

BURTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting held in the Jubilee Hall, Houghton, and online via the Zoom videoconferencing platform, on Wednesday April 2nd 2025, 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Paddy McNamara, Michelle Campbell, Ian Thomas, Robin Howells, Vicky White, Fiona Hart, Laurence Price, Scott Sinclair, John Evans, Danny Young; Peter Horton (Clerk).
Apologies: C'llrs. Derek Jones, Peter Griffiths.

Members welcomed C'llrs Michelle Campbell and Ian Thomas to their first meeting.

Declarations of known interests

None.

Opportunity for public representation on tabled agenda items

There were no members of the public in attendance who wished to make representations.

Approval of minutes of the March 2025 monthly meeting

The minutes were approved as written (proposer C'lr John Evans, seconder C'lr Fiona Hart), and held for signature by the Chairman.

Matters arising

Defibrillators. The Clerk confirmed that the new defibrillator pads had been obtained and fitted, and also the missing defibrillator case for the unit in Burton had been replaced.

Playing Field car park lighting. C'lr Paddy McNamara commented that he had asked for the non-functional streetlight outside the car park entrance to be repaired, and this had now been done. He felt this might be sufficient to resolve the situation. No positive response had been received from P.C.C. to a request from the W.I. to their request for solar lighting. Realistically it was thought unlikely that this would be provided, due to budget pressures within P.C.C.

VE-80 commemorative events. C'lr John Evans mentioned that a meeting of the Jubilee Hall Committee was scheduled for 11th April to discuss possible arrangements.

Burton Ferry Community Garden. Arrangements for appointing a gardener to care for the area was in hand with C'lr Scott Sinclair. A poster advertising the role had been published that day.

Plans

Planning application consultations

24/1099/PA – Variation of conditions 2 (Approved plans & Documents) & 3 (Drainage) of planning permission 21/0943/PA (Erection of a single detached dwelling and garage (revision to extant permission 12/1204/PA); Plot adjacent to Wood Hollow, Houghton – No comments.

24/1106/PA - Proposed sun room extension and detached garage at Burton Farmhouse Site Address: Burton Farm House, BURTON, Milford Haven SA73 1NT – No comments.

Planning consents notified

24/1032/PA – Proposed vehicle entrance to workshop / garage; Site Address: Rear of Wyre House, Near 5 Kiln Park, Burton, Haverfordwest, SA73 1NY.

Correspondence

- 01) PCC – Holding message regarding data from speed-activated signs – noted.
- 02) Infinity Play – playpark operational inspection report – noted.
- 03) PPS Pembrokeshire – quotation for playground inspections – Members declined to accept the quotation, which omitted the routine inspections that were felt necessary.
- 04) P.C.C. – Quotation for playground inspections – Members resolved to accept the quotation (proposer C’lir Fiona Hart, seconder C’lir John Evans). Clerk to make arrangements.
- 05) P.C.C. – Offer to lease Barnlake land – dealt with in agenda item below.

Accounts

Payments

Easy Websites (monthly direct debit for website / email provision) :	£ 36-96
Clerk (reimbursement for purchase of SSD data drive [ratification]):	£ 60-97
Defib Store (purchase of defibrillator pads [ratification]) :	£732-00
Defib Warehouse (purchase of new defibrillator case [ratification]) :	£132-00
ICO (data registration renewal) :	£ 52-00

The above payments were approved by Members (proposer C’lir Fiona Hart, seconder C’lir John Evans).

Interim end of year financial report

This had been circulated to all Members. There were no comments made. Final end of year report to be presented to the A.G.M. in May.

Approval of 2024/25 annual report

Members approved the 2024/25 annual report as drafted (proposer C’lir John Evans, seconder C’lir Robin Howells). Clerk to arrange publication on the website.

Discussion of reported problem of vehicles rat-running along road under N end of Cleddau Bridge.

This matter had been raised as a concern by a resident as part of their consultation response to the Barnlake proposals. Members noted that the route was a public highway, and people were entitled to use it. A gate half way along the road was noted as being illegal to close, as it would block the public right of way. In any event, it was mentioned that the gate had actually disintegrated. C’lir Paddy McNamara commented that it was more of an issue of speeding than numbers of vehicles using the route. The possibility of requesting consideration to traffic-calming measures (e.g. speed bumps, etc.) was mentioned. However, C’lir Michelle Campbell felt that if this was done, it might prompt a backlash from residents elsewhere in the community, where such requests had previously been rejected. The discussion widened into concern over speeding in other locations around the community, such as Burton, Houghton, Ashdale Lane, Sardis, etc. Matter to be placed on June agenda for further discussion. In the meantime, Members were asked to consider specific locations of concern. Clerk to endeavour to obtain the awaited speed data in advance of the meeting, if available.

Discussion / update on Barnlake Recreational Area, and discussion of next steps.

C’lir Paddy McNamara mentioned that he had visited the area with C’lir Scott Sinclair. They, along with C’lir Laurence Price, felt that the area had great potential. Also, after all that had been done elsewhere in community, rejuvenating this area as an asset for the Barnlake community was considered appropriate. P.C.C. had indicated that they would be willing to lease the land long term for a peppercorn rent. C’lir Scott Sinclair commented that pursuing the lease would seem to be a good idea. He mentioned that responsibility for the public footpath running through the area would need to remain the responsibility of P.C.C. He was hoping to arrange a site meeting with Sean Tilling of

P.C.C. to examine aspects of this more closely. In addition, C’lir Laurence Price commented that exact locations of boundaries, limits of public footpath width, etc., would need to be carefully looked at and agreed. It was also mentioned that a discussion with P.C.C. about bringing the site up to an acceptable standard as part of any transfer process, and matters such as replacing the bench and installing a litter bin, would need to be considered.

Members resolved to formally request a lease arrangement from P.C.C. (proposer C’lir Scott Sinclair, seconder C’lir Laurence Price). Clerk to action this request. It was anticipated that, if concluded, the recreational area would be rejuvenated for public use, but the wooded area would be left wild.

Thanks were expressed to all the local residents who had assisted in the initial clearance of the area.

C’lir Scott Sinclair referred to the recommendations in the summary document, which mentioned the need to set up a group to co-ordinate maintenance and report periodically to the community council regarding any ongoing maintenance issues. The need to budget to finance one major clearance once a year was agreed.

Discussion of detailed agenda for May monthly meeting.

Members confirmed the arrangements for the face-to face- meeting to be held with Henry Tufnell, M.P. on 9th May. Members reviewed the questions previously put forward for submission to Mr. Tufnell, and confirmed these for the Clerk to pass on to him (proposer C’lir John Evans, seconder C’lir Robin Howells). As minuted in the record of the March monthly meeting, it was to be stressed to Mr. Tufnell that he would not be held accountable for answering these questions, which were matters for the devolved Welsh Government. Rather, the intention was for the questions to provide him with an indication of the concerns of Members, with the hope that a conversation could be held over what support he could offer to achieve progress in the matters raised. It was confirmed that the discussion would be limited to subject areas to do with the Withybush Hospital services, new hospital arrangements, etc., and not wider questions outside the area of healthcare provision. It was agreed that C’lir Scott Sinclair would chair this item. In order to keep the meeting focused it was agreed that questions would be generated by Councillors, not the public forum, though people from the community with an interest in health care provision debates would be welcome to attend. It was also agreed that in order to ensure sufficient time for the discussion, the meeting would be a single item agenda meeting, apart from the statutory agenda items that would need to be included.

In advance of the meeting, Clerk to try and locate the material provided by the Hywel Dda Health Board following their address to the community council some time previously, If available, this material to be circulated to Members in advance of the May meeting.

Any necessary discussion / updates on future community events

Nothing further to report at present.

Any other business

Road drain covers along edge of carriageway on hill down to Burton Ferry. C’lir Laurence Price reported the tarmac around these as disintegrating. Clerk to contact P.C.C. to flag up H&S concerns.

May monthly meeting. It was noted that this would be on Friday 9th May, rather than the normal first Wednesday. C’lirs Michelle Campbell and Ian Thomas indicated that they would probably be attending on Zoom.

The meeting ended at 8pm. Next meeting to be held at 7pm on Friday 9th May 2025.