

## MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 6-30pm, online via the Zoom platform, and in person at Pembrokeshire College

Present: Cllrs. Ian Lewis (Chairman), Michelle Lewis, Chris Lawler, Rita Lawler, Alison Palmer, Mike Dare, John Cole; Peter Horton (Clerk).

Apologies: C'Ilr Veronica James

### Declaration of known interests

C'Ilr John Cole declared a personal and prejudicial interest in any Welfare Committee-related issues that might arise.

### Approval of minutes of minutes of June 2024 monthly meeting and E.G.M. held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024

These were approved by Members, and retained by the Clerk for signature following the meeting (proposer C'Ilr Ian Lewis, seconder C'Ilr Alison Palmer).

### Matters arising

**Potholes.** Members noted that pothole repairs in the community were under way.

**Electric bike scheme.** – Members were informed that the scheme had been scrapped, due to antisocial and inconsiderate usage of the bikes.

**Grit bins.** Nothing further had been heard to date. Clerk to chase up installation of the grit bins.

**Bus shelter cleaning** – The bus shelter cleaning had been completed. A decision on timing of future cleans would be taken as and when required.

### Plans

#### **Planning consultations received**

**24/0257/PA** - Extension and Associated Works; Site Address: 38, Pembroke Road, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1JW – noted.

**24/0235/DC** - Discharge of Condition 3 (Sustainable Drainage Provision) and 10 (Highway Construction Details) of planning permission 18/0171/PA (Variation of conditions 1 (implementation of reserved matters) and 16 (Commercial units) and removal of conditions 13 (Code for Sustainable homes) , 14 (Code for Sustainable homes) and 15 (Code for Sustainable homes) of planning permission 14/0151/PA); Site Address: Land West of Jewsons, Old Hakin Road, Haverfordwest, SA61 1XE.

#### **Planning consents notified**

**24/0235/DC** – Discharge of Condition 3 (Sustainable Drainage Provision) and 10 (Highway Construction Details) of planning permission 18/0171/PA (Variation of conditions 1 (implementation of reserved matters) and 16 (Commercial units) and removal of conditions 13 (Code for Sustainable homes) , 14 (Code for Sustainable homes) and 15 (Code for Sustainable homes) of planning permission 14/0151/PA). Site Address: Land West of Jewsons, Old Hakin Road, Haverfordwest, SA61 1XE.

**24/0257/PA** - Extension and Associated Works; Site Address: 38, Pembroke Road, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1JW.

#### **Planning refusals notified**

**24/0198/PA** - Proposed Extension and Reconfiguration of Existing Dwelling  
Site Address: 60, Tudor Gardens, MERLINS BRIDGE, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1LB.

## **Correspondence**

- 01) St. Mark's School – Request for financial assistance – Clerk to reply to request details of the sums involved in carrying out the repairs.
- 02) P.C.C. – Invitations for nominations for additional community governor, Waldo Williams School – noted.
- 03) Local resident – concern over condition of war memorial, Magdalene St – Clerk to make enquiries on ownership / responsibility for the memorial, and then pass on enquiry. In the meantime, C'llr John Cole undertook to look into getting a group of local volunteers together to carry out needed painting, etc.

## **Accounts**

### **Payments for approval**

Boverton Nurseries (ratification)(planting, community flower beds)	: £907-20
J.M. Wilson (ratification)(bus shelter cleaning)	: £120-00
Wales Audit Office (audit of 2018/19 accounts)	: £398-75
Wales Audit Office (audit of 2019/20 accounts)	: £200-00
Wales Audit Office (audit of 2020/21 accounts)	: £261-00
Wales Audit Office (audit of 2021/22 accounts)	: £200-00
Clerk (salary July – September)	: As per contract
H.M.R.C. (P.A.Y.E. tax)	: As per contract

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

Payment for flowers for outgoing Headmistress of St. Mark's School– Members were advised that there was no clear legal basis for this to be paid from community council funds. It was therefore agreed between those present that the £22 cost would be shared evenly between those present, with the £2-75 each being paid to C'llr Alison Palmer privately.

## **County Councillor's report**

**Traffic speed data.** C'llr John Cole had asked the Clerk to request up to date data from P.C.C., and the Clerk confirmed that this had been done. P.C.C. officers had advised that it might take some time to allocate officer time to this.

## **Discussion of co-option of new councillors**

No further applications received to date.

## **Discussion of possible additional defibrillator purchase**

It was noted that a formal confirmation from the school to an agreement to keep the pedestrian gate open at all times, to facilitate public access to any defibrillator sited there was still awaited. Matter to be kept on hold until a further response received. Clerk to chase up a response from the school.

## **Any necessary discussion of environmental / dog-fouling issues in community (including discussion of community tree-planting)**

**Tree-planting.** The Clerk had been in touch with P.C.C. prior to the meeting, and they had agreed to a site meeting. C'llr Michelle Lewis offered to attend this by arrangement. Clerk to let Aethne Cooke of P.C.C. know, for a site meeting to be arranged.

**Dog-fouling.** A general reminder had been recently posted on the community Facebook page by C'llr Michelle Lewis.

### **Discussion of Remembrance Day commemoration arrangements**

Date scheduled for Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup> 2024.

C'llr Alison Palmer undertook to confirm arrangements with the bugler, as normal. C'llr John Cole confirmed that Dan Brett from Emmanuel Mission Church normally cared for the arrangements for the service.

Clerk to check on wreath purchase arrangements.

### **Discussion of future community events**

C'llr John Cole mentioned that initial discussions were planned for a 'winter festival' event, as well as a Halloween party, and various Christmas events.

All these would be discussed in detail at forthcoming Welfare Committee meetings, and C'llr John Cole to provide details as necessary to the community council at future meetings.

Members agreed for C'llr John Cole to organise the community Christmas tree arrangements as for previous years.

### **Any other business**

**Unightly 'For Sale' signage around community.** C'llr Chris Lawler mentioned the proliferation of unsightly signage around the community, especially opposite the junction to Greenhill Park Drive. Agenda item to be tabled for discussion of this in October.

**Tree-felling.** Members noted that a large number of Leylandii trees had been felled around the entrance of the Rugby Club.

**Disintegrating pavement edging kerbs.** C'llr Alison Palmer mentioned a problem with the kerbstones on the pavement edge opposite the Post Office in Lower Pembroke Road, which were disintegrating. C'llr John Cole undertook to mention this to Highways officers.

**Overhanging growth on pavements.** Members noted that growth was overhanging the pavements in a number of areas, including outside the Cheese Factory.

**Pedestrian crossing lights, Merlin's Hill.** C'llr Alison Palmer had found that the pedestrian crossing lights at this location appeared to be non-functional. It was noted that this fell within the Haverfordwest Town Council area. Nonetheless, C'llr John Cole undertook to bring it to the attention of the relevant department in P.C.C.

**Possible transfer of monthly meetings back to the Welfare Hall.** Agenda item to be tabled for discussion of a possible move to meetings in the Welfare Hall to be tabled for discussion in October.

The meeting was closed at 7-30pm. Next scheduled meeting - Wednesday 9th October, 2024.