

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

**Present: Cllrs Yvonne Llewellyn, Christine Wilkins, Nina Philpott, Rikki Schroeder, Neil James, Grayham Passmore, Aled Thomas, Martyn Spilsbury, Tracey Young, Len Gale; Peter Horton (Clerk).
Apologies : C'llrs Louise Jones, Janet Jeffries.**

2320 - Declarations of known Interests

None.

2321 – To receive the minutes from the February 2025 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved (proposer C'Ilr Aled Thomas, seconder C'Ilr Martyn Spilsbury).

Matters arising

2322 – request for path along main road from Bulford Road to roundabout.

No updates.

2323 - Discussion of speeding problems and pavement provision, Hayston Road and Church Road

C'Ilr Aled Thomas had been invited to look over four possible design options prepared by P.C.C., for combined footpath and traffic-calming measures. These were due to be sent over to J.C.C. for consultation once complete.

2324 - Discussion of arrangements for repair of bus shelter broken panes

Necessary repairs in hand with Celtic Windows.

2325 - Discussion of arrangements for completion of license application for memorial bench installation at Church Road

The bench had been installed, and Members were very content with the finished product. Thanks were expressed to C'Ilr Martyn Spilsbury for his assistance in preparing the design, and to C'Ilr Nina Philpott and the Clerk for helping achieve progress on getting the works completed. The Chairman mentioned that positive comments had already been received from residents. Clerk to arrange to add the bench to the asset register and insurance policy.

2326 - Discussion of arrangements to mark recent efforts of local schoolchildren in litter-picking

In hand with C'Ilr Aled Thomas to make arrangements with the school. Appointment of a new headmaster was currently under way, but a new Headteacher was hoped to be in post by early April.

2327 - Any necessary discussion of school transport arrangements

C'Ilr Aled Thomas reported that a further review of the new school transport policy had been agreed, and should be undertaken shortly.

2328 - Boundary fence between Moors Road and Close Field. C'llr Aled Thomas had received information suggesting that the current site owners might be changing, and that the community council would need to keep a close eye on possible developments, as this could potentially affect the roads, street lighting and pavements and fencing.

2329 - Planning

Planning decisions notified

24/0931/PA - Extension and Alterations; Site Address: The Rectory, Four Winds, Kiln Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PF

2330 - Correspondence

- 1) Infinity Play – Notification of termination of contract – Quote to be obtained from PPS Pembrokeshire, preferably to include for routine inspections as well. Clerk to also make enquiries with P.C.C. about a possible resumption of the service level agreement with them for inspections. In the event that it would be necessary for Members to undertake routine inspections themselves, an arrangement to mirror the rota currently used for defibrillator checks was suggested as a possible option. Agenda item to be tabled for discussion in April. Clerk to write to Infinity Play to thank them for the work undertaken over the last few years.
- 2) Celtic Windows – Quotation for bus shelter repairs – dealt with in 2324 above.
- 3) One Voice Wales – Membership renewal documentation – dealt with in 'Accounts' below.
- 4) P.C.C. – Request for approval to carry out various works in Cunnigar Woods – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 5) Aethne Cooke – dealt with in agenda item below.

2331 - Accounts

Payments for approval

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning, February 2025)	:	£ 72-00
Easy Websites (direct debit for website / email provision)	:	£ 37-20
Clerk (salary January – March 2025)	:	As per contract
HMRC (PAYE tax)	:	As per contract
Clerk (incidental expenses, October 2024 – March 2025)	:	£ 125-40
One Voice Wales (membership fee)	:	£ 417-00
Infinity Play (playground inspections)	:	£1560-00
Simply Landscaping (fencing work, Glebelands Field)	:	£2376-00
West Wales Pest Control	:	£ 456-00
Andrew Gray	:	£2340-00

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

2332 - Discussion of actions needed following recent financial risk assessment carried out by Clerk and also asset risk assessment

File back-up arrangements. Clerk to purchase external SSD storage device for use as a back-up for community council files.

Bank signatories. C'llrs Aled Thomas and Rikki Schroeder to be added as signatories, to replace C'llr Christine Wilkins and Ken Rowlands. Clerk to make arrangements accordingly.

Asset risk assessment. Members were informed that this had been completed by C'llr Neil James, and reviewed by C'llr Rikki Schoeder. Members thanked them for the work undertaken in completing this exercise. C'llr Neil James confirmed that the new commemorative bench had been included in the review. C'llr Neil James to forward the completed risk assessment document to the Clerk for filing.

2333 - Discussion of school transport arrangements

There were no further updates at present. C'llr Aled Thomas to pass on any further updates as and when they became available.

2334 - Any necessary discussion of issues connected with Vine Field

Hand gate from No. 13 Brickhurst Park. It was confirmed that the gate was now in situ. Clerk to cancel David Rees Fencing.

Repairs to multi-play unit. These had been completed by C'llr Grayham Passmore, and Members thanked him for the work done, and also C'llr Christine Wilkins for supplying the blackboard paint used.

Rubber safer surfacing matting. C'llr Grayham Passmore had noted some level discrepancies in the matting, that could potentially form a trip hazard. Members agreed for this to be left for consideration by the new playground inspectors when appointed. It was also noted that the straining wire on the top of the fence to the right of the locked access gate had snapped. It was left for this and the broken straining wire on the chainlink fence behind No. 11 Brickhurst Park to be repaired in due course, in conjunction with other necessary works.

2335 - Any necessary discussion of issues in Close Field

C'llr Aled Thomas had spoken with WOW regarding a possible CCTV installation, and was due to meet them the following weekend to discuss in more detail. They had suggested discussing with National Grid the likely cost and requirements for bringing in an electricity supply, as the cost of this was likely to be a major component of any project undertaken. WOW had offered some used cameras to put up as dummy cameras around the site, which could serve as a simple deterrent to anti-social behaviour, in exchange for permission to put up some signage with contact details of their company. Members approved use of the dummy cameras for the time being, while recognising that it would be unlikely to be effective in the long term. Clerk to check requirements for Planning Permission for any poles / CCTV installations required. Members agreed that C'llr Aled Thomas should proceed with assessing the feasibility of a scheme, including obtaining costings.

2336 - Discussion of possible roller-skating rink in Close Field Playpark

C'llr Aled Thomas had circulated the analysis of the survey results to all Members in advance of the meeting. Respondents had been generally supportive of the idea, and also supportive of the enhancing of BMX ramps in the playpark. Members to consider the analysis in detail, and matter to be placed on April agenda for further discussion. C'llr Aled Thomas undertook to forward the survey results to Sinead Heneghan in P.C.C., for any input she might have to offer in connection with a potential Enhancing Pembrokeshire grant to cover any works carried out.

2337 - Discussion of possible replacement of wooden pavilion

C'llrs Aled Thomas and Louise Jones to meet to discuss further when possible.

2338 - Any necessary discussion of progress on project to develop land at Glebelands Field

Tree-felling. C’Ilr Neil James confirmed that trees had now been felled as required by the most recent tree survey and report.

Fencing. Fencing around the perimeter of the playing field had been carried out by Simply Landscaping. A further 50m of fencing from the gate through from the field towards the cycle path along the back of properties in Glebelands was planned, in an effort to reduce badger activity in the field. Clerk to contact Clive at Simply Landscaping to ask him to contact C’Ilr Neil James about providing a price for that.

Places for Nature grant works. Permission had been sought and granted for Aethne Cooke of P.C.C. to arrange staking of some trees previously planted, placing of some information posts to advertise the funding for the work undertaken, etc. Regarding a quotation for a further 20m of footpath, quotations had been received from Andrew Gray, and from F.J. Groundworks. Members approved the quotation from F.J. Groundworks. Clerk to confirm with Sean Tilling that it would be acceptable to proceed. Message to also mention the problems with fallen trees down further up the path towards Bolton Hill, and request action to address this.

Boardwalk across stream at entrance to Cunnigar Woods. Clerk to ask Fraser James of F.J. Groundworks if he would be willing to meet C’Ilr Neil James to discuss a possible contract to provide a boardwalk across the stream.

2339 - Discussion of need to advertise casual vacancy for council

Members were informed that this would be C’Ilr Martyn Spilsbury’s final meeting as a community councillor. The Chairman expressed thanks on behalf of the whole council for the work that C’Ilr Spilsbury had done, including most recently the successful delivery of the commemorative bench project, previously the playpark in Vine Field, and much else besides, including being council Chairman for a number of years. Clerk to commence the statutory process to advertise for a replacement.

2340 - Discussion of need to find new playground inspectors

Dealt with in ‘Correspondence’ above.

2341 - Any other business

Old School Lane Cranham Park. C’Ilr Rikki Schroeder mentioned ongoing problems with school traffic driving on the wrong side of the road, due to the lack of parking restrictions. This had the potential to cause a serious accident. Matter to be tabled for discussion in April.

New minister in Johnston Baptist Chapel. C’Ilr Grayham Passmore had attended the inauguration, and greeted the Mayor of P. Dock Town Council while there.

Facilitation of public participation in community council meetings. Agenda item to be tabled for discussion in April, to clarify the current arrangements in place, and discuss any amendments needed.

Johnstons Men’s Shed. C’Ilr Neil James mentioned that the Men’s Shed volunteers would be active around the Village in the next few weeks, doing various jobs.

The meeting ended at 8-40pm. Next scheduled meeting – Monday 14th April 2025.

Signed.....Chairman

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