

MINUTES OF NOLTON AND ROCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT NOLTON VILLAGE HALL AND READING ROOM

2 June 2025

Members present

M. Harries, M. Canton, A. Jones and J. Gale.

Clerk and County Councillor – N. Neumann.

Members of the public: J. Roden and R. Evans of the National Trust.

2201 Apologies

M. Hammond, J. Hancock and A. Peach

2202 Declaration of interest

Nothing declared.

2203 Chairman's Remarks

M. Harries extended sincere condolences to the family of Lily Wilson who suddenly passed away. Lily was a popular Year 6 pupil of Roch School and will be sadly missed by all at the school and wider community who knew her. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the family at this difficult time.

2204 National Trust update on Southwood Estate (J. Roden and R. Evans)

M. Harries welcomed J. Roden and R. Evans to the meeting, and extended thanks to them for sparing the time to attend the meeting. Introductions were made by all participants of the meeting, which dovetailed into the start of the National Trust's (NT) presentation. R. Evans firstly acknowledged the gap in communications between the NT and the wider community for some time. Going forward, the intent is to improve communications and greater engagement with community stakeholders such as the Community Council. R. Evans explained that the meeting was a good opportunity for them to gain feedback and ideas on how to better communicate and engage. J. Roden went on to introduce the history of the Southwood Estate from 2003 since the estate was bequeathed to the NT up to the current date. It was acknowledged that activities on the estate had initially been quite active but sadly COVID and financial pressures on the organisation have meant activities and projects have been paused more recently. M. Canton asked J. Roden to explain the land management approach. J. Roden outlined that the NT's land management strategy with nature and carbon capture being core to the strategy and land management delivery plans. J. Roden explained that the land management has been and will continue to be an extensive light touch approach which will produce nature rich habitats with improved access for all. M. Canton raised concerns regarding hedgerow encroachment on the Bathersland and Folkeston Roads and asked for this matter to be dealt with appropriately. Furthermore, M. Canton asked for more intervention and control of weeds (specifically Ragwort and Creeping Thistles) across the estate to prevent spread to neighbouring land and properties. J. Roden acknowledged both points and explained they would address both matters accordingly. M. Harries reiterated past concerns regarding fire risks on the estate following the devastating fires of 2023 on the coastal belt. J. Roden explained the NT have taken onboard the concerns regarding fire risk and have met with the fire authority on multiple occasions and now have a fire management plan in place. J. Gale provided some brief history of the estate which included a water wheel at Southwood, Old Southwood Farmhouse in the woods, the original Pilgrims Way and the cheese press at Wood Farm. R. Evans thanked J. Gale for the insights and asked whether she would be willing to help on the history of the estate going forward. M. Canton said positive feedback had been received on the new access routes across Southwood and Trevane.

The clerk asked for clarity on the NT's position regarding the Newgale Coastal Adaptation Scheme proposed by Atkins and PCC. R. Evans confirmed the NT are not supportive of the current proposal whilst they do acknowledge the need to coastal adaptation. R. Evans went on to outline the communications and engagement plans going forward, and reaffirmed that there was no significant funding on the horizon for the estate, and the approach will be a light touch. R. Evans asked for thoughts on frequency and focus of engagement going forward. It was proposed that meetings with Community Council should be twice a year to which members felt reasonable. Engagement with the school and chapel were highly suggested. J. Roden enquired about progress on the new pavement connecting the Southwood-Newgale path to Roch village. The clerk explained PCC had committed the project as part of the PCC Minor Works Fund, and Community Council would continue to push for this work to be undertaken. M. Harries thanked J. Roden and R. Evans for their time and the session was concluded.

2205 Minutes of the previous meetings dated 5 May 2025

Proposer J. Gale and seconded by M. Harries.

M. Harries signed minutes as true record.

2206 NRCC vacancy/recruitment update

M. Harries expressed his thanks to R. Thomson and wished him well for the future. The clerk confirmed the statutory period of time for members of the public to apply or request an election would end on the 3rd June. If there are no requests for election or nominations before this time, Community Council and its members will be permitted to co-opt. The clerk confirmed he would update members upon the official response being received from PCC Electoral Services. M. Harries advocated the vacancy should be filled by a Nolton resident to maintain the balance of members between Roch and Nolton constituencies.

2207 Clerk's report on matters arising

- **Nolton and Roch Community Land Trust (CLT)** – No update provided on this occasion.
- **Updates from the Victoria Hall / Nolton Village Hall and Reading Room**
 - Nolton Village Hall: M. Canton not present at meeting so no update on this occasion.
 - Victoria Hall: M. Harries confirmed the annual Duck Race on the 25th May was very well attended (>500 people). The event is one of the largest in the annual events calendar, and was very well received this year. M. Harries confirmed the hall is currently very well supported with regular users, and a masseuse is the latest addition as regular user to the hall. M. Harries reminded members that the hall AGM was scheduled for the 12th June and everyone welcome.
- **Public toilet provisions at Nolton Haven** – M. Canton updated members on operational matters which in summary were positive with consistent level of donations received. The clerk updated members on the sponsorship drive which as agreed on the last meeting would see a potential contribution of £1,000 towards the running costs of the toilets. The clerk showed members an example of a clip frame which had arrived and explained the next steps. The clerk updated members on progress with the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) between PCC and NRCC for the premises. This matter is progressing and conversations are ongoing between Eaton-Evans and Morris (NRCC's solicitor) and PCC on the key terms of the leasehold agreement.
 - Action: Clerk to follow-up.
- **Newgale Coastal Adaptation Scheme** – No update provided on this occasion.
 - Action: The clerk to follow-up on above requests.
- **Foot / cycle path around dangerous bend in Roch** – The clerk confirmed no update on this occasion but agreed to follow-up accordingly.
 - Action: Clerk to follow-up.

- **Policing of double yellow lines in Nolton Haven and Welsh Road (Newgale – Nolton Haven) parking issues and signage** – M. Canton confirmed no issues currently. The clerk confirmed a request had been submitted to clean the highway along the beachfront of sand.
 - Action: Clerk to follow-up.
- **PV Solar Speed Reduction Signs** – The clerk confirmed no update on this occasion.
 - Action: Clerk to follow-up.
- **Village footpath and signage for Roch to Newgale new footpath** – The clerk confirmed no update available on this occasion.
 - Action: Clerk to follow-up.
- **Missing road signs** – PCC representatives have confirmed there is currently a significant backlog and the lead time would be an additional 6-8 weeks.
 - Action: Clerk to follow-up.
- **Welsh Road Traffic Order** – The clerk confirmed no proposal had been received from PCC on this matter. The clerk agreed to follow-up with the traffic team at PCC.
 - Action: Clerk to follow-up.

2208 Planning

- **PCNPA Proposal: Creation of 9 self-contained holiday units & 1 twin unit shepherds hut (part retrospective) all with associated car parking & ecological enhancements.** Land South of Nolton Stables, Nolton, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3NW [NP/25/0232/FUL] *Application sent round to all Councillors prior to meeting – No concerns or objections raised. Response to be submitted to PCNPA.*
- **PCC Proposal: Front lobby/porch extension.** 2, Plasgrug, Church Road, ROCH, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 6BG [25/0134/PA] *Application sent round to all Councillors prior to meeting – No concerns or objections raised. Response to be submitted to PCC.*
- **PCNPA Proposal: Application for Certificate of Lawfulness (4 year rule) for multi-purpose building (assembly & Leisure use D2 use).** Johns Barn, Nolton Stables, Nolton, Haverfordwest, SA62 3NW [NP/25/0278/CLE] *Application sent round to all Councillors prior to meeting – No concerns or objections raised. Response to be submitted to PCNPA.*
- **Proposed new communication cabling via cable ducting and chambers running alongside the A487 in the highway verge between Newgale beach and Midway Farm via directional drilling and trenching.** Newgale Beach to Midway Farm, Roch, Pembrokeshire, SA62 6AW [NP/25/0243/FUL] *Application sent round to all Councillors prior to meeting – No concerns or objections raised. Response to be submitted to PCNPA.*

2209 Finance and Legal Matters

- The clerk confirmed that all financial and governance related documents pertaining to FY24-25 had been reviewed and internally audited by Bevan and Buckland LLP. The clerk outlined the feedback and recommendations from auditors to further strengthen governance processes going forward. Members accepted the findings of the audit, and chairman M. Harries duly signed off the audit findings, and the matter was resolved. The clerk confirmed he would submit the required audit findings and supporting documents to Audit Wales to close out the annual audit process.
- The clerk requested approval for the following expenditure: £432.00 Bevan and Buckland Audit Fees, £11.99 Hugo Fox website hosting and £129.54 for clip frames; members approved and the matter was resolved.
- The clerk updated the councillors on the state of finances and bank account balances.
- The clerk confirmed the Tenancy at will agreement with PCC had been extended to September 2025 to allow more time for the CAT agreement to be completed.

2210 Correspondence

- Let's Talk: Living in Pembrokeshire - Survey
- FW: Resignation from NRCC
- LCW Bike Course Maps & Event Update
- New PAW training schedule 25/26
- Visit Pembrokeshire Community Fund
- Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority LDP Consultation
- Nolton Haven Tenancy at will

2211 Meetings attended by Councillors / forthcoming meetings

- None.

2212 Other items

- None.

2213 PCC report

- Cllr. Neumann updated members on several matters throughout the meeting which are outlined in the meeting minutes herewith.

2214 AOB

- **Defibrillator Management** – M. Canton expressed concern over R. Thomson leaving and the management and responsibility of the defibs in the Nolton community. The clerk confirmed R. Thomson was willing to continue the management of the defibs to which members expressed their gratitude.
- **Bins at Nolton Haven** – M. Canton expressed concern that household waste was being deposited in the bins on the beachfront.
- **Dog fouling and fly-tipping (Roch)** – M. Harries confirmed he had received a correspondence from a member of the public with complaints regarding dog fouling and fly-tipping along the footway between Church Road (Maes Fynnon entrance) to Pilgrims Way. The clerk agreed to raise the issue via Enviro-crime reporting team.
 - Action: The clerk agreed to follow-up.

2215 Items for the next agenda

- None

Meeting closed at 9.38pm

Next meeting: Monday 7th July 2025 at Victoria Hall, Roch.

Signed

Chairman

Members Attendance FY25-26

[illegible]