

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 8th June 2026 in the Johnston Institute, and also online using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.

Present: Cllrs Nina Philpott, Christine Wilkins, Louise Jones, Grayham Passmore, Aled Thomas, Rikki Schroeder, Neil James, John Bonwick; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Also present : Hayley Williams from NaCRO.

Apologies

C'llrs. Janet Jeffries, Yvonne Llewellyn, Tracey Young, Len Gale.

Members recorded their best wishes to C'llr Len Gale for a quick recovery after his recent health issues.

2666 - Declaration of known interests

None.

2667 - Approval of minutes of May 2026 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C'llr Louise Jones, seconder C'llr John Bonwick).

2668 – Approval of minutes of 2026 A.G.M.

With a correction to the heading date, the minutes were approved as written (proposer C'llr Grayham Passmore, seconder C'llr Louise Jones).

2669 - Opportunity for public representations on tabled agenda items

There were no members of the public present who wished to make representations.

2670 – Discussion with NaCRO officers regarding issues at The Silverdale

Members welcomed to the meeting Hayley Williams from NaCRO. She apologised for non-attendance at recent meetings due to personal issues. She described her role in NaCRO as being a community engagement officer. She explained that she was not specifically attached to The Silverdale, and as a result could possibly be more objective about issues there, due to being slightly more detached. She was available as an additional point of contact regarding issues at The Silverdale, in addition to the Police, P.C.C., etc. She was keen to hear of any concerns, so these could be fed back to the relevant parties.

C'llr Aled Thomas outlined the background, that The Silverdale had been an ongoing issue for the community council. Originally the community council had been told it was to be a short-term arrangement, but that it was still ongoing some 7 years or so later. He explained the importance to the local community of identifying the best way of stopping friction and addressing issues on an ongoing basis in the most effective way. Littering / anti-social behaviour were identified as the main problems, including recurring issues of broken glass in the playpark. Hayley Williams commented on the need for them discuss this as a management team. She suggested possibly setting up a voluntary group on site to address litter-picking, etc. She also mentioned recent funding received from Bluestone for a community garden at The Silverdale, and suggested that something similar could possibly be explored for the wider community, as a means of encouraging engagement between Silverdale residents and the local community in a positive way. She commented that negative issues

were due to an occasional very small minority of residents, not the majority, who were mainly innocent.

The situation with availability of social spaces in the site, and also the current ban on alcohol consumption on site, were cited as problems that were not helping with the problems of anti-social behaviour off-site, and should be reviewed. In relation to problems in the playpark, Hayley Williams explained that residents could not be banned from the playpark, as it was a public area. However, she could request residents not to go there, explaining to them the concern this caused for local families and children.

C’Ilr Aled Thomas commented that the need to address negative issues arising as a result of the problems at The Silverdale needed addressing quickly, as it was felt that a number of candidates for the 2027 elections may well campaign on a platform of lobbying for the closure of the site if these issues were not addressed urgently and effectively. It was confirmed that the site was currently the only one in Pembrokeshire with 24/7 staff presence. The general length of stay varied between around 2 months and 8 months, with lack of housing stock being the main barrier to moving residents on.

C’Ilr Aled Thomas summarised the main action points from the discussion as (1) exploring a possible joint litter-pick; and (2) examining the possibility of residents getting involved in flower / bulb-planting in the village. He suggested that if a definite date for a litter pick could be advertised, then local residents could also get involved. Finally, it was agreed that a 6-monthly or so update would be advantageous, to hopefully maintain positive momentum on the issues discussed.

Following the discussion, Members thanked Hayley Williams for attending, after which she left the meeting.

Matters arising

2671 - Discussion with ARISE officials regarding the proposed solar farm on land At Great Harmeston Farm

It was confirmed that the pre-application consultation response had been submitted and acknowledged.

C’Ilr Aled Thomas had received a call from C’Ilr Michael John from Llangwm, regarding the possibility of setting up a meeting to discuss forming a Pembrokeshire-wide action group to address concerns about all the proposed developments locally. Members were content for this to be pursued.

C’Ilr Aled Thomas had also had a conversation with Tessa Hodgson (Council Leader) regarding CPRW (Campaign for Rural Wales). They had made contact, and offered to assist with the ongoing situations in Pembrokeshire. They had funding for campaigns if needed. Members confirmed their willingness for C’Ilr Aled Thomas to liaise about this on behalf of the community council.

It was noted that an overall umbrella approach was needed, as there was a higher concentration of solar farm projects outside the P.N.C.P.A. area, as they were not permitted there. It was also noted that there was a very high concentration of existing / proposed solar farms around the Johnston locality.

C’Ilr Aled Thomas commented that there was a need to look at pursuing some strategic approaches while the consultation was not ongoing, and it was possible to concentrate on the overall situation. It was agreed that a public meeting should be held, to which ARISE would not be invited. It was agreed that this should be a joint meeting with those involved with the Freystrop action group, as this might encourage a more vocal approach from local residents in regard to the Johnston proposals. It

was generally commented that the only effective way to oppose the development proposals would be on highlighting the unacceptability of using agricultural land for solar farms. It was suggested that a public meeting would best be scheduled in an evening, possibly a Wednesday evening. Date to be finalised. Solar farm proposals to be re-added to monthly meeting agendas.

2672 - Discussion of problem with illegal parking around junction of Langford Road and Main Road

C'llr Aled Thomas confirmed that he had a meeting scheduled with P.C.C. officers the following week to discuss the matter.

2673 - Discussion of traffic problems at Old School Lane / Cranham Park

C'llr Aled Thomas had been assured that the work was scheduled, but that no date had been set.

2674 - Discussion of measures needed to address poor drainage around footbridge, Langford Road

Members noted that the area had again flooded a few days previously. C'llr Aled Thomas to explore possibility of P.C.C. serving a formal notice on Network Rail to carry out the works, on highway safety grounds.

2675 - Potholes / pavement cracks around The Close.

Some work had been done, but Members were not sure of the extent, or whether the potholes of most concern had been repaired. Consultation to be carried out with C'llr Yvonne Llewellyn when next in meeting attendance.

2676 - Any necessary discussion of P.C.C. proposals for highway improvements at Church Road

No further update at present.

2677 - Discussion of dog-fouling and littering problems on Hillcroft Field

C'llr Aled Thomas had spoken to Steve Morbey of P.C.C., who had provided a detailed response. He had confirmed that P.C.C. would not provide signage, but that J.C.C. could do so if it wished. However, he had cautioned the need to manage expectations, as P.C.C. were unlikely to take any significant action to address the problem in terms of enforcement, without individuals being specifically identified. There was some discussion about an alternative approach, whereby complaints should be addressed to P.C.C. as often as possible, seeking to compel them to meet their obligations as landowners to clear the field of dog waste. Members were encouraged to report incidents to P.C.C. more often, and encourage local residents to do the same, with the focus being on requests for P.C.C. to send teams to clear dog waste away, citing H&S grounds. Members opted to keep the option of signage open, as Members were unsure if this would be good value for money.

2678 - Discussion of formalising arrangements for regular defibrillator checks

The Clerk confirmed that he had commenced the arrangement agreed.

2679 - Dropped kerb enquiry.

C'llr Aled Thomas confirmed that he had spoken with the individual concerned, and no further action was required from J.C.C.

2680 - Planning

Planning consultations received

26/0113/PA – Replacement conservatory & change from integral garage to habitable room; Site Address: 21, Brookside Avenue, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA62 3PQ – No comments.

26/0115/PA – Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission 24/0630/PA (Alterations & Extension); Site Address: 10, Cranham Park, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA62 3PU – No comments.

2681 - Correspondence

- 01) Arb-Aid – Quotation for tree survey – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 02) Paul Cleaver – Quotation for tree survey – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 03) P.P.S. Pembrokeshire – Playpark inspection reports – dealt with in agenda items below.
- 04) P.C.C. – Invitation to apply for Pride in Place grant – Anyone with any ideas was invited to make this known for submission of an initial ‘expression of interest’ application by 12th June.
- 05) St Peter’s Church – Request for financial assistance – dealt with in ‘Accounts’ below.
- 06) Johnston Chapel – Request for financial assistance – dealt with in ‘Accounts’ below.
- 07) Johnston Men’s Shed – Request for financial assistance – dealt with in ‘Accounts’ below.

2682 - Accounts

Discussion of charitable Donations

The following charitable donations were agreed :

Sunshine Club seconded C’lIr Rikki Schroeder)	£500-00 (proposer C’lIr Nina Philpott,
St Peter’s Church (grass cutting) seconded C’lIr Rikki Schroeder)	£400-00 (proposer C’lIr Nina Philpott,
Johnston Chapel (grass-cutting) seconded C’lIr Christine Wilkins)	£400-00 (proposer C’lIr Nina Philpott,
Wales Air Ambulance seconded C’lIr Rikki Schroeder)	£200-00 (proposer C’lIr Nina Philpott,
Milford Haven Junior Town Band seconded C’lIr Rikki Schroeder)	£100-00 (proposer C’lIr Nina Philpott,
Heart of Johnston seconded C’lIr Christine Wilkins).	£500-00 (proposer C’lIr Rikki Schroeder,
Sandy Bear seconded C’lIr Aled Thomas)	£400-00 (proposer C’lIr Christine Wilkins,
Paul Sartori seconded C’lIr Rikki Schroeder)	£100-00 (proposer C’lIr Nina Philpott,
Johnston Men’s Shed seconded C’lIr Rikki Schroeder)	£500-00 (proposer C’lIr Aled Thomas,
Tiers Cross Y.F.C. seconded C’lIr Rikki Schroeder)	£100-00 (proposer C’lIr Nina Philpott,

NOTE

The following conflicts of interest were declared in respect of the individual donations approved above, and Members declaring a personal and prejudicial interest vacated the room during discussion and voting on the individual donations concerned :

Men's Shed – C'llr Neil James and C'llr John Bonwick personal and prejudicial interests, as holding positions of control or influence in the group.

Heart of Johnston – C'llr Louise Jones personal and prejudicial interest, as holding a position of control or influence in the group.

Sandy Bear – C'llr Nina Philpott personal and prejudicial interest, as a trustee of the charity.

Johnston Chapel – C'llr Grayham Passmore personal and prejudicial interest, as a member of the chapel holding a position of influence or control.

Tiers Cross Y.F.C. – C'llr Aled Thomas personal but non-prejudicial interest, as having a distant connection with the group, but not in a position of influence or control.

Payments for approval

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning, May 2026)	: £ 72-00
F.J. Groundworks (INV-1068, Vine Field fencing work)	: £ 703-72
Easy Websites (direct debit for website / email provision)	: £ 36-96
Clerk (salary April – June)	: As per contract
H.M.R.C. (PAYE tax / NI contributions)	: As per contract
Johnston F.C. (container)	: £2000-00
Aled Thomas (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Neil James (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Janet Jeffries (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Yvonne Llewellyn (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
John Bonwick (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Christine Wilkins (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Louise Jones (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Grayahm Passmore (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Len Gale (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Nina Philpott (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Rikki Schroeder (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00
Tracey Young (Member allowance 2026/27)	: £ 208-00

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C'llr Nina Philpott, seconder C'llr Louise Jones).

2683 - Approval of updated employment contract for Clerk

This was signed by the vice-Chairman C'llr Nina Philpott on behalf of the council, having been updated in accordance with the agreement made in the May meeting.

2684 - Any necessary discussion of issues connected with Vine Field

C'llr Grayham Passmore had met the contractor carrying out the fencing work around the play area, and confirmed to him the exact location of the tree requiring removal.

C'llr Grayham Passmore had noticed some deterioration of the mats under the swings. C'llr Aled Thomas undertook to do a 'park walk'.to examine this in more detail.

