

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18TH APRIL 2018
AT THE SHIREHALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

Present: Cllrs. J. Wilding (Mayor), C. Kirkby MBE, (Deputy Mayor), Ms B. Baynham, T. Owens, D. Edwards, R. Bamford, S. Dixon, P. Linnett, R. Bennett, N. Rogers, L. Veary.

Apologies: Cllrs. F. Preece, C. Ruby.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk; members of the public.

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: None.

Personal and Prejudicial:

Cllr. Bamford, close friends with applicant, planning application P/2018/0365.

Cllr. Kirkby, business association (mother of applicant is tenant of property), planning application P/2018/0343.

MIN 3445 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 21st March, 2018 were approved without amendment. The Chairman then duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 3446 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

(1) Planning Liaison Meetings: To be reintroduced by the County Council.

(2) War Memorial Information Board: Training date at the Secondary school now agreed and Board to be ordered immediately afterwards. Information on the Board will be managed by the Secondary School.

(3) Resurfacing of part of Titley Road (B4355): Planned for 30th April/1st May.

MIN 3447 FINANCE

(1) Donations: The following donations were agreed –

Presteigne Scouts (twds building works)	£600.00 (allocated reserve held)
Mid Border Arts	£1000.00
	(precepted, inc £500 twds building works)
Presteigne Little Peoples Playgroup	£500.00 (precepted)
The Judge's Lodging Trust Ltd	£1250.00 (precepted)
Presteigne Festival	£1000.00 (precepted)
Presteigne & Norton Community Support	£500.00 (precepted)

The letter of thanks for the precepted donation from Mid Border Arts was noted.

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved –

NEST (direct debit)	£72.27
Mrs T.A. Price	£1260.82
HM Revenue and Customs	£472.05 less 40p = £471.65

NB cheque 231 to HMRC cleared for £459.96 not £459.56 so the above payment is for 40p less than due in April. (2017/18 Accounts show the actual payment of £459.96)

Mrs T. Price (expenses)	£51.24 (postage & stamps)
XMA Ltd (ink toner)	£151.74
Clun Solutions (computer service plan)	£150.00
Clearview Cleaning Services Ltd.	£425.93
One Voice Wales (annual membership)	£413.00
Society of Council Clerks (annual membership)	£208.00
Presteigne Building Supplies	£30.73

Springwell Electronics	£19.79
PHS Group	£27.03
Playdale (play equipment)	£598.97
Highground Maintenance Ltd (grass cutting)	£268.55 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance (weed killing)	£132.32 MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£187.50
N. Close	£31.25 ALLOTMENT ACCOUNT
N. Close	£37.50 MEADOW ACCOUNT

(3) Receipts:

Allotment Rent	£280.00 (cheques)
	£28.00 (bank transfer)
Tesco Bags of Help Grant	£1000.00.

At this point the meeting adjourned to receive Mr. R. Edwards, Head Teacher at Newtown High School. Mr. Edwards provided Members with an update on matters at the School and on the John Beddoes Campus in particular. He answered Member's questions and agreed to provide Members with an update on the progress of the School after the Summer examinations.

MIN 3447 FINANCE (Continued)

(4) Approval of Annual Accounts for 2017/18: The annual accounts were approved.

(5) Completion of annual VAT return and year end payroll information to HMRC: Noted.

(6) Review of Project and General Reserve Balances: Members considered the end of year balances and allocated reserve accounts. Free reserves were lower than normal due to the purchase of the cemetery land. The following amounts held in general reserves to be removed – toilet blocks £10,000, £3250 MUGA, £5000 cycle path. This would increase the free reserves held to a little over three months expenditure, the minimum amount recommended in the Governance and Accountability for local Councils in Wales Guide. The income from the sale of the cemetery land would be held as a capital receipt and within this balance it was agreed to hold allocated capital reserves as follows –

£10,000 Toilet Refurbishment

£32150 MUGA Refurbishment

£5000 Towards Cycle Path, Norton.

In addition the following amounts would be allocated within the capital reserve account in 2018/19 –

£4000 Community Building

£2000 MUGA Reserve

£2500 Norton Storage Container.

(7) Opening of new account to hold capital receipt from sale of cemetery land: Approved. Clerk to open new account and transfer the sale proceeds of £40,000.

(8) Proposal for Purchase of Pop Up Gazebos for Community Use: Agreed to take ownership of the gazebos (to be purchased via donation) and provide these for community use. There would be no increase in insurance costs.

MIN 3448 PLANNING

(1) Planning Applications: The following applications were considered –

P/2018/0301 Grid Ref: 331280.9/264447.98 for Conservation Area Consent for demolition of part of former garage building at Former Warren Villa Garage Site, Wherby Lane, Presteigne. Resolved no objections be raised.

P/2018/0297 Grid Ref: 331280.9/264447.98 for Full: Erection of a dwelling house (to include partial demolition of building - west bay of former garage) and all associated works at Former Warren Villa Garage Site, Wherby Lane, Presteigne. The letter of objection received from a resident was noted. Resolved that whilst having no objection in principle to a dwelling on the site the Council would like to object to the present application on the following grounds -

- overlooking of the adjacent property
- detailed consultation with the Conservation Officer on the type of materials used and design given the site's prominent and visible position on the edge of the town conservation area
- the need to assess the land for contamination from the diesel tanks previously on site
- the issues surrounding sewerage capacity in the town generally.

P/2018/0227, Grid Ref: 330999 264671 for Outline - Erection of 2 affordable dwellings (all matters reserved) at Land off Joe Deakins Road, Presteigne. Application amended: Resolved that the Council still wishes to object to the application and to repeat its earlier comments as follows -

- whilst car parking is provided for the new properties the development removes the parking from the existing properties
the site is outside the current development plan
the current sewerage system is reaching capacity and this should be borne in mind when granting permission.

It to be noted that the Town Council has a right of access across part of the land to enter the community field known as Eddie's Meadow.

That a covenant is in place on part of the land which prevents the building of structures. A copy of the County Council's own sale particulars indicating this is attached, together with a copy of the Land Registry entry. This should be noted for reference on submission of a full planning application.

- And to add concerns that building will take place at the Warden, an ancient monument site and asks that CADW be consulted (if this has not already been done).

Cllr. Bamford left the room for the duration of the following item.

P/2018/0365, Grid Ref: 331581.56/264220.95 for Householder: Demolition of lean-to and erection of an extension at 34 Hereford Street, Presteigne. Resolved no objections be raised.

Cllr. Kirkby left the room for the duration of the following item.

P/2018/0343, Grid Ref: 331271.88/263962.78 for Full: Erection of a warehouse and office building, construction of a boundary fence, and all associated works at Land at Broadaxe, Presteigne.

Resolved no objections be raised. County Council to be reminded of limited sewerage capacity in the town.

(2) Planning Application Decisions: There were no planning application decisions to report.

(3) Border Group Neighbourhood Development Plan Consultation: Noted. No comment to be made

(4) Powys Local Development Plan: Inspector's Report: Noted. The Plan had been adopted at the meeting of the County Council held on 17th May. The Clerk was asked to contact Welsh Water again to press for confirmation of the capital improvements to the sewerage system in the 2020-2025 plan.

Cllr. Baynham confirmed that she had also raised the matter with Chris Davies MP who had agreed to write to the Chief Executive of Welsh Water.

MIN 3449 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) PACDG Update: Thanks were given for the daffodil planting around the town. To be noted that the Town Council had organised the pruning day at the Community Orchard. Tidiness of car parks – Cllr. Baynham suggested that the area planted by the Group should be maintained by them.

(2) Parking adjacent to Lloyds Bank Cashpoint: Members noted the further comments from the resident. The problem could possibly be addressed as part of the next safe route scheme.

(3) Plastic Free Powys: Email from Transition Presteigne/Resident and Consultation from UK Government: Cllr. Kirkby felt this was an ideal project for Transition Presteigne. The Clerk was asked to find out what the Group was doing so that Town Council could consider offering support.

(4) Active Travel Routes Update: The current scheme was now complete. Cllrs. Wilding, Baynham, Ruby and the Clerk had met with County Council Officers to discuss possibilities for a second phase of the project within the town. Money was available for the design but further bids would need to be made for grant funding to carry out the works. The proposed routes to Norton and Rockbridge were on the reserve list for grant money to produce designs.

(5) Fold Farm Lane Update: The Portfolio Holder had been approached by Cllr. Baynham about the lengthy delays in processing applications for DMMOs. The Clerk confirmed however that whilst waiting to be processed that the current blocking of the route would not affect the validity of the application.

(6) Idling Buses, John Beddoes Campus: Reply from PCC: A reply has now been received from the Transport Unit at PCC and was as follows – *Unlike cars and vans which are ready to run at the turn of a key, buses and HGV lorries systems for brakes, steering, and doors are operated by air. This air has to be built up in tanks by means of a compressor that only works if the engine is running. The length of time needed to reach a safe operating pressure is dependent on conditions including weather and temperature, and can take up to 15 minutes.* The Transport Unit had contacted the bus operator to be mindful of the concerns raised and not to idle for the sake of it but only what is required to ensure safe systems. The Clerk was asked to respond asking how the buses travelled from the by pass car park to the School if reaching pressure took so long. Cllr. Kirkby would pass the reply on to the resident who had raised concerns.

(7) General Highway Items: The following matters were raised –

Large pothole at the top of Hares Green: Clerk and Cllr. Baynham to report.

Road Closure Signs: Needed to give details of where road closed from/to. This had caused problems with deliveries to Norton. Clerk to inform County Council.

High Street: Lines repainted but one disabled space (by Spar) not marked: Clerk and Cllr. Baynham to report.

Kerb opposite the Fire Station: Broken and needing repair. Clerk and Cllr. Baynham to report.

Complaint re lack of information on access to off street parking during re-surfacing: Clerk and Cllr. Baynham to report to County Council.

Bollards, Hereford Street: Suggestion that adding reflectors might reduce the number of cars hitting them. Noted.

MIN 3450 NORTON

(1) Broadband Issue: No real progress made but the issue had been raised with MP and Assembly Member.

(2) Norton Church: Cllr. Edwards reported that 53% of residents had responded and that 64% of these supported the setting up of a community development group to explore options for the future. Cllr. Dixon would provide the Clerk with a summary of the responses to circulate to all Members.

MIN 3451 SITES AND BUILDINGS MATTERS

(1) Public Conveniences:

Electricity usage Update: The Clerk reported that this now seemed to be back to normal levels.

Painting Update: A meeting with a senior Manager from Healthmatic was to take place on 20th April.

Possible Electricity Socket Wilson Terrace: Agreed that the Clerk arrange this.

Water Usage: The Clerk reported that she had become aware that camper vans were using the supply at Hereford Street to fill up their tanks. This of course led to increased usage. A stop tap had now been fitted within the store to prevent this in future.

(2) Allotments:

Progress of Rent Collection for 2018/19 year: All rents now in.

Allotment Visit: Cllr. Linnett and the Clerk had carried out the regular inspection of the site.

Notice Board Allotment Car Park: This had been reported as in need of renovation. The Clerk was asked to get a price from Mr. Close for a new board/renovation.

(3) Meadows:

Parking Request for CONNECT Food and Flower Festival: Agreed in the regular car park field but only as a final overflow car park.

Mole Control: Agreed to look further into costings and to consider further at the next Sites and Buildings Committee meeting.

Use by Vintage Car Show, 16/17th June: Agreed.

Community Building: The first grant application has been submitted to the County Council by Cllr. Kirkby.

Missing Rail Withy Beds: Cllr. Kirkby suggested that Mr. Close replace the rail and the cost of materials and labour be deducted from the annual grant to the Radnorshire Wildlife Trust.

(4) Wilson Terrace Play Area:

Tesco Grant Update: The additional piece of equipment had been ordered.

(5) Bags of Help Grant for the former Reservoir Works: This would be on hold until the play equipment grant was completed.

MIN 3452 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) One Voice Wales Request for Motions for AGM: None.

(2) Welsh Government Consultation: Strengthening Local Government: No comment to be made.

(3) ATM Station Road Update: The company had agreed to retain the machine and it would be repaired in due course.

(4) Welsh Dragon, Kington Roundabout: Cllr. Baynham provided Members with an update and said that volunteers were being sought to help fund raise. Anyone interested should contact Pete Smith.

MIN 3453 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

(1) April Surgery: The following items had been raised –

- The need for a footpath/cycle route from Rockbridge to Presteigne: The Clerk had responded explaining the current situation.

- Overgrown hedge Slough Road: Cllr. Bayham to check but it was thought the hedge had been trimmed to some extent.
- Royal Oak Public House (barrels on pavement): Cllr Wilding had called to speak to the proprietors.
- Blocked drain/gully between Clatterbrune and Greenend: The Clerk had reported.
- Objections to Planning Application P/2018/0297: Comments had since been submitted in writing and been circulated to all Members.

(2) May Surgery: Cllrs. Baynham and Edwards would attend.
Cllr. Dixon to attend in June.

MIN 3454 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Items of note this month were –

- GDPR training on 20th April
- A number of complaints/concerns dealt with.
- £200 donated to Presteigne Young Farmers Club (as Chair of Radnorshire Committee).
- Attendance at National Tractor Run.
- Powys Farm Estate noted as the largest in Wales.
- Further severe budget cuts to come in 2019/20 and onwards.

MIN 3455 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

None this month.

The Meeting closed at 9.25 pm.