

**Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 14th October 2024 in the Johnston Institute, and also online using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.**

**Present: Cllrs Aled Thomas (Chairman), Yvonne Llewellyn, Martyn Spilsbury, Neil James, Len Gale, Tracey Young, Louise Jones, Grayham Passmore; Peter Horton (Clerk).**

**Apologies : C'llrs. Nina Philpott, Janet Jeffries,**

**2206 - Declarations of known Interests**

None.

**2207 – To receive the minutes from the September 2024 monthly meeting**

The minutes of the September 2024 monthly meeting were approved as written (proposer C'lr Aled Thomas, seconder C'lr Yvonne Llewellyn).

**Matters arising**

**2208 - Discussion of link footpath from Church Road to Hayston View**

C'lr Aled Thomas had been in conversation with P.C.C. officers. They had advised that the lighting head replacement was expected to be completed later in the week.

**2209 – request for path along main road from Bulford Road to roundabout.**

Nothing further to advise.

**2210 - Discussion of speeding problems and pavement provision, Hayston Road and Church Road**

Nothing further to advise.

**2211 – Flower / bulb planting along trunk road.**

In hand – nothing further to report to date.

**2212 - Discussion of abandoned caravans and vehicles in community**

The Clerk confirmed that the land adjacent to the railway station belonged to Transport for Wales, and the abandoned vehicles had been reported to them.

**2213 - Discussion of arrangements for repair of bus shelter broken panes**

C'lr Aled Thomas was seeking a list of approved contractors from P.C.C., and undertook to photograph the affected bus shelters and pass these to P.C.C. officers, who were seeking information on the types of bus shelter affected. C'lr Neil James reported that a pane had been damaged on the Milford Road bus shelter (East side).

**2214 - Discussion of possible litter bin provision, Hillcroft field**

The Clerk reported that he had spoken with Neil McCarthy from P.C.C., who had undertaken to look into the possibilities. A response was currently awaited.

**2215 - Community Council documentation.**

C'lr Neil James had brought relevant documentation to the meeting, after sifting out and disposing of unnecessary documentation. This was passed to the Clerk for safe keeping. Members thanked C'lr Neil James for the time spent on checking through all of the documentation as needed.

**2216 - Discussion of arrangements for completion of license application for memorial bench installation at Church Road**

C'lr Tracey Young reported that she had heard that Andrew Gray may be unwell at present. Clerk to contact him to see if he was still in a position to carry out the work as needed. The commemorative bench had been completed, and C'lr Martyn Spilsbury had taken delivery of the finished article that afternoon. A photograph of the bench was shown to those present, and Members were very impressed with the

finished product. Thanks were expressed on behalf of all present to C’Ilr Martyn Spilsbury for the work done in achieving this. C’Ilr Aled Thomas had spoken to officers in P.C.C. Streetcare regarding what was needed in respect of the formal Streetworks licence application. They had undertaken to call the Clerk, but had not done so to date. C’Ilr Aled Thomas undertook to speak to Darren Thomas in Highways regarding the matter, Members agreed to approve the cost of installing the bench in advance up to the limit of expenditure beyond which further quotations would be needed.

**2217 - Discussion of recent damage to cycle path entrance along Brickhurst Park road**

The Clerk had been informed by Sean Tilling of P.C.C. that the necessary work would be carried out over the winter period.

**2218 - Footpath through Fairview towards school.**

C’Ilr Louise Jones reported that a local resident had been carrying out some strimming and clearance work on a personal basis. It was accepted that a better long-term solution would be needed. However, this was not possible at present, as there was gas contracting work ongoing.

**2219 – Correspondence – message from local resident with concerns over school transport arrangements from Johnston to Haverfordwest High School.**

Members were informed that there was now a public petition ongoing to change the school catchment area for Johnston back to Haverfordwest High School.

**2220 - Discussion of arrangements to mark recent efforts of local schoolchildren in litter-picking**

C’Ilr Louise Jones had obtained the names of the five children involved in carrying out litter-picking. These to be passed to C’Ilr Aled Thomas. Members discussed possibilities for recognising their efforts. It was left with C’Ilr Aled Thomas to make suitable arrangements, including the possibility of purchasing a small gift for each child up to the value of around £5 each, and possibly a suitable certificate to mark their efforts. It was thought that these could possibly be presented in conjunction with a Christmas event at the school, when it was likely that many parents would be present.

**2221 - Planning**

**Application consultations received**

**24/0530/PA** - Variation of Condition (Approved Plans) (As inserted by Non Material Amendment Ref: 23/0979/NM) of Planning Consent 01/0737/PA (Outline) and 04/007/PA (Reserved Matters) for the construction of 123 residential dwellings  
Site Address: Site to the east of the existing petrol filling station, Pond Bridge, Johnston, Haverfordwest – No comments.

**Consents notified**

**23/0560/PA** - Erection of self-catering holiday lodges and associated infrastructure;  
Site Address: Land to rear of The Larder, Vine Road, Johnston, Haverfordwest, SA62 3NZ – C’Ilr Aled Thomas confirmed that he had discussed this consent in detail with officers in County Hall. The consent only allowed for Holiday accommodation usage. Any other usage would require a further planning application. He had been assured that there were no plans for this to be sought at any time in the future.

## **2222 - Correspondence**

- 01) P.C.C. – Request for confirmation of any need for road closures for Remembrance Day – Clerk to respond to request a closure between 10-45am and 11-15am.
- 02) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Draft 2025/26 report – Agenda item to be tabled for discussion in November.
- 03) Kaidan Alenko – Notification of resignation from community council – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 04) P.C.C. – Notification of conclusion of period for representations on 20mph speed limited areas – Members were happy for all side roads to be 20mph, but would like to see the main road put back to 30mph. Clerk to respond accordingly (proposer C’Ilr Aled Thomas, seconder C’Ilr Len Gale). It was recognised that this was ultimately the responsibility of the Trunk Road Agency. However, Members felt that expressing this view on this occasion might lead to P.C.C. seeking this change.
- 05) Places for Nature – Invitation for representation at forthcoming Senedd event – C’Ilrs Aled Thomas and Neil James offered to attend. Clerk to respond accordingly.
- 06) Infinity Play – Message regarding fencing at Vine Field – Covered in agenda item below.
- 07) T.R.A. – Message with information on proposal to rescind legislation on speed limits on Pope Hill / Dredgeman’s Hill, to enable the current 60mph limit to be retained. Clerk to respond to confirm that J.C.C. would be happy for the order to be enacted, but recommending that the speed limit should be set at 50mph, not 60mph, due to the nature of the road section in question (proposer C’Ilr Neil James, seconder C’Ilr Grayham Passmore).

## **2223 - Accounts**

### **Payments for approval**

Aled Bowen (Grass-cutting)	:	£ 576-00
WW Pest Control (damage to traps)	:	£ 60-00
Johnston F.C. (grass-cutting 2024 season)	:	£4899-00
David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning)	:	£ 72-00
Clerk (incidental expenses, April – September)	:	£ 132-20
Brilliant Fabrications Ltd (final payment for commemorative bench)	:	£1593-00

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C’Ilr Aled Thomas, seconder C’Ilr Neil James).

### **Income**

Member allowance pro-rata repayment from Kaidan Alenko : £104-00

### **Budget review**

Members considered the budget review circulated by the Clerk. There were no matters of concern with the standing of accounts. Thanks were expressed to the Clerk for preparing the detailed statement.

## **2224 - Discussion of need for co-option of new council member**

Members considered the vacancy that had arisen due to the sudden recent resignation of C’Ilr Kaidan Alenko. Members wished to record their thanks for C’Ilr Alenko’s enthusiasm and work over his time as a council member, especially in relation to the proposal to carry out improvements at the Close Field Playpark. Members wished him all the best for his future activities.

Clerk to commence statutory process for advertising the open vacancy (proposer C’Ilr Aled Thomas, seconder C’Ilr Martyn Spilsbury).

### **2225 - Any necessary discussion of issues connected with Vine Field**

Infinity Play had contacted the Clerk to express concern over the practicalities of extending the chainlink fence, due to the possibility of undermining the adjacent concrete boundary wall of the neighbouring property. He had provided an alternative quotation for a timber close-boarded fence.

Clerk to seek a second quotation for a close-boarded timber fence to close the gap from Chris John (Waterston), and also invite them to supply an alternative quotation for the chainlink option. Also to obtain other quotations for this work as possible.

Agenda item to be tabled for November to discuss further.

### **2226 - Discussion of issues in Close Field (including possible consideration of CCTV coverage)**

**CCTV.** Still in hand with C'llr Aled Thomas to arrange a site meeting with Gem Services to discuss possible options / costings.

**Anti-social behaviour.** Members noted that there had been a lot of anti-social behaviour in the playpark lately. This was due in part to local children, as well as to some problems from residents of the Silverdale. It was suggested that some problems due to alcohol and drug usage had possibly shifted from the Silverdale site to local parks. C'llr Aled Thomas informed Members that a multi-stakeholder meeting had been arranged by P.C.C. to consider what could be done to minimise / address the issues. They had been asked by C'llr Aled Thomas to come back to a J.C.C. meeting before the end of 2024 to discuss with the community council what could be done about these issues.

### **2227 - Discussion of possible provision of roller-rink in Close Field Playpark**

C'llr Aled Thomas was still working at collating the survey results. Initial indications suggested support for work to improve the playpark, but possibly less support for a roller rink. Agenda item to be tabled for discussion in November, when it was expected that the detailed results would be available.

### **2228 - Discussion of possible replacement of wooden pavilion**

Meeting to be arranged following C'llr Nina Philpott's return from vacation.

### **2229 - Any necessary discussion of progress on project to develop land at Glebelands Field**

**Grounds maintenance.** C'llr Neil James reported that Aled Bowen had done a good job on clearance at the Glebelands Field and meadow. Maintenance of the paths would need a re-think, as weeds were encroaching at a low level.

**Badgers.** It was reported that the gate that had been put in at the junction of the footpath and sports field had been successful. Badgers were now not accessing the field to the same extent. They had been seen in the main street. C'llr Neil James was pursuing the extending of the post and wire fence along the boundary of the sports field to further improve the situation.

**Vandalism.** Some recent vandalism had taken place at the pavilion, with fascia boards and downpipes knocked off. This was thought to be done by local teenagers. C'llr Neil James had discussed with the Sports Association the need for CCTV at this location. They had looked into this, and said that data protection issues complicated the use of cameras at a location where children would congregate. It was thought that this provision could possibly be included as part of the overall project to replace the wooden pavilion.

