

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 15TH FEBRUARY 2017
AT THE SHIREHALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

Present: Cllrs J. Tennant-Eyles (Mayor), B. Baynham (Deputy Mayor), G. Banks, H. Marchant, F. Preece, J. Matthews, B. Price, P. Robinson, J Wilding.

Apologies: Cllrs. C. Kirkby MBE, H. Owens.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk; one member 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 and the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016.

Personal:

Cllr. Banks, position as County Councillor re. all County Council related matters.

Cllr. B. Price, TC appointed School Governor re School Governing Body Legislation

Personal and Prejudicial:

Cllr. Wilding, relative lives nearby re planning application P/2017/0067
applicant re planning application P/2017/0125

MIN 3252 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2017 were approved without amendment and duly signed by the Chairman.

MIN 3253 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

- (1) War Memorial Maintenance Plan: Still pending.
- (2) Pavements Station Road: Sweeping should have been done and the pavement scrubber was due on site very soon.
- (3) Over Long Parking on High Street: Cllr. Tennant-Eyles had spoken to the person concerned and it was hoped that the problem would now be resolved.
- (4) PACDG Garden Plot: The Group was still awaiting the Licence from the County Council.
- (5) Newton and Killhorse Lanes: Cllr. Robinson reported that this had still not been done along the complete length of the lanes. The Clerk would follow this up with the County Council.
- (6) Memorial for Nicola Humphreys: The County Council had now offered assistance with the highway works. Cllr. Banks reported concerns from residents and submitted a letter delivered by hand that day. The Clerk reported that Cllr. Kirkby had spoken to nearby residents and that it was likely that objections would be withdrawn. The letter would be passed to Cllr. Kirkby so that he could address the concerns direct.
- (7) Dropped Kerb, Royal British Legion: This had been reported to the County Council and improvements had been requested.
- (8) Underpass and Cyclists: The present problem with cyclists not dismounting would be rectified if the Active Travel bid currently with Welsh Government was successful.
- (9) Boundary Commission Meeting 7th March: Date reminder.

(10) Squirrel Problem, The Warden: This had been reported to the County Council and the Recreation Officer was meeting with the Warden Guardians Foundation to discuss solutions. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that control of squirrels on public land was very difficult and it was agreed that the situation would be left to the County Council to determine. Members noted that a recent PACDG newsletter had reminded residents not to feed the squirrels.

(11) Clothes Bank: The reply from Wendy Toomey had been circulated. The British Heart Foundation would be providing an additional clothes bank and a book bank for the recycling site.

(12) Fields in Trust: Members were all reminded to review the information provided before the March meeting. The Clerk and Cllr. Kirkby would be taking initial legal advice before the March meeting.

(13) Meeting with Radnorshire Wildlife Trust: This meeting, to discuss possible grant opportunities, had been postponed temporarily.

MIN 3254 FINANCE

(1) Donations: The following donation was approved -

Presteigne and Norton Community Trust £750 (precepted)

The thank you cards from Presteigne Rainbows and Presteigne Guides were noted.

The request for a donation from the Heart of Wales Line Walking Trail Appeal was refused.

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved:

Mrs T. Price	£902.31	
HMRC	£241.79	
(income tax and employees and employers NI due on above)		
NEST (pension contributions) via direct debit	£19.71	
EDF Energy (Hereford Street Toilets)	£33.18	
Old Radnor Community Council (twds conference fees)		£99.00
Clearview Cleaning Services Ltd	£364.83	
Welsh Water (Wilson Terrace Toilets)	£39.48	
Welsh Water (Hereford Street Toilets)	£230.85	
Festive Decorations Ltd (Christmas Lights)	£3673.50	
Festive Decorations Ltd (Anchorage testing)	£729.00	
Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	£4799.92	
Lyreco Uk Ltd (office supplies)	£63.72	
Presteigne Building Supplies	£4.31	
Ebuyer (new printer)	£309.69	
J & P Turner (bench Norton)	£229.99	
N. Close	£28.12	
A. Jones (strimming etc)	£49.00	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Bucknell Nurseries (hedging plants)	£89.75	MEADOW ACCOUNT
EDF Energy (Barn, Went's Meadow)	£15.75	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance (grass cutting)	£263.28	MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£90.62	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Welsh Water (Meadow Barn)	£22.34	MEADOW ACCOUNT

(3) Bank Transfer: The transfer of £333.77 from the Allotment Account to the Treasurer Account to cover the Clerk's hours (paid January) was approved.

(4) Wales Audit Office Report on Town/Community Council Audits 2015-16 Accounts: The Clerk provided a brief summary of this report noting that, including New Radnor, only 20% of Community Councils in Wales had received an unqualified audit with no matters being raised for attention.

(5) Receipts: The following receipts were noted -

Allotment Rent	£108.00	
Presteigne Chamber of Trade	£2061.25	(twds Christmas Lights 2016)
Presteigne Chamber of Trade	£111.54	(refund Norton Lights)
Presteigne Chamber of Trade	£25.00	(additional insurance for Lights)
Groundwork UK (Tesco Grant)	£6000.00	
Donation for replacement bench, Norton (anonymous)	£230.00	

(6) Purchase of New Printer: The Clerk had proceeded to purchase the printer, obtaining a price reduction and eligibility for a £100 cashback offer.

MIN 3255 PLANNING

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

P/2017/0028, Grid Ref: 331721.12/264124.17 for Householder: Erection of an extension and erection of a fence at 22 Orchard Close, Presteigne. Resolved no objections be raised.

P/2017/0015, Grid Ref: 330464.67/263873.8 for Demolition of original barn and replacement with new barn for use as ancillary domestic accommodation (part retrospective) at Sunshine Cottage Slough Road, Presteigne. Resolved no objections be raised.

TREE/2017/0004 cutting back of cherry tree within a conservation area at The Manse, 10 Broad Street, Presteigne. Resolved no objections be raised.

Cllr. Wilding left the room for the duration of the next two items.

P/2017/0067, Grid Ref: 330364.58/266939.8 for Householder: Erection of an attached garage at 3 Jacks View Norton. Resolved no objections be raised.

P/2017/0125, Grid Ref: 330270.6/266959.71 for Outline: Erection of 3 dwellings and associated works at Land at Jacks View, Norton Presteigne. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reminded Members of the history of applications on the site. Cllr. Banks stated he would not vote on the application. Otherwise unanimously resolved to support the application, feeling it enhanced the living space of Jack's View.

Cllr. Wilding returned to the room.

(2) Planning Decisions: The following decisions were noted -

P/2016/1210, Westering, Stonewall Hill: Conditional Consent.

P/2016/0468, Land at Hill Farm, Presteigne: Conditional Consent.

P/2016/1286, Rock House, Discoyd, Presteigne: Conditional Consent.

P/2016/1215, Land at Orchard End/Jack's View, Norton: Conditional Consent.

P/2016/1258, Plot 7, Development adj. Church Close, Presteigne: Conditional Consent.

P/2016/1233, Well House, Broad Street, Presteigne: Conditional Consent.

MIN 3256 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) PACDG Update: The consultation was now in progress with 131 responses so far. The notice board for siting outside the Assembly Rooms had been ordered and was being constructed.

(2) Street Naming and Numbering Guidance Notes Information: Noted.

(3) Cycle Routes Consultation plus Active Travel Routes Update: Cllr. Marchant and the Clerk had met with the Project Officer to discuss the proposed improvements and a map of the route was circulated. The project now awaited funding from Welsh Government and a decision was expected in March/April. Members agreed that the active travel routes map should be returned marked with the desired routes from Presteigne to Rockbridge and Presteigne to Norton as a reminder of the need for these routes.

(4) Wilson Terrace Play Area Update: Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that the County Council had agreed to remove the old equipment on site prior to the installation of the new unit to be purchased. A replacement swing and basket swing were also possibilities. The car on site had been repaired at a cost of £750. The County Council had agreed to the siting of the donated oak frame shelter on the site providing the Town Council took responsibility for the building, carrying out routine inspections and maintenance. It was agreed by all that this undertaking be given.

(5) Car Park Permits, Further Reply from Cllr. Brunt: Members noted the reply and asked that the Clerk write again stating the need for residents and business owners in High Street to have the opportunity to purchase a lower cost resident's permit.

(6) Footpath along Clatterbrook, further reply from PCC: It was noted that no action was planned by the County Council. No further action.

(7) By Pass Car Park and Resident's Permits: Agreed that it be recommended that residents of Appletree Meadow and Green End be offered the chance to purchase resident's permits for this park.

(8) Bench, Station Road, Repainting: Agreed that the Clerk instruct Mr. Close to go ahead and paint the repaired bench. Cost to be met from general reserves.

(9) Station Road/By Pass Benches: Agreed Mr. Close be asked to paint one further bench in the current financial year, two in 2017/18 and two in 2018/19. Monies to be taken from general reserves.

(10) Reporting of Highway Items for repair. The following items were reported -
pothole near to the garage
flickering street light/sign also near to garage.

MIN 3257 NORTON

- (1) Replacement Bench: The bench had now arrived. Members approved the necessary works to prepare the site.
- (2) Portable Speed Signs: The County Council currently only had two signs in working order. These would be located in Norton very soon.
- (3) Notice Board: It was agreed that this would be re-painted in green using up left over paint from the refurbishment of the other two benches in Norton.
- (4) Best Kept Village: The Clerk asked if there were any residents willing to consider co-ordinating another attempt at this competition if it was still on-going. No further action at present.

MIN 3258 SITES AND BUILDINGS

(1) Public Conveniences:

Refurbishment Update: Cllr. Wilding and the Clerk had meet the contractor on site and agreed some changes that had resulted in a saving of approximately £1000. It was agreed that the contract for the refurbishment be confirmed.

Cleaning Contractor Issues: During the recent holiday of the regular cleaner no cover had been provided. The Clerk had spoken to the contractor who had apologised and a credit for the missed days had been received.

(2) Allotments:

Plot Vacancies: Currently there was one plot under offer and no other vacancies.

Plot 36: No reply had been received from the tenant of plot 36 on the separate area of land. The Clerk was asked to send a further letter via recorded delivery.

Trimming of inner boundary edges: Cllr. Wilding would speak to the contractor as soon as possible.

Insurance for Plot Holders: the Clerk reported that were presently some issues over the insurance cover and suggested that a meeting be arranged between the PNAA, Cllr. Baynham and herself. This was agreed.

(3) Meadows:

Use by Carnival 10-16th July 2017: Use agreed.

MIN 3259 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Working with Young People/Youth Representation: Cllr. Marchant and the Clerk had met with a group of young people and teacher James Mitchell at the Secondary School. Meetings would continue and a number of comments and suggestions had been made including moles on the Wilson Terrace football pitch and a request for additional shelter close to the MUGA. Where possible these items would be investigated. The next meeting would be held at Easter time and the School had suggested a joint meeting with the Primary School representatives. Cllr. Baynham had met with Primary School students and these students were now considering items to put forward. In addition some year six pupils would attend the Mayor making in May.

(2) Powys County Council, letter re partnership working: Noted. No requirement at this point in time.

(3) Border Group Neighbourhood Development Plan Consultation: Noted. The Group be thanked for consulting the Town Council but no comment to be made.

(4) Welsh Government Consultation Reform of School Governance Framework: Cllr. Price and Baynham reported on this item. Cllr. Baynham would review the document and submit a response if needed.

(5) Draft Vision for Health and Care in Powys Consultation: Noted. Cllr. Baynham would review and respond.

(6) One Voice Wales Area Committee, October Minutes/February Agenda: Noted.

(7) Welsh Government White Paper: Reforming Local Government: Noted. Agreed that the Clerk respond supporting the introduction of the general power of competence as soon as possible.

MIN 3260 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

February Surgery: Two matters had been raised -

- Safe path from Rockbridge to Presteigne: Cllr. Tennant-Eyles had provided information on the Town Councils work to try to get such a route provided and on the permissive right of way that had been created on the instigation of the Town Council.
- Speeding through Norton: The Clerk had contacted the County Council and a number of the temporary signs were not working but that Norton would be next on the list for the signs. The only other action possible would be a community speed initiative between the police and residents and the Clerk would provide information to the resident.

Arrangements for March Surgery: Cllrs. Tennant-Eyles and Price would attend. Cllr. Baynham would accompany Cllr. Tennant-Eyles to the April surgery.

MIN 3261 DEVOLVEMENT OF SERVICES

(1) Old School Building/Drill Hall EOI Update: These had both been submitted and the County Council had now requested additional information and would also be conducting site visits in March.

(2) Assembly Rooms Update: None as Cllr. Kirkby was not present.

(3) Presteigne Cemetery Update and report on meeting with PCC re Burial Board responsibilities: Cllrs. Baynham, Kirkby and the Clerk had met with Environmental Health to discuss the management of burial board responsibilities. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reminded Members that a decision on whether to proceed with the request for the transfer of the existing cemetery would need to be made very soon, possibly at the March Meeting.

(4) ICO Response re FOI Request to County Council: Noted. The Clerk had forwarded the response to Rhayader Town Council.

MIN 3262 INFORMATION

The following items were noted for information:

Kidney Wales, Walk for Life Information.

The Ombudsman's Casebook (via email).

PCC Community Delivery Newsletter (via email)

MIN 3263 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) WW1 Event: The Clerk reported that the County Council War Memorials Project was hoping to hold an event in Presteigne in the Summer. Members suggested that the Officer contact the local British Legion for assistance.

(2) Removal of Wood from the Warden: Cllr. Banks was asked to speak to Mr. Stephen Gealy about the removal of the wood.

(3) Speeding on the By Pass and generally: The Clerk would ask if the signs could be installed on the by pass after Norton. The Clerk reminded Members that there was also the possibility of a community speed awareness campaign should volunteers be found to work with the local police on the issue.

Resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following business because of the confidential nature of the following items.

MIN 3264 UPDATED CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT

The signing of the updated contract of employment for the Clerk was approved.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.