

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH JANUARY 2021
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING UNDER THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (CORONAVIRUS)
(WALES) REGULATIONS 2020

Present: Cllrs. T. Owens (Mayor), F. Preece (Deputy Mayor), D. Edwards, R. Bennett, D. Davies, J. Wilding, C. Kirkby MBE, P. Smith, C. Ruby, N. Rogers, B. Baynham.

Apologies: Cllrs. L. Veary, R. Bamford.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk.

Declarations of Interest: Members were requested to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests they may have in matters to be considered at the meeting in accordance with the terms of the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct Order) (Wales) Order 2008.

Personal:

Cllr. T. Owens, Trustee of East Radnorshire Day Centre (dispensation applies), re. proposed budget amount for Day Centre.

Cllr. D. Edwards, Trustee of East Radnorshire Day Centre (dispensation applies), re. proposed budget amount for Day Centre.

Cllr. D. Edwards, Trustee of Norton Community Trust, re. re. proposed budget amount for Norton Community Trust

Cllr. J. Wilding, Trustee of Norton Community Trust, re. proposed budget amount for Norton Community Trust.

Cllr. D. Edwards, member of Norton Sports Committee, re. proposed budget amount for Norton Sports Committee.

Cllr. J. Wilding, member of Norton Sports Committee, re. proposed budget amount for Norton Sports Committee.

Cllr. B. Baynham, Director of Judge's Lodging Trust, re. proposed budget amount for Judge's Lodging Trust.

Cllr. R. Bennett, member of Sheep Music, re. proposed budget for Sheep Music Fireworks event.

Personal and Prejudicial:

Cllr. B. Baynham, employee of East Radnorshire Day Centre, re. proposed budget amount for Day Centre.

MIN 3841 PLANNING

(1) Planning applications: No applications were considered at the meeting.

(2) Planning Decisions: No decisions to note.

MIN 3842 FINANCE

(1) Payments: The following payments were approved –

Mrs T.A. Price (refund online data storage Microsoft)	£19.90
(£1.99 per month x 10).	

Highground Maintenance Ltd (grass cutting)	£319.57 MEADOW ACCOUNT
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(2) Review of Allocated and Free Reserves and Budget Monitoring to end December: Members reviewed the individual allocated reserves and the amount of projected free reserves at the year end. No changes were considered necessary but reserves would be reviewed again at the end of the financial year.

Members then considered the spending for the year to date which was all in line with that expected. The following items were agreed for adjustment –

- Youth Project: Had not as yet wished to drawn down the £1200 allocated in the current budget and this would need to be reviewed.
- Devolved Services Budget: To be transferred to Library Reserve and reserve renamed to Library/Devolved Services.
- Climate Crisis Grant Fund: To be reviewed at the year end and considered for new allocated reserve as no projects had been able to take place due to corona virus.
- VE Day Celebrations: To be renamed Events & Celebrations and new allocated reserve created.
- Purchase of additional tables for meetings: Purchase to go ahead once in person meetings could resume.

(3) Receipts: The following receipt was noted -

Powys County Council Third Precept Payment £23,617.00

(4) Budget and Precept for 2021/22:

Cllr. Baynham was placed in the waiting room during the consideration of the grant allocation for East Radnorshire Day Centre.

Cllr. Davies raised concerns that the Primary School was short of laptops for staff use and those on order would be some weeks arriving. She asked if it would be possible to include an amount in the budget for equipment. The Clerk advised that as far as she was aware spending on education, as a statutory service, was not permitted but that she could double check. Members agreed however that it was better that Cllr. Baynham investigate and chase the laptops on order and she agreed to do this.

It was agreed not to proceed to purchase an accounting package but that the Clerk investigate other possibilities over the coming year.

Members considered each budget line in turn and made adjustments as appropriate. Organisations allocated grants for 2021-22 were as follows –

Donations & S137s	
Air Ambulance	300
British Legion (Remembrance Wreaths)	60
East Radnorshire Day Centre	2000
Knighton & District Leg Club	100
Memorial Hall	750
Mid Border Arts	1250
Norton Community Trust	2000
Norton Sports Committee (Fireworks)	250
PACDG	250
1st Presteigne Guides	100
Presteigne Festival	1250
Presteigne Fireworks Display (Sheep Music)	500
Presteigne Little Peoples Playgroup	500
Presteigne & Norton Community Support	250
The Judge's Lodging Trust Ltd	2000
Powys CAB	200
Radnorshire Wildlife Trust	250
The Samaritans	200
Wardens Guardian Foundation	250
Youth Project (reserve held from last year)	0
Miscellaneous	1500
	13,960.00

A number of organisations had failed to apply this time.

Just two new projects were included –

Projects 2021-22	
Reuse and Repair	1000
Footpath Maintenance	100
	1,100.00

Ongoing projects allocated further monies were –

Ongoing Projects:	
Anchorage Test for Xmas Lights	100
Toilet Blocks (2)	9000
PACDG (street cleaning)	250
Funding twds Town Library Service (reserve held)	0
Presteigne Christmas Lights	1300
Wildflowers/ Bulbs/Verges/Roundabouts	500
Street Lighting/Dark Skies Project	750
Climate Crisis Project Grants	1000
	12,900.00

Members agreed a budget for the 2021-22 financial year of £69,510 equating to a Band D precept of £54 per year, a reduction of £1 from 2020-21.

MIN 3843 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) Christmas Lights: Members discussed the suggestion that the lights be left on for an extended period but agreed to defer a decision until the meeting on 20th January in order to confirm the start date for the Dark Skies trial, to ensure insurance cover would continue and to ascertain any additional cost.

(2) Felling of Tree on Warden: Cllr. Baynham reported that Welsh Water had removed the tree without permission and that an Officer was investigating.

(3) Recent Covid Case in Presteigne: Noted.

(4) Transforming Towns Covid-19 Grant Programme: Cllr. Owens was please to report that the grant application had been successful and that the Clerk would inform the retailers concerned who would now need to obtain the necessary planning permissions.

The meeting closed at 9.32 pm.