months previously, as no substantive response had yet been received.

Plans

There were no plans for consideration this month.

Correspondence

1) Local resident – concerns over condition of stiles on public footpath running north from Hill Mountain – the Clerk confirmed that he had reported this to P.C.C., and the matter was now in hand with them to inspect and carry out remedial works as necessary.

2) Local resident – message reporting non-functioning of speed-activated sign at Burton – the Clerk confirmed that he had been in discussion with Coeval about the issue. Their comments, along with the intermittent functioning of the sign, seemed to suggest an issue with the batteries being drained down. While this could be partly attributable to the time of year and poor weather, there was also a suggestion that the solar panel was incorrectly aligned. Clerk to contact P.C.C. Highways / Coeval to make arrangements to realign the solar panel.

Accounts

Payments

Tom Greenwood (painting of pedestrian shelter & bench repairs) : £840-00

The above payment was approved by Members (proposer C'lr Robin Howells, seconder C'lr Scott Sinclair).

The Clerk mentioned that an additional invoice for £2125 had been received from P.C.C. for the contribution towards the cost of providing the footpath to the Jubilee Hall. However, this had been returned to P.C.C., as the invoice had been paid in April 2021. The Clerk was still awaiting formal notification that the incorrect repeat invoice had been cancelled.

Precept for 2022/23

Members discussed the draft budget prepared by the Clerk. There were two amendments made to this, with £500 each being added in for defibrillator maintenance and Burton Ferry maintenance. This produced a projected budget for 2022/23 of £22159. Taking into account the funds expected to be on hand at the end of the current financial year, Members agreed a precept for 2022/23 of £20000 (proposer C'lr Derek Jones, seconder C'lr Robin Howells). Clerk to circulate round final budget document for Members' information.

Internal auditor for 2021/22 accounts

Members agreed to invite the same auditor as the previous year to carry out the audit of the current year's accounts following the year end (proposer C'lr Robin Howells, seconder C'lr Vicky White). Clerk to make necessary arrangements to complete the relevant paperwork with the internal auditor.

Any update on applications received for co-option onto Council

No applications had been received.

Discussion of needed work to playpark seesaw

A new seesaw had been costed out, with a quotation having been received by C'lr Paddy McNamara. The quotation was for a HAGS Roko mini-seesaw, at a cost for supply and delivery of £879-98. Members approved the purchase of this (proposer C'lr Robin Howells, seconder C'lr John Evans). Clerk to discuss with C'lr Paddy McNamara the arrangements for making the order. It was confirmed that C'lr Paddy McNamara had agreed to accept delivery and arrange installation of the seesaw. It was also confirmed that no additional matting would be needed.

Clerk to ask P.C.C. about the playground inspection reports, as no messages had been received from them about the seesaw being unsafe.

Regarding the removal of the existing seesaw, Members accepted that this should be removed as soon as possible, if this had not already been done by C'lr Laurence Price and Paddy McNamara. C'lr Fiona Hart undertook to let the Clerk know if this had been done.

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

The Clerk confirmed that he had received forms from P.C.C. that could be used for an application to register the route as a public footpath. Members agreed that the first step would need to be to carry out an exercise to establish the usage of the footpath over the previous 20 years. Clerk to make user evidence forms available to Members for this purpose.

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

Members noted that three additional requirements of the legislation were due to come into effect during the 2022/23 year. These included :

- Preparation of an annual report of achievements during previous year, and priorities and plans for forthcoming year (agenda for next month)
- The need to facilitate public representation on all agenda items
- The need to produce a training plan for the Council.

It was agreed to table an agenda item in the February meeting to discuss Preparation of an annual report, and facilitating public representation at meetings. It was decided to table an agenda item after the forthcoming election to discuss producing a training plan.

Public Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Any other business

Litter picking. C’lir John Evans mentioned to Members that he had litter-picking equipment, including pickers, bags and gloves, available for those who wanted it.

Land at Hill Mountain. C’lir Paddy McNamara had mentioned that further contact from P.C.C. was awaited. It was thought that the process could potentially be quite long drawn out.

Path to Sardis bus shelter. No progress had yet been made on the path replacement. This was still expected to be completed within the current financial year.

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