



MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13 APRIL 2026
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, FREYSTROP AT 19:15

1. Opening Remarks

- The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting and introduced new Councillor Christopher White who was elected unopposed

2. Attendance & Apologies

- Detailed on the attendance register

3. FCC Policy on Declarations of Interest

- The declaration of interests form must be completed, signed and returned to the acting clerk prior to any discussion on the related matter

4. Minutes of the 9 March 2026 Monthly Meeting

- The minutes of the meeting were passed as a true representation
 - Proposed: A M Simpson Seconded: T F Holder

5. Matters Arising

- B Musk asked why 'of Burton' was added when referring to him in minutes
 - The acting clerk responded that, as Mr Musk neither resides within nor is widely known in the community, it was considered appropriate that the community be made aware of these facts given his level of interest in the conduct of the Community Council
 - B Musk requested that it be minuted that he feels discriminated against
 - The reference will not be added in future minutes

6. Joint Working Party update - White House Solar & Storage Facility

- No further meetings of the joint working group have been held
- A Brown – inspector has been appointed at PEDW

7. Presentations & Questions from the Public

- A Brown questioned the status of the annual report for 2024/25
 - The clerk has had other pressing matters to deal with and currently has no date for its completion

8. County Councillor's Report

- Pembrokeshire County Councillor M J John update
 - MJJ congratulated Councillor C P White on his election
 - The Freystrop solar project is second in line for consideration by inspectors
 - Senedd elections in May. Register before 20 April. Candidate list published
 - Hakin election took place on 17 March
 - Eligible residents for the Council Tax reduction scheme will be contacted by PCC
 - PCC has increased payments to foster carers
 - 308 bus service. Timings changed at end of March
 - Active Travel Plan consultation closing 20 April
 - 20mph review. Freystrop decision has been deferred
 - B Musk gave some facts on the speeding through Freystrop Cross
 - A long discussion followed
 - GoSafe team to be approached
 - Community Speedwatch has been disbanded. Areas of concern should be reported by individuals
 - Bridleway at Targate corner has defective fencing, this has been reported
 - The minor works fund project for Targate Road speeding control chased

9. Community

- Biodiversity audit
 - Email from company to undertake a biodiversity audit at a cost of £2,000 has been received. There was no interest in undertaking a survey
- OVW notification
 - New Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales published
 - Revised Section 7 list published
- Dyfed Powys Police Connects
 - A new initiative where PCSOs accompany a Community Councillor to speak to residents about their concerns. Cllr T F Holder volunteered to work with PCSO Adam Thomas
- 'Do not knock' stickers
 - The clerk has posted a promotional email for free stickers to deter cold callers to the community. To minimise telephone calls to residents the clerk will request 30 stickers to give to responders and to be available in the hall



- Time Out for Carers Fund Round 4
 - Up to £4,000 to fund projects to provide breaks for unpaid carers
 - Deadline 11 May, 12:00 noon

10. Highways & Rights of Way

- Electricity upgrade coming to a close
 - B Pearce enquired why the excavations on footpaths have not been sealed

11. Planning Matters

- Shire Hill, Moorland Road
 - [25/0717/PA](#)
 - Retrospective S73A. Feed/machinery store & retrospective planning permission for alterations to existing front boundary
 - Refused
- The Burgage, Lower Freystrop
 - Air source heat pump conditionally approved
- Upper Sandywells
 - Appeal submitted to PEDW in relation to the demolition notice on the extension
- Awaiting decision
 - Cross View Farm, Bower House, Clayston Garage
- PCNPA have published several new Supplementary Planning Guidance documents
 - Conversions in the Countryside
 - Replacement Dwellings in the Countryside
 - Planning for the Conservation and Enhancement of Dark Skies
 - Affordable Housing (updated SPG)

12. Assets

- No items were raised for discussion

13. Training/Seminars, Consultations & Presentations

- Infrastructure Planning for Communities – DWT attended 26 March
- Audit Wales – Webinar for clerks – 16 April
- PCC Code of Conduct Training – 20 April, 19:00 EU signed up
- Accounts closure and annual return training – 5 May

14. FCC Administration

- Notice of Casual Vacancy
 - Election called
 - Christopher White elected unopposed
 - Estimated cost of holding an election by Electoral Services was at least £5,000. The final cost would have been determined by the number of postal votes
- C Pugh. "FCC Complaint"
 - FCC response given within the time frame of the complaints procedure
 - First time the complaints procedure has been used
 - C Pugh was not happy with the response given
- C Pugh has raised a complaint with the Ombudsman against former Councillor Ross Harries
 - All details are confidential and cannot be discussed
- Job advertisement for the position of clerk submitted to OVW
 - Distributed to all current clerks in Pembrokeshire
 - Posted on OVW website
- Pugh Computers Marketing re online access to meetings
 - The Chair requested the email be forwarded to him for consideration

15. FCC Financial Matters

- PHFRP quote for inspections from PPS
 - Play area - £40/month
 - Outdoor Gym - £30/month
 - Annual reporting – 2x £117.99
 - The quote was found to be acceptable
 - Proposed: A M Simpson Seconded: T F Holder
- Zurich Insurance renewal
 - A quote for £241 has been received. The clerk will query this as it appears not to reflect the current precept
- Councillor allowances
 - These were paid on 25 March
 - The clerk reminded Councillors that payment is mandatory unless declined in advance using the form which accompanies the Remuneration Policy



- Acting clerk's salary from late November 2025 to March 2026
 - The acting clerk left the room to allow Councillors to discuss the matter. Cllr J Morris minuted the proceedings
 - The acting clerk has not been paid at all since coming back in acting capacity. Councillors agreed for back payment to be made from 1st December 2025
 - The acting clerk returned to the meeting and resumed minute taking
- Receipts March/April 2026
 - Return of maintenance contribution by Middle Hill - £150.00
 - S Lewis said this was not intentional and would investigate
 - Deposit Account Interest - £13.92
- Payments March/April 2026
 - PHFRP Climbing Frame - £9,300 final instalments
 - Councillor allowances - £156 per year pro rata
 - PCC Election charges - £260.67
 - PHFRP Grass cutting - £100.00
 - Defibrillator pads - £27.18
 - Annual contribution to grounds maintenance
 - St Justinian's - £150.00
 - Middle Hill - £150.00 [payment returned]
- Bank accounts
 - Current Account Balance: £2,363.15 at 11/04/26
 - Deposit Account Balance: £12,899.61 at 11/04/26
- Accounts 2025/2026

16. Other Matters

- One Voice Wales
 - Renewal of membership - £118 for 2026/27
 - The acting clerk strongly advised Councillors renew membership as their support has been invaluable in handling the unpleasant atmosphere Council has had to operate under since September
 - Councillor W D Thomas report.
 - He has attended no meetings and had nothing to report
 - 23 April is the next meeting

17. Councillors' Requests

- There were no requests

18. Date of Next Meeting

- Next scheduled meeting 11 May 2026 in Freystrop Village Hall at 19:15
- Items for inclusion on the agenda should be received by the clerk by 30 April 2026

Russell Lavis

Acting clerk

Ebost/Email community.clerk@freystrop.wales

Approval proposed by:

Seconded:

Signed:

Date:

11/5/26