

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 19th May 2025 in the Johnston Institute, and also online using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.

Present: Cllrs Yvonne Llewellyn, Rikki Schroeder, Neil James, Louise Jones, Janet Jeffries, Grayham Passmore, Aled Thomas, Len Gale; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies : C’lrs Tracey Young, Nina Philpott.

2376 - Declarations of known Interests

None.

2377 – To receive the minutes from the April 2025 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C’lr Louise Jones, seconder C’lr Len Gale).

2378 - Opportunity for public representations on tabled agenda items

There were no members of the public present.

Matters arising

2379 – request for path along main road from Bulford Road to roundabout.

No updates.

2380 - Discussion of speeding problems and pavement provision, Hayston Road and Church Road

Designs on scheme options were still awaited for consultation. A start to work on site was still anticipated in the current financial year.

2381 - Discussion of arrangements to mark recent efforts of local schoolchildren in litter-picking

C’lr Aled Thomas mentioned that the school was planning a special assembly later that week, and he hoped to make the award then.

2382 - Boundary fence between Moors Road and Close Field.

Clerk awaiting response / action by Trueform. Regarding the separate matter of adoption of the site, a site meeting had been held between P.C.C. officers and Trueform, and the company had committed to resolving the outstanding issues such as street lighting and surfacing issues, etc.

2383 - Discussion about anti-social behaviour in community

C’lr Aled Thomas had passed the concerns of Members on to the Community Police Officer, with a request for enhanced patrols. Some evidence of enhanced patrols had been noted by Members. Also, the Clerk had written to the Chief Constable, but with no response. However, it was now understood that he had since retired. C’lr Aled Thomas to obtain updated email address for Clerk to re-send the message to the new Chief Constable.

2384 - Completion of new bank signing mandate

Still in hand, with some information necessary for completion of the mandate change form still awaited.

2385 - Planning

Planning application consultations received

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)(AMENDED PLANS); Site Address: 32, Bulford Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3EU – No comments.

2386 - Correspondence

- 01) P.P.S. Pembrokeshire – Play inspection reports for Vine Field and Close Field Playparks – dealt with in agenda items below.
- 02) Internal Auditor – Internal audit report for 2024//25 accounts – dealt with in 'Accounts' below.
- 03) Local resident – Request for permission to hold birthday party in Glebelands Field – Members were content to approve the request, provided there was agreement that no liability would fall on J.C.C., and a basic risk assessment was completed and provided to the community council.
- 04) P.C.C. – Invitation to Old School Lane street party in August – noted.
- 05) Heart of Johnston – Request for financial assistance – to be dealt with in June meeting.

2387 - Accounts

Payments for approval

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning, April 2025)	:	£	72-00
Easy Websites (direct debit for website / email provision)	:	£	36-96
Denise Mayr (internal audit of 2024/25 accounts)	:	£	180-00
Johnston F.C. (grass-cutting)	:	£	360-00

[NOTE – Clerk to draft grass-cutting contract document for 2025 season, and forward to the Football Club for completion].

Simply Landscaping (fencing works)	:	£	726-00
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The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C'llr Janet Jeffries, seconder C'llr Rikki Schroeder).

Income received

PCC (precept first instalment)	:	£	13000-00
HMRC (VAT repayment)	:	£	2645-75

Internal audit of 2024/25 accounts

This had been completed, and an internal audit report received. Members formally accepted the report (proposer C'llr Neil James, seconder C'llr Louise Jones).

Completion of Annual Governance Statement for 2024/25

Members completed the 2024/25 Annual Governance Statement, and formally approved it as completed (proposer C'llr Len Gale, seconder C'llr Louise Jones). The document was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

2388 - Discussion of schools transport policy consultation

C'llr Aled Thomas mentioned that the formal consultation had closed the previous day. However, as the recommendations were due to go before the Scrutiny Committee for further consideration, there would still be opportunity to comment.

2389 - Any necessary discussion of issues connected with Vine Field

Rubbish. C'llr Louise Jones had been informed by Glenn Murray that there had been a lot of rubbish and dog mess around the playpark during his recent grass-cutting session. Clerk to chase up F.J. Groundworks for a replacement bin to be installed as soon as possible.

Boundary fencing. It had been reported that the boundary fence along the boundary with K.O. Carpets had been cut. Clerk to contact K.O. Carpets with a request to repair the fence, citing anti-social behaviour as an ongoing problem that could be helped by closure of the gap.

Playpark fencing. The wire on the sheep netting fence had been damaged adjacent to the maintenance entrance gate to the playpark. C'llr Aled Thomas undertook to arrange to repair this, with assistance from C'llr Grayham Passmore.

2390 - Any necessary discussion of issues in Close Field

Incidents of anti-social behaviour were reported as having levelled off recently. Some badger activity had been noted in gardens around the field, though this was noted as not being of direct relevance to the community council.

2391 - Discussion of possible provision of roller-skating rink in Close Field Playpark

C'llr Aled Thomas had sent the community survey results to Economic Regeneration in P.C.C. for advice. A meeting with them to discuss the results, and possible ways forward, was awaited.

2392 - Discussion of possible replacement of wooden pavilion

Meeting agreed for the following Monday for Members involved in the project, to discuss progressing the National Lottery grant application.

2393 - Any necessary discussion of progress on land at Glebelands Field

Litter-picking. C'llr Neil James mentioned a local group of volunteers who had carried out substantial amounts of litter-picking in the woods in recent weeks, which was very welcome. However, there had been some issues with arrangements for disposal of the collected bags. He asked if there was a way in which P.C.C. could be informed when large numbers of litter bags were ready to be collected, so that this could be done promptly, lessening potential damage by badgers, etc. C'llr Aled Thomas undertook to speak to Neil McCarthy in P.C.C. about this, and also to request a further supply of green litter bags.

Volunteer assistance for work in woodland. C'llr Neil James mentioned that a group of local volunteers had offered to make themselves available to carry out various activities in the woodland, to do with maintenance, clearance, etc. They appeared to have experience, and necessary certifications, and it was thought that their input into maintaining the woodland could be very valuable. It was not thought that they were asking for payment for this work, but simply reimbursement for any costs incurred. Members discussed how their involvement could be facilitated and encouraged. Clerk to check with insurance company on requirements for use of the volunteer group. Members agreed for C'llr Neil James to provide necessary items, reimbursements, refreshments, etc., to the group as necessary and appropriate, and submit receipts for reimbursement.

Clerk to contact Mr Matt Sandell, who was understood to be loosely involved in co-ordinating the group's activities, to invite him to the June meeting to discuss details.

2394 - Discussion of applications for co-option of new council member

No applications received. Members to raise awareness locally as possible.

2395 - Discussion of maintenance of bat house on land off Cranham Park

C’Ilr Neil James had been approached by a local resident with concerns about a perceived decrease in bat activity in recent times. Members were unsure who had responsibility for maintaining and monitoring the bat house. C’Ilr Aled Thomas undertook to speak the P.C.C. Housing Officers about this, to try and get information.

2396 - Discussion of traffic problems in Old School Lane / Cranham Park

C’Ilr Aled Thomas had spoken to officers in P.C.C. about the ongoing problems, and some introduction of further parking restrictions in the area was planned by them. However, Members noted that the problem was currently as bad as ever, and possibly deteriorating. Matter to be kept on the agenda until the matter was finally resolved.

2397 - Discussion of arrangements for public participation in meetings

Members approved the Standing Orders as amended under Clause 20 to alter the arrangements for public representations in meetings (proposer C’Ilr Louise Jones, seconder C’Ilr Grayham Passmore).

2398 - Any update on Valero community tree-planting initiative

C’Ilr Neil James understood that the Headteacher was currently in talks with Valero about detailed arrangements. He also understood that the trees had been ordered by Valero in readiness. There was no other information available at present. Standing agenda item to be maintained for any updates while the project was ongoing.

2399 - Any other business

Badger activity around Glebelands estate. C’Ilr Louise Jones had been informed that there was an increase in badger activity around the Glebelands estate in recent times. Matter to be placed on June agenda for discussion.

The meeting ended at 8-30pm. Next scheduled meeting – Monday 9th June 2025.

Signed.....Chairman

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