

MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 14th May 2025 at 6-30pm, online via the Zoom platform, and in person at Pembrokeshire College.

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

Apologies: C'llrs Mike Dare, Ian Lewis

The meeting was chaired by the vice-Chairman C'llr Veronica James

Declaration of known interests

C'llr John Cole declared a personal and prejudicial interest in any Welfare Committee-related discussions.

Approval of minutes of minutes of April 2025 monthly meeting

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

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

Plans

Planning application consultations received

25/0045/PA - Erection of steel frame building to replace existing storage containers; Site Address: Haverfordwest Rugby Football Club, Pembroke Road, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1LY – No comments.

Planning consents notified

24/1049/PA – Alterations and extension; Site Address: 38, Woodlands Park, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1LR

24/1050/PA - Roof alterations involving raise main roof height and new dormer and raised ridge line over garage (in retrospect); Site Address: 1, Merlin's Avenue, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1JS

Correspondence

- 1) Merlin Autos – Response to message about parking issues in Magdalene Street – noted.
- 2) P.C.C. – Consultation on school transportation policy – noted.
- 3) Pension Regulator – renewal reminder - left with Clerk to deal with.

Accounts

Payments

Easy Websites (website direct debit)	:	£	36-96
Lloyds Bank (bank charges, April 2025)	:	£	4-25
Denise Mayr – (Internal audit of 2024/25 accounts)	:	£	90-00
Zurich (insurance renewal - RATIFICATION)	:	£	397-76
Wales Audit Office (audit of 2022/23 accounts)	:	£	474-00
Rita Lawler (reimbursement for flower seeds)	:	£	57-95
Michelle Lewis (reimbursement for flower seeds, etc.)	:	£	83-36
Ian Lewis (Member allowance for 2025/26)	:	£	208-00
Michelle Lewis (Member allowance for 2025/26)	:	£	208-00

Alison Palmer (Member allowance for 2025/26)	:	£ 208-00
John Cole (Member allowance for 2025/26)	:	£ 208-00
Mike Dare (Member allowance for 2025/26)	:	£ 208-00
Veronica James (Member allowance for 2025/26)	:	£ 208-00

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

Income

P.C.C. (Precept first installment)	:	£5834-00
H.M.R.C. (VAT reclaim for 2024/25)	:	£ 467-77

Internal Audit of 2024/25 accounts

This had been completed, and an audit report received.

Annual Governance Statement for 2024/25

This was completed by Members, signed by the Chairman and Clerk, and approved by Members (proposer C'llr Veronica James, seconder Michelle Lewis).

County Councillor's report

Apart from ongoing issues of potholes and speeding, there were no issues to report.

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

No applications had been received since the March monthly meeting.

Discussion of siting of public bench to mark VE-80 commemorations

Clerk still awaiting a response from P.C.C. Clerk to chase up.

Discussion of speeding problems in community

Apart from continuing speeding problems, there was no further discussion.

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

Dog fouling. Members had noted some recent improvement, and welcomed this.

Planting in barrels. C'llrs Rita Lawler, Chris Lawler and Michelle Lewis had been carrying out re-planting of the barrels, and this was progressing well.

Wild flower seed-sowing. This had been carried out at various locations, including around the cenotaph and on the verge outside the Welfare Hall. It was noted that mowing had been carried out around the cenotaph, which would prevent the seedlings from growing. C'llr John Cole undertook to raise concerns over this in County Hall.

Members discussed signage to draw attention to the need to leave these areas uncut.

Bin collections. C'llr Veronica James raised concerns about food waste being strewn around during bin collections, due to careless practice of operatives collecting the waste. Members to monitor the situation. C'llr John Cole mentioned that the bin lorries may not be fit for purpose, and the Refuse Service in P.C.C. was aware of this issue.

Civic Amenity sites. It was mentioned that the closure of some sites on certain days of the week had removed the need for the total closure of any sites for the time being, though this was continually under review in P.C.C.

Any necessary discussion of future community events

There were no currently planned events for discussion.

Any other business

There was no other business to report.

The meeting was closed at 7-30pm. Next meeting - Wednesday 11th June 2025.