

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Johnston Community Council held on 13th January 2025 in the Johnston Institute, and also online using the Zoom video-conferencing platform.

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

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

2280 - Declarations of known Interests

None.

2281 – To receive the minutes from the December 2024 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C'Ilr Yvonne Llewellyn, seconder C'Ilr Grayham Passmore).

Matters arising

2282 – request for path along main road from Bulford Road to roundabout.

C'Ilr Aled Thomas mentioned that the consultation into proposed works along the main road was due to re-open, and should be out in February / March.

2283 - Discussion of speeding problems and pavement provision, Hayston Road and Church Road

Clerk to seek progress report from P.C.C.

2284 - Discussion of arrangements for repair of bus shelter broken panes

No change. C'Ilr Aled Thomas undertook to seek information from P.C.C. on the type of Perspex needed, and obtain details of suppliers. Members agreed that J.C.C. would do the work directly with the assistance of The Mens' Shed. Regarding the Milford Road bus shelter, the Clerk confirmed that the encroaching growth had been reported to the Trunk Road Agency. C'Ilr Aled Thomas undertook to follow this up as possible.

2285 - Discussion of possible litter bin provision, Hillcroft field

Members understood that P.C.C. had declined to add this location to their bin-emptying schedule, due to stated lack of capacity. Members to report any incidents of littering directly to P.C.C. Agenda item to be tabled for any further discussion in February.

2286 - Discussion of arrangements for completion of license application for memorial bench installation at Church Road

It was confirmed that the Streetworks license had been issued. The Clerk had attempted to get undertakings from Andrew Gray on dates to complete the work, but without success to date. Clerk to chase him up again.

2287 - Discussion of arrangements to mark recent efforts of local schoolchildren in litter-picking

In hand with C'Ilr Aled Thomas to make arrangements in conjunction with the Headmaster.

2288 - Discussion of replacement website arrangements

The Clerk reported that the website was now up and running.

2289 - Planning

Planning consents notified

24/0719/PA - Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of Planning Consent 23/0421/PA – (Proposed Outbuilding) to allow changes to approved plans; Address: Springfield, Kiln Road, JOHNSTON, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3PE

2290 - Correspondence

- 01) Local resident – Application to join council – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 02) Local resident – Message concerning co-option onto council – dealt with in agenda item below.
- 03) P.C.C. – Approval of Streetworks License application for bench installation – dealt with in 2286 above.

2291 - Accounts

Payments for approval

David Banfield (bus shelter cleaning, December 2024)	:	£ 72-00
Easy Websites (direct debit for website / email provision)	:	£ 30-36
Norrards Electrics (Christmas tree lighting)	:	£ 432-00
Zurich (Insurance renewal)	:	£1239-20
Wales Audit Office (external audit fee for 2023/24 accounts)	:	£ 371-00

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C’llr Aled Thomas, seconder C’llr Louise Jones).

Discussion of setting of 2025/26 precept and budget

After discussion, Members agreed to add an item into the budget for 2025/26 for bus shelter repairs, in the sum of £1500, bringing the total approved budget for 2025/26 to £65767. The precept for 2025/26 was agreed at £39,000 (proposer C’llr Neil James, seconder C’llr Aled Thomas). Clerk to inform P.C.C. accordingly. Members thanked the Clerk for preparing a detailed and clear draft budget document to inform the discussions.

2292 - Any necessary discussion of school transport arrangements

C’llr Aled Thomas had attended a meeting in P.C.C. concerning the petition of a local resident about school transport / catchment areas. As a result, it had been decided to look at these matters afresh. A second petition had also subsequently been submitted by Neyland residents about the same issue. Matter held in abeyance pending the outcome of the review in P.C.C.

2293 - Discussion of co-option of new council member

[NOTE – C’llr Yvonne Llewellyn declared a personal but non-prejudicial interest in the application from Mr. Rikki Schroeder, as a distant relation].

Members considered the application to join the council that had been received from Mr. Rikki Schroeder. A message received from another local resident was not considered to be a valid application, as it had not requested to join the council. Following discussion, Members resolved unanimously to invite Mr. Rikki Schroeder to be co-opted onto the council (proposer C’llr Neil James, seconder C’llr Louise Jones). Clerk to contact Mr. Schroeder to issue the formal invitation, and deal with necessary administration.

2294 - Any necessary discussion of issues connected with Vine Field

The Clerk confirmed that no response had been received from the resident at No. 13 Brickhurst Park concerning damage to the chainlink fence following the message sent after the December meeting. In the meantime, as per the decision made in December, David Rees Fencing had been asked to carry out the closing up of the gap in the fenceline, and were due on site sometime early in the New Year. C'llr Aled Thomas undertook to contact the resident directly about both issues during the coming week.

2295 - Any necessary discussion of issues in Close Field

In hand with C'llr Aled Thomas to obtain a quotation for CCTV.

2296 - Discussion of possible provision of roller-skating rink in Close Field Playpark

Documentation currently being worked through by C'llr Aled Thomas, with some work still to be completed. Information to be circulated to Members once completed, in advance of a further discussion of the various options in the February meeting.

2297 - Discussion of progress towards possible replacement of wooden pavilion

C'llr Aled Thomas had looked over the National Lottery grant pre-application details required. He confirmed that this was an involved process, with many questions needing completion. It was agreed for Members who could contribute to this process to meet to commence work on the paperwork. C'llr Aled Thomas to set up a WhatsApp group for those interested / involved.

2298 - Any necessary discussion of progress on project to develop land at Glebelands Field

C'llr Neil James mentioned that there were three trees down across the path following the recent storm. This in hand to be dealt with in conjunction with the tree-felling work required pursuant to the recent tree report. C'llr Neil James mentioned that continuation of the work to provide pathways through this area would be sought in conjunction with P.C.C. during the forthcoming year. C'llr Aled Thomas to email Aethne Cooke to ask when the new budget pot would be available for applications to be submitted.

2299 - Any other business

Johnston Baptist Church. C'llr Grayham Passmore mentioned that a new minister had been appointed to the church, and was expected to be in post for the next few years.

Potholes. Members noted that there were a lot of potholes developing around the village, but were pleased to learn that work was ongoing in Langford Road to deal with some of these.

The meeting ended at 8-30pm. Next scheduled meeting – Monday 10th February 2025.

Signed.....Chairman

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