

Johnston Community Council
Annual Report 2023-24

Johnston Community Council incorporates the areas incorporating the village of Johnston, Pembrokeshire. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month (except August).

Johnston Community Council currently has twelve councillors:

Nina Philpott (Chairman)
Martyn Spilsbury (vice-Chairman)
Kaidan Alenko
Len Gale
Neil James
Janet Jeffries
Louise Jones
Yvonne Llewellyn
Grayham Passmore
Aled Thomas
Christine Wilkins
Tracey Young

Peter Horton is Clerk to Johnston Community Council and the initial point of contact.

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Johnston Community Council controls, either solely or jointly, the following areas of publicly-accessible land:

- Glebelands Field
- Close Field
- Vine Field
- Cunnigar Woods

Financial Information

Income

The Community Council's income is from precept collected via local Council tax. This is £36000 for the 2023/24 financial year.

Expenditure

The Community Council's budget for the 2023/24 financial year was £59799. The following report on anticipated actual expenditure for the year, and projected expenditure for the 2024/25 financial year, was presented to the January 2024 monthly meeting :

	<u>Precepted Sums for 23/24</u>	<u>Projected expenditure for 2023/24</u>	<u>PROPOSED SUMS FOR 2024/25</u>
Donations	£ 2000	£ 2000	£ 2000
Admin.	£ 800	£ 800	£ 1000
Clerk	£ 7499	£ 8663	£ 8923 ⁽¹⁾
Bus shelter cleaning	£ 900	£ 864	£ 900
Grass-cutting	£ 5500	£ 5399	£ 5800
Other open spaces maintenance	£ 3000	£ 3053	£ 3500
Tree report (bi-annual)	£ 400	£ -	£ 800
Community flowers	£ 300	£ 377	£ 400
Fly-tipping	£ 300	£ -	£ 300
Open spaces development	£10000	£ 9014	£10000 ⁽²⁾
Community Works grant	£ 1000	£ -	£ 1000
Insurance	£ 950	£ 1148	£ 1200
Solicitor's fees	£ 500	£ -	£ 500
Miscellaneous	£ 1000	£ 6	£ 1000
I.T. costs	£ 250	£ -	£ 250
Christmas	£ 1500	£ 1500	£ 1600
Johnston in Bloom	£ 150	£ -	£ -
Pestforce	£ 550	£ 550	£ 600
Election costs	£ 2000	£ -	£ 4000 ⁽³⁾
Members' allowances	£ 1900	£ 988	£ 2496 ⁽⁴⁾
One Voice Wales	£ 400	£ 400	£ 500
Commemorative bench	£ 1800	£ -	£ 1800
Defibrillators	£ 1500	£ 440	£ 400
Playground inspections	£ 1600	£ 1600	£ 1650
Playground maintenance	£ 2500	£ 7754	£ 5000
New play equipment	£10000	£ -	£ -
CCTV equipment	£ -	£ -	£ -
Jubilee / Coronation expenditure	£ 1000	£ 1000	£ -
Remembrance Day service costs	£ 500	£ 150	£ 500
	_____	_____	_____
TOTALS	£59799	£45706	£56119

Balance in all accounts at 01/04/23	:	£35970
Income from precept	:	£36000
Income from VAT returns	:	£11043
Deduct estimated total projected expenditure for current year	:	(£45706)

Therefore, total anticipated projected uncommitted sum on 01/04/24: £37307

Therefore, total anticipated available sum in accounts for 2024/25 : £37307
Add proposed precept for 2024/25 (AS SET IN COUNCIL) : £37000

TOTAL FUNDS PROJECTED AVAILABLE FOR 2024/25 : £74307

Relationship with the principal council

The Community Council has no ongoing formal charters with Pembrokeshire County Council (the Principal Authority).

Audit

Audit of 2022/23 accounts. These accounts represent the most recently externally audited accounts, and were given unqualified approval by the Wales Audit Office auditors.

Achievements during the past year

- £2670 distributed in charitable donations to local and national charities from which local residents benefit, and including donations towards the celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III.
- Ongoing development of new playground and recreational facilities on the Vine Field, with installation of new picnic benches and litter bin.
- Improvements to Glebelands Field and Cunnigar Woods, to enhance it as a recreational area for all residents, including the stone surfacing of approximately 350m of woodland footpaths, and installation of picnic benches and public seating.
- Cleaning and maintenance of five bus shelters situated in the community area.
- Grass-cutting and maintenance of all publicly accessible land owned and controlled by the Community Council.
- Maintaining of five publicly accessible community defibrillators for emergency use.
- Commissioning of new commemorative WWI bench, to remember the sacrifices of those from the community who gave their lives during historic conflicts.
- Renewal of the 3-yearly biodiversity enhancement report, setting out the community council's priorities for encouraging biodiversity in the community.

Priorities for the coming year

- Continue the development of the land at Cunnigar Woods for the benefit of local residents, as a woodland walking and recreational area
- Build on the development of the new Vine Field Playpark by the further addition of seating and picnic benches.
- Continue working towards the provision of a building to replace the existing wooden pavilion at Glebelands Field with a new multi-purpose building, including possible community 'man-shed' provision.
- Investigate the possible provision of a roller-skate rink at The Close Field Playpark.

PETER HORTON

CLERK TO JOHNSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

April 2024