

MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 10th June 2026 at 6-30pm, online via the Zoom platform, and in person at Pembrokeshire College, Merlin's Bridge.

Present: Cllrs. Chris Lawler, Rita Lawler, Michelle Lewis, Veronica James; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies: C'llrs Mike Dare, Ian Lewis.

Declaration of known interests

None

Approval of minutes of 2026 A.G.M.

These were approved by Members, and retained by the Clerk for signature following the meeting (proposer C'Ilr Veronica James, seconder C'Ilr Michelle Lewis).

Approval of minutes of minutes of May 2026 monthly meeting

These were approved by Members, and retained by the Clerk for signature following the meeting (proposer C'Ilr Veronica James, seconder C'Ilr Michelle Lewis).

Matters arising

Memorial bench. Clerk to chase up progress on installing new bench.

Cenotaph. The Clerk reported on holding correspondence received from P.C.C. Nothing substantive by way of a response had yet been received.

New cabinet on verge at Woodlands Park. It had been confirmed that this was installed by National Grid under permitted development rights. Members commented on ongoing work around the community flower bed, which was disturbing it, and also the complete lack of prior notification of traffic works, which had been hugely disruptive to local traffic movements. Clerk to take these points up with P.C.C. Streetcare and National Grid.

Plans

There were no plans for consideration this month.

Correspondence

01) P.C.C. – Acknowledgement of letter sent in about Cenotaph – noted.

02) P.C.C. – Invitation for nominations for additional community governor, St. Mark's School – Clerk to ask C'Ilr Alison Palmer to provide an indication within a week if she wished to continue with the role. If she did not, or did not provide a positive indication within this timescale, C'Ilr Veronica James to be nominated. Regarding the possibility of the need for DBS checks to be paid for, Members held open the possibility of MBCC covering these costs.

03) Local resident – concerns over speeding on Pembroke Road – Clerk to ask P.C.C. to clean the 20mph sign at the village entrance at the Rugby Club end of the village. C'Ilr Michelle Lewis to post a reminder on the Facebook page of the need to observe the 20mph speed limit. Members to monitor the situation to see if any improvement was noted.

04) P.C.C. – Update on issue of 'sinkhole', Greenhill Park Drive – The Clerk reported on the response from P.C.C., which indicated that discussions with the landowner were ongoing. Agenda item to be tabled in the September meeting to review the situation.

Accounts (to include quarterly budget review)

Payments

Easy Websites (website direct debit)	:	£ 36-96
Lloyds Bank (monthly bank charges)	:	£ 4-25
P Horton (Salary April - June)	:	As per contract
H.M.R.C. (PAYE tax / N.I. contributions)	:	As per contract
C'llr Ian Lewis (member allowance)	:	£ 208-00
C'llr Michelle Lewis (member allowance)	:	£ 208-00
C'llr Veronica James (member allowance)	:	£ 208-00
C'llr Alison Palmer (member allowance)	:	£ 208-00
C'llr John Cole (member allowance)	:	£ 208-00

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C'llr Veronica James, seconder C'llr Michelle Lewis).

County Councillor's report

There was no report this month.

Discussion of any applications received for co-option of new councillors

No applications had been received. C'llr Michelle Lewis to re-post the vacancies on the Facebook page. Clerk to re-post in the community noticeboards.

Discussion of preparation of revised training plan for community council

Members adopted the revised training policy as drafted (proposer C'llr Michelle Lewis, seconder C'llr Veronica James).

Any necessary discussion of environmental / dog-fouling issues in community

Dog fouling. C'llr Rita Lawler commented that the situation seemed slightly improved at present, possibly due to the longer days.

Fly-tipping. C'llr Veronica James commented on the recurring problem of people dumping their black bags by the tree alongside the adjacent parking area close to her home. C'llr Michelle Lewis undertook to post a reminder on the Facebook page warning against illegal fly-tipping, which technically this was.

Any necessary discussion of future community events (including discussion of arrangements for 2026 Remembrance Day commemoration, and discussion of possible event in the Welfare Hall the previous day for veterans)

In regards to events to be held over Remembrance Sunday weekend, Members felt the need to progress arrangements, due to the need to confirm hall booking arrangements. A 'Remembrance Meet and Greet' event between 1pm and 3pm on Saturday 7th Nov was suggested. Clerk to check on the availability of the Welfare Hall on that date, and ask to reserve it if available. Agenda item to be tabled for September to discuss detailed arrangements.

Any other business

For sale signs. Members noted that these had re-appeared opposite the Greenhill Park Drive junction. Agenda item to be tabled for September to discuss.

The meeting was closed at 7-10pm. Next meeting - Wednesday 9th September 2026