Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 14th April 2025 in the Johnston Institute, and also online using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.

Present: Cllrs Yvonne Llewellyn, Nina Philpott, Rikki Schroeder, Neil James, Louise Jones, Janet Jeffries, Grayham Passmore, Aled Thomas, Tracey Young, Len Gale; Peter Horton (Clerk). Apologies : None.

2342 - Declarations of known Interests None.

2343 – To receive the minutes from the March 2025 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C'llr Aled Thomas, seconder C'llr Nina Philpott).

2344 - Presentation by local Eisteddfod 2026 committee

Mr Tegryn Jones and Ms Elliw Willyman were present by invitation, to discuss the forthcoming 2026 National Eisteddfod, which was due to be hosted in Pembrokeshire, in Lantood, in the north of the County.

They wanted to stress that this would be an event for the whole of Pembrokeshire, including non-Welsh speakers, and those from predominantly English-speaking parts of the County.

A computer video presentation was shown by Mr Jones, to highlight the diverse aspects of the Eisteddfod. £400k was being sought in terms of funding, of which around £110k had already been raised.

Local projects were being encouraged to contribute towards the success of the event.

Ms Elliw Willyman mentioned that suggestions were being sought for things that can be done locally for fund-raising, and links were being sought with local individuals who were interested in contributing towards such initiatives. Various launch events were being planned for the autumn, and an Eisteddfod choir was also in the process of being launched.

It was left for Members to think over possible local contacts to pass on for helping with the Eisteddfod planning. C'llr Aled Thomas mentioned that the local school would almost certainly be interested in participating / assisting.

Following the presentation, Members thanked Mr Tegryn Jones and Ms Elliw Willyman for attending, after which they left the meeting.

Matters arising

2345 – request for path along main road from Bulford Road to roundabout. No updates.

2346 - Discussion of speeding problems and pavement provision, Hayston Road and Church Road

Designs on scheme options still awaited for consultation.

2347 - Discussion of arrangements for repair of bus shelter broken panes Repairs had been completed.

2348 - Discussion of arrangements to mark recent efforts of local schoolchildren in litter-picking

In hand with C'llr Aled Thomas to make arrangements with the school, as the appointment of a new headteacher was now complete.

2349 - Boundary fence between Moors Road and Close Field.

C'llr Aled Thomas had spoken to P.C.C. Road Adoptions officers. They had confirmed that a number of complaints had been received about issues on the development, such as fencing issues, non-completion of road surfacing, and non-functioning streetlights. They were due to have a meeting with affected residents to see what could be done to speed up the formal adoption process.

2350 - Discussion of need to find new playground inspectors

It was confirmed that P.P.S. Pembrokeshire had now been appointed, and were carrying out both operational and routine inspections.

<u> 2351 - Planning</u>

Planning application consultations received

24/1123/PA - Extension and Attic Conversion; Site Address: 3, Brickhurst Close, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PH – No comments.
24/1063/PA - Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans), 3 (parking) and variation/remove condition 5 (surface water) of planning permission 24/0314/PA (Single storey rear extension, entrance porch and double garage); Site Address: 32, Bulford Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3EU – No comments.

Planning decisions notified

24/0604/PA - Barn conversion to provide expansion of holiday let business. -AMENDED PLANS; Site Address: Johnston Hall, Church Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3HD

2352 - Correspondence

1) P.C.C. – Notification that no request made for election following advertisement of recent casual vacancy – dealt with in agenda item below.

2) Infinity Play – Operational inspection reports, Vine Field and Close Field Playparks – noted.

3) P.P.S. Pembrokeshire – Initial routine and operational inspection reports, Vine Field and Close Field Playparks – Members were happy with the report layout, etc. The company response times to urgent works remained to be assessed.

4) St. Peter's Church – Request for financial assistance – agenda item to be tabled for June to discuss donations.

5) P.C.C. – Consultation on school transport policy – agenda item for May, to consider possible consultation response.

6) Sandy Bear – Request for financial assistance – to be considered in June meeting.

7) Simply Landscaping – Quotation for further fencing at Glebelands Field – dealt with in agenda item below.

2353 - Accounts

Payments for approval

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning, March 2025)	:	£ 72-00
Easy Websites (direct debit for website / email provision)	:	£ 36-96
Celtic Windows (bus shelter repairs)	:	£ 488-40
F.J. Groundworks (ratification of footpath works)	:	£1475-76
P.C.C. (skatepark sign)	:	£ 52-50
Clerk (data SSD ratification)	:	£ 60-97
PPS Pembrokeshire (playpark inspections)	:	£1530-00
The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C'llr Nina Philpott,		
seconder C'llr Aled Thomas).		•
Income received		
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P.C.C. (Places for Nature funds towards footpath works) : £1475-76 Interim end of year financial report

Members had been provided with the interim end of year financial report. There were no comments made.

2354 - Discussion about anti-social behaviour in community

C'llr Nina Philpott had asked for this to be placed on the agenda, due to recent problems in the village being caused by a group of teenagers. The litter bin in Vine Field had been set alight. Inappropriate language, music, etc., had been reported in the small children's playpark, preventing parents from feeling able to take their small children there. C'llr Tracey Young mentioned that problems had also been reported in the new estate on the old school site. A number of other problems had been caused around the village too, including on and around Glebelands Field. Many complaints had been made, but nothing seemed to have been done to address the problem. C'llr Nina Philpott commented that what was needed was a more visible Police presence.

Standing agenda item to be tabled monthly for updates / discussion of necessary actions to address the problem. In the meantime, C'llr Aled Thomas to discuss the matter with the P.C.S.O., and ask him to patrol around the Vine Field more often. Clerk to write to the Police Chief Constable, to draw attention to the ongoing issues, and to mention that previous Police visits to the community council meetings seemed to have ceased, and expressing concern over this. C'llr Aled Thomas to pass contact details to Clerk for this purpose.

2355 - Approval of 2024/25 annual report

The report was approved as drafted (proposer C'llr Louise Jones, seconder C'llr Tracey Young). Clerk to publish on website.

2356 - Completion of new bank signing mandate

In hand, with forms to be completed following the meeting.

2357 - Any necessary discussion of issues connected with Vine Field

Litter bin. The litter bin had been set alight, and effectively destroyed. Clerk to ask FJ Groundworks to source and install a replacement. Clerk to ask Neil McCarthy of P.C.C. for a recommendation on which bin to use.

Littering problem. C'llr Grayham Passmore mentioned problems with litter scattered around the field. It was confirmed that there was no specific arrangement in place for litter-picking in the field, which would be the responsibility of the community council. Members were encouraged to consider picking up any litter observed if it was convenient to do so. GP – on reports, litter mentioned. AT – pick it up / take photo and circulate. Clerk to seek to obtain litter-picking sticks and hoops for this purpose. Members also mentioned the P.C.C. operative who carried out a very effective service in regular litter-picking around the village. Clerk to pass on commendation to Neil McCarthy for the excellent work done by the individual concerned.

2358 - Any necessary discussion of issues in Close Field

CCTV electricity supply. C'llr Aled Thomas had contacted National Grid to discuss possible provision of an electricity supply for CCTV provision. Members agreed for C'llr Aled Thomas to proceed to submit a formal quotation application to National Grid.

Hole in boundary fence between Close Field and Moors Road. C'llr Nina Philpott to send Clerk a photo of the hole in the fence, for this to be passed to Trueform / Castle Homes for action.

2359 - Discussion of possible roller-skating rink in Close Field Playpark

C'llr Aled Thomas had arranged to meet Sinead Heneghan from the P.C.C. Economic Regeneration Unit later in the week, to discuss furthering development at the Close Field Playpark. It was mentioned that, based on the community survey carried out, there was definite positivity towards further investment in the playpark, though not necessarily specifically for provision of a roller rink.

2360 - Discussion of progress towards replacement of wooden pavilion

Meeting to be scheduled, hopefully for later in that week. C'llr Aled Thomas to coordinate arrangements.

2361 - Any necessary discussion of progress on project to develop land at Glebelands Field

Footpath. Members were informed that the initial section of circular path was now complete. It was not quite the same quality as the previous section, but was adequate. It had been 100% grant funded via the P.C.C.-administered Places for Nature grant scheme.

Further works. C'llr Neil James confirmed that he was due to have a further site meeting with Aethne Cooke of P.C.C. to discuss possible further works.

Fencing. Members approved the quotation received from Simply Landscaping for a further 55m of boundary fencing aimed at preventing access and damage by badgers (proposer C'llr Neil James, seconder C'llr Nina Philpott). It was confirmed that the pre-existing P.C.C.-owned metal gateway would be left in situ.

Boardwalk. C'llr Nail James had met F.J.Groundworks to look at possible provision of a boardwalk across the steam at the bottom of the field. Clerk to chase up the awaited quotation for this work.

2362 - Discussion of applications for co-option of new council member

The Clerk confirmed that the statutory processes had now been completed, and a co-option could be made at any point. No applications for co-option had been received to date. Clerk to circulate co-option notice around to all Members for dissemination in the community.

2363 - Discussion of traffic problems in Old School Lane / Cranham Park

C'llr Rikki Schroeder had raised concerns about safety implications of ongoing parking and traffic issues. C'llr Aled Thomas confirmed that he had asked P.C.C. officers to look at possible measures to address the issues, and this was currently in hand. He undertook to ask officers in P.C.C. for an anticipated timescale to achieve progress. Matter to be placed on agenda for further discussion in May.

2364 - Discussion of arrangements for public participation in meetings

The Clerk explained the existing protocol, as outlined in the Community Council Standing Orders. This provided for members of the public to make representations or comments on tabled agenda items at the start of the agenda item concerned. Members were keen to promote public awareness of the right to make representations in meetings, though not to participate in discussions. Standing Orders to reviewed in May, with a view to having a regular stand-alone agenda item at the start of each meeting to enable members of the public to make representations on any tabled agenda item. Clerk to commence this arrangement for the May meeting, and draft amendments to the Standing Orders for consideration / approval in the A.G.M. Clerk to also place a note on the community council website explaining ways for members of the public to contribute to community council business.

2365 - Any other business

Daffodil planting along main road. C'llr Louise Jones mentioned positive comments that had been made locally about the daffodil planting.

Bat-house on land off Cranham Park. C'llr Neil James had received queries from a local resident asking if the bat-house off Cranham Park was monitored, as they had not seen much activity there recently. Agenda item to be tabled for discussion in May.

Valero tree-planting initiative. C'llr Neil James informed Members that Valero was planning a tree-planting initiative to provide a tree for every school pupil in participating schools. The Men's Shed would also be involved in implementing the initiative. Agenda item to be tabled for any available update in May.

The meeting ended at 8-55pm. Next scheduled meeting – Monday 19th May 2025, to commence with the 2025 A.G.M.

Signed.....Chairman

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