

MERLINS BRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 6-30pm, in person at Pembrokeshire College, and online via the Zoom platform.

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

Apologies: C'llrs Mike Dare, Michelle Lewis, Veronica James

Declaration of known interests

None

Approval of minutes of minutes of February 2026 monthly meeting

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

Matters arising

Rubbish collections. Members noted an ongoing problem with strewn rubbish and damaged containers left behind after some rubbish collections. Clerk to contact P.C.C. to raise the issues.

Carriageway depression, Greenhill Park Drive. Members reported that this had been rectified. The Clerk reported on the actions P.C.C. had indicated they intended to take over the forthcoming period, i.e. to monitor the area on a monthly basis.

Bulb planting. Still in hand with C'llrs Rita Lawler and Michelle Lewis.

Plans

Planning consents notified

25/0871/PA - Change of use of dwelling house (C3) to Small residential care Home (C2) and including retention of roadside boundary fence; Site Address: 1, Merlin's Avenue, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1JS

Correspondence

01) P.C.C. – Response to Highways issues raised – noted.

02) P.C.C. – Further response regarding carriageway depressions issues raised at Greenhill Park Drive – noted.

Accounts (to include quarterly budget review)

Payments

Easy Websites (website direct debit)	:	£ 36-96
Lloyds Bank (monthly bank charges)	:	£ 4-25
Clerk (salary, January – March)	:	As per contract
H.M.R.C. (PAYE tax / N.I. contributions)	:	As per contract
Clerk (incidental expenses, October – March)	:	£ 69-66

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C'Ilr Ian Lewis, seconder C'Ilr Rita Lawler).

Internal auditor.

Members approved the appointment of the same internal auditor as for previous years.

County Councillor's report

Nothing to report this month.

Discussion of arrangements for completion of annual community council asset and financial risk assessments

Both in hand with the Clerk to complete.

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

None received.

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

Members agreed for the Clerk to proceed with the Memorial bench application for the bench recommended by P.C.C., Requested wording for the plaque to be 'LEST WE FORGET' (proposer C'llr Rita Lawler, seconder C'llr Chris Lawler).

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

Dog fouling. Members reported this a being possibly slightly better of late, but remaining an ongoing problem.

Any necessary discussion of future community events

C'llr John Cole confirmed that arrangements were in hand for an Easter Bingo event to be held in the Welfare Hall.

C'llr Rita Lawler mentioned an 'It's a Knockout'-style competition that had been held years ago at the Rugby Club. It was suggested that something similar could be good for the community. C'llr Ian Lewis undertook to speak with the Rugby Club about this.

Discussion of arrangements for cleaning of / repairs to community-owned bus shelters

Repairs to Milford Road bus shelter. Quotation still awaited. Clerk to seek alternative quotation for comparison.

Bus shelter cleaning. This was in hand, with the window cleaner having indicated his willingness to carry out the work.

Discussion of possible arrangements for new community defibrillator at St. Mark's School

The Clerk confirmed that nothing had been heard back from the school regarding the enquiry about siting a defibrillator there. Clerk to chase up, and also to mention the matter to C'llr Alison Palmer.

Discussion of needed repairs and maintenance to Cenotaph

The Clerk had sent an enquiry in to P.C.C. concerning this. A response was awaited. Clerk to chase up P.C.C., and also to ask them about the acceptability of potential college student input into completing the work.

Any other business

There was no other business to report.

The meeting was closed at 7-05pm. Next meeting - Wednesday 8th April 2026.