

**Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 10th November 2025 in the Johnston Institute, and also online using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.**

**Present: Cllrs Yvonne Llewellyn, Nina Philpott, Rikki Schroeder, Neil James, Janet Jeffries, Tracey Young, Grayham Passmore, Aled Thomas, Len Gale; Peter Horton (Clerk).**

The Chairman thanked C’lr Nina Philpott for chairing the October meeting.

**Apologies**

C’lrs. Louise Jones, Christine Wilkins

**2495 - Declaration of known interests**

None.

**2496 - Approval of minutes of October 2025 monthly meeting**

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C’lr Nina Philpott, seconder C’lr Janet Jeffries).

**2497 - Opportunity for public representations on tabled agenda items**

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

**2498 - Discussion with P.C.C. officers about proposed footpath / Highway improvement works along Church Road**

Members welcomed Mr Will Davies from P.C.C. Highways Department to the meeting. He was attending to provide details on the latest draft proposals for footpath / Highway improvements in Church Road / Hayston Road.

Mr Davies proceeded to explain to Members the details of the final draft proposals that had been prepared in P.C.C. These would normally be funded via the P.C.C. Minor Works programme. However, at a projected cost of around £160k, the work would need to be funded via a regional funding stream instead. It would not necessarily be funded in 2026/27. Other possible funding streams for the work were also mentioned, as were other possible projects under consideration by the Authority in the village. It was confirmed that the proposals for improvements in Church Road were now effectively ‘shelf-ready’ for implementation when funding had been secured, subject only to any minor changes following formal consultations.

Various aspects of the proposed scheme, such as carriageway narrowing, traffic prioritisation, virtual footpaths, crossing points, etc. were briefly discussed. Possible occasional bollards on the virtual pavement section in Hayston Road were mentioned, but discounted as unlikely, due to the need to maintain width for occasional agricultural traffic. However, the possibility of a red surfacing for the virtual pavement section was mentioned as a possible alternative solution. Mr Davies explained that consultation would be carried out formally with J.C.C. initially, and then with the wider public afterwards. In connection with this, he undertook to send the plans over in time for the community council to consider them at the December meeting. All comments / requests for amendments to the draft scheme would need to be submitted to P.C.C. in advance of a scheduled internal meeting in February 2026. One improvement suggested by C’lr Neil James involved incorporating visibility improvements at the junction with the Rosemarket Road. Mr Davies undertook to take this suggestion back to the team in P.C.C. for consideration.

## **Matters Arising**

### **2499 - Discussion of badger activity in Glebelands estate**

Sean Tilling of P.C.C. had been contacted. He had indicated that expenditure on the fencing was not a priority for them in the current economic climate. He had also commented that they did not wish to block off a well-used badger track. Members noted that the main reason for wanting to get the gap in the fence closed was to discourage fly-tipping. Clerk to reply to P.C.C. to ask if they would allow J.C.C. to arrange the work and leave a suitable hole through the fence for the badgers.

### **2500 - Discussion of problem with illegal parking around junction of Langford Road and Main Road**

Members noted that the area around the junction had been re-tarmacked, and the parking restriction lines re-painted. However, C'llr Aled Thomas reported that achieving progress on measures to address the parking issues of concern had been slow. The idea of asking for the double yellow lines to be extended to the bridge area to help deal with the problem was mentioned. Members also felt that more targeted parking enforcement was called for. C'llr Aled Thomas undertook to chase up traffic enforcement, and request that they attend at key times of the day, particularly between 6pm and 7pm.

### **2501 - Discussion of problems with motor cycle use on cycle path**

No further incidents had been noticed. However, matter to be left on the minutes for any updates until such time as the new signage on order from P.C.C. had been obtained and put up.

### **2502 - Discussion of potential request for re-naming of The Close**

C'llr Aled Thomas had discussed the matter with the relevant officer in P.C.C. It had been explained that there was no formal written procedure for invoking a street name change. However, J.C.C. would initially need to get written support for the change from 2/3 of the residents of The Close. The Community Council would also be responsible to meet the costs of the re-naming exercise, including replacement signage. Royal Mail would also need to be consulted, and may possibly object due to possible confusion with other similarly-named streets nearby. Additionally, residents would be faced with costs to amend their own personal documentation, such as driving licenses, bank contact details, etc. In summary, it was clear that making such a change would not be a small undertaking, but would involve considerable time and financial cost to accomplish. In the light of the information provided, Members decided to leave the matter in abeyance.

### **2503 - Discussion of traffic problems at Old School Lane / Cranham Park**

C'llr Aled Thomas reported that P.C.C. Highways Department officers had been asked to examine the problem. Nothing further had been heard to date, and he undertook to chase this up. He had also requested a site meeting for officers to see the problem on the ground, and arrangements for this were in hand.

### **2504 - Discussion of Remembrance Day service arrangements**

Members reported that the event had been very successful and well-supported, including by quite a number of younger people. It had been held indoors, due to the inclement weather, and this had worked well. Thanks were noted to all involved in the practical arrangements, including C'llrs Neil James, Louise Jones, etc.

C’Ilr Neil James mentioned that the transformer on the P.A. system had failed, and could not be repaired or replaced. This would mean a new P.A. system would be needed for 2026, at a likely cost of around £300. This would need to be factored in to the budget discussions for 2026/27 in January.

A donation of £20 for the bugler was agreed (formal approval covered in ‘Accounts’ below). Clerk to arrange this along with a letter of thanks to her.

## **2505 - Planning**

### **Planning application consultations received**

**25/0597/PA** - Alterations and extension; Site Address: 114 , Hillcroft, Johnston, SA62 3QA – No comments.

**25/0583/PA** - Siting of static caravan for staff accommodation (in retrospect). Site Address: Fairfield Nursing Home, Church Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3HE – No comments.

## **2506 - Correspondence**

01) P.P.S. Pembrokeshire – Playground inspection reports for Vine Field and Close Field playparks – covered in agenda items below.

02) P.C.C. – Response to request for closure of fencing gap on Cunnigar Lane – covered in 2499 above.

03) The Circuit – Reminder of need to renew some defibrillator pads – Clerk to order new paediatric pads as required. Clerk to update and recirculate rota list for monthly checks on the defibrillators.

04) Axis – Information on proposed solar farm at Freystrop – noted. This proposed development to be incorporated into regular agenda item for the Great Harmeston Farm proposals.

05) Local resident – Concerns over proposed solar farm outside Johnston – dealt with in agenda item below.

06) Powys Communications – Message concerning proposed solar farm outside Johnston – dealt with in agenda item below.

07) Zurich – Insurance renewal reminder – agreed for renewal. Approval for expenditure dealt with in ‘Accounts’ below.

## **2507 - Accounts**

### **Payments for approval**

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning, October 2025)	: £	72-00
Easy Websites (direct debit for website / email provision)	: £	36-96
Clerk (reimbursement for Remembrance Day wreath purchase)	: £	20-00
F.J. Groundworks (INV-1017 for litter bin supply and installation)	: £	536-54
Neil James (reimbursement for batteries purchased)	: £	57-00
Aled Bowen (ratification of payment for grounds maintenance)	: £	576-00
Celtic Windows (bus shelter repairs)	: £	208-40
T.B.S. Skips (skip hire)	: £	1060-80
Zurich (insurance renewal)	: £	1287-39
Remembrance Day bugler (donation)	: £	20-00
Heavyside Landscaping (if invoice received prior to December meeting)	: As invoiced	

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C’Ilr Nina Philpott, seconder C’Ilr Yvonne Llewellyn).

**2508 - Any necessary discussion of issues connected with Vine Field**

**Repairs to multi-play unit.** Arrangements for replacement of plastic domes was in hand with P.P.S. Pembrokeshire.

**2509 - Any necessary discussion of issues in Close Field**

**Litter bin.** It was confirmed that the replacement litter bin was in situ.

**Anti-social behaviour.** Members noted that there seemed to have been a lull, which was welcome. Situation to be monitored over the winter period.

**2510 - Discussion of possible provision of BMX ramps in Close Field Playpark**

No progress to update.

**2511 - Discussion of progress towards possible replacement of wooden pavilion**

C’llr Neil James had met on site with the contractors and Glenn Murray. It had been confirmed that a risk assessment / method statement for the work would be provided. No further skip was needed at this time. The Football Club would demolish internal walls, move their equipment, and then build up an internal partition / new end wall before demolishing the end section of the building to be removed, in a staged process. Arrangements were in hand for the necessary input from National Grid to cap off the electricity supply to the part of the building due for demolition.

**2512 - Any necessary discussion of land development at Glebelands Field**

Nothing to report this month.

**2513 - Progress report on arrangements for renewal of Biodiversity Enhancement report**

C’llr Aled Thomas had made the necessary amendments to the document. This to be circulated to all Members, and then agenda item for approval to be tabled in the December meeting.

**2514 - Discussion of proposals for solar farm at Great Harmeston Farm**

Powys Communications had offered to attend a community council meeting to discuss the proposals, and answer questions. Members felt this could be useful. Clerk to contact them to invite them to the December meeting (to be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December, rather than the normal date of 8<sup>th</sup> December).

C’llr Aled Thomas mentioned that a motion was under preparation for discussion in P.C.C., opposing further solar farms of this size on good quality agricultural land in Pembrokeshire. Details of the exact wording of the motion had not yet been completed.

Members were agreed that there was a need to maintain a close interest in the progress of the development, and to be pro-active in addressing issues as these should arise.

The message from a local resident requesting an E.G.M. to discuss the proposals was mentioned. However, Members noted that the matter was a standing agenda item for regular meetings, and would continue to be so for the foreseeable future. Clerk to check on the Planning pre-determination issue.

The future issue of any split in the community fund set up in connection with the scheme (if approved) was noted as being the subject of ongoing discussion.

#### **2515 - Discussion of needed repairs to St. Peter's Road bus shelter**

It was noted that the P.C.C. Highways officer had mentioned the possibility of a ramp up to the playing field being provided. Members felt that this possibility might mean that repairs to the bus shelter could possibly prove unnecessary.

Clerk to email P.C.C. to ask about bus shelter replacement. Matter to be placed on December agenda for any necessary discussion.

#### **2516 - Discussion of measures needed to address poor drainage around footbridge, Langford Road**

C'llr Neil James commented that even when the road drains were clear, the camber of the road allowed water to pond adjacent to the bridge, causing issues for pedestrians. He felt that just a slight raising of the carriageway at this location would be needed to deal with the problem. C'llr Aled Thomas undertook to email P.C.C. Transportation about the matter.

#### **2517 - Discussion of public safety concerns in community, following recent incident on a local public service bus**

This related to an incident that had occurred in early October, where a child had been assaulted by someone on the bus while travelling to Haverfordwest High School. C'llr Aled Thomas mentioned that nothing further had been heard about the matter since then, though it had been reported to the Police at the time. P.C.C. had commented that it was a parental decision to use public service buses for their children's school transport, which meant that it was not a matter for P.C.C. However, C'llr Nina Philpott felt that it was a P.C.C. issue, or if not, it needed to be, as it involved children travelling to school. Members were agreed that it was difficult to see what J.C.C. could do, beyond noting the concerns of Members, and encourage residents to ensure that any similar cases were reported promptly to the Police.

#### **2518 - Any other business**

**December meeting.** Date to be moved to 15th December.

**Potholes / pavement cracks around The Close.** C'llr Janet Jeffries mentioned these as a problem at certain locations. C'llr Aled Thomas undertook to report these if she could provide specific locations.

The meeting ended at 8-39pm. Next scheduled meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....