

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20TH SEPTEMBER 2017
AT THE SHIREHALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

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

Apologies: Cllrs. F. Preece, R. Bamford, J. Wilding (Mayor).

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: None.

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting Members listened to a presentation by Maggie Taylor-Saunders from Presteigne Area Community Development Group. The presentation explored the way forward from the previous community plan along the theme of 'green Presteigne'. Members indicated a general support for green principles which it was felt was evidenced by the excellent record of the town in 'green' matters over many years.

MIN 3353 DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by Cllr. Veary and witnessed by the Clerk.

MIN 3354 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 16th August 2017 were approved without amendment. The Chairman then duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 3355 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

- (1) Cherry Tree, St. David's Street: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the exact species of tree had now been confirmed by the County Council but information was still needed about any services that may run beneath the hole dug for planting. The Clerk would make further enquiries.
- (2) Live/Work Unit, Artisan Row: The Planning Officer had investigated and had informed Cllr. Bayham that there were permitted development rights for a moveable structure and that matters for final planning permission for the unit were well underway.
- (3) Area near to Footpath, The Paddocks: There had been a delay in writing to the landowner but a letter had now been sent.
- (4) Presentation to Retiring Councillors: The paperweights/certificates had now been presented to all those not able to attend in August except Cllr. Banks.
- (5) Tesco Bags of Help Grant: The final position (and so amount of grant) had not yet been announced.
- (6) Council Plan: The Clerk had included a suggestion in her report for the creation of a Working Group to consider the long term plans of the Council in order to be proactive and to enable her to have a better guide to the aims of the Council for the future. It was agreed that a Working Group be formed consisting of all Members and that the first meeting of the Group would be in November.

MIN 3356 FINANCE

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| (1) Donations: The following donations were approved - | |
| Powys Citizens Advice Bureau | £100 (precepted) |
| The Samaritans | £100 (precepted) |
| (2) Payments: The following payments were approved – | |
| Mrs T. Price | £1254.60 |

HM Revenue and Customs	£459.56
NEST (direct debit)	£28.80
Clearview Cleaning Services Ltd	£856.80
OCS Group UK Ltd (Cannon)	£16.85
Presteigne Building Supplies	£14.27
Viking (office supplies)	£149.98
Highground Maintenance Ltd (grass cutting)	£268.55 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Mr. N. Close	£62.75
Mr. N. Close	£124.99 MEADOW ACCOUNT
(3) Receipt: The following receipt was noted – Powys County Council (2 nd precept payment)	£21,986.95

MIN 3357 PLANNING

(1) Planning Applications:

TREE/2017/0032, TREE: Works to trees in a conservation area at Wychwood, Cannon's Lane, Presteigne. Resolved no objections to the application.

(2) Planning Decision:

P/2017/0788, Plots 2 & 3 Slough Road, Presteigne: Conditional Consent.

(3) Powys Local Development Plan, Consultation on Matters Arising Changes: Deferred to the October Meeting. Noted that open information sessions began w/b 25th in Llandrindod Wells. It was agreed that the Working Group would meet prior to the October full Council meeting to produce recommendations on the latest changes. Cllr. Wilding to be asked to allocate sections of the plan to Members of the Working Group for consideration before it met.

(4) Letter from Gwernyfed Community Council: Cllr. Kirkby that an email had been received expressing concern at speculative planning applications made due to the lack of an adopted LDP. The Clerk was asked to respond indicating a sympathy with the views expressed but stating that to date it had not been an issue in the Presteigne area.

(5) Planning Handbook for Town and Community Councillors: The Clerk was asked to order a copy for each of the new Councillors.

MIN 3358 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) PACDG Update: Community Group Fair 28th October on the theme 'Presteigne's Got Talent'.

(2) Cycle Route Grant Works:

- Update from Cllr. Baynham: Works at John Beddoes School almost complete and works near King's Court underway.
- email from Presteigne Little Peoples Playgroup re disabled parking: Members considered the contents of the email, the reply from the Project and Highway Officers. No disabled spaces were being removed by the Scheme although there were changes to general parking arrangements/waiting times in the area. It had been suggested by the County Council that playgroup discuss parking arrangements with the Primary School and Members agreed that this was the best course of action. Cllr. Baynham would assist with this process as much as possible.
- Proposed Toucan Crossing: Members had no objections to the location.
- Prohibition of Waiting Order Green End and The Paddocks: Some adjustments to the Scheme had been made. No comments needed.

(3) Active Travel Act Route Map Consultation: The Clerk reported that the routes supported over a number of years were now included on the plan as proposed paths. Members agreed that the Clerk write indicating strong support for these routes.

(4) Speeding Presteigne Reply PCSO Anna Bowen: The Traffic car had visited and in addition PCSO Bowen had provided details of the community speed awareness scheme. Cllr. Baynham was aware of a resident interested in this and the Clerk would pass on the information and contact details.

(5) General Highway Repairs:

- Loose Bollard Hereford Street Car Park Entrance: Repaired.
- Pothole, Memorial Hall Car Park: Repaired.
- Station Road Verge/overgrown tree: Verge strimmed. County Council to take action regarding overhanging tree.
- Trimming of Hedge, Lloyds Bank: Done very promptly by Lloyds bank following receipt of letter.
- Cemetery Bins: These had now been emptied and in future collections should take place regularly.

- Double yellow lines, Hereford Street and Dukes Public House: The lines in Hereford Street were correct but those near the Dukes public house were not and would be removed.
- (6) Daffodil Bulb Planting/Purchase: £50 to be contributed. Two large bags of bulbs to be purchased with the balance to be met by PACDG. One bag for Norton, one for Presteigne.
- (7) Recent Issues at Bring Site: The usual problems with volume of waste had occurred over Bank Holiday weekend.
- (8) Reporting of Highway Items for repair:
Paving Slabs, High Street: Cllr. Baynham had reported a number of broken and cracked slabs and these had been promptly repaired.

MIN 3359 NORTON

(1) Renovation of War Memorial: The Clerk reported that quote had been obtained and the forms completed and accepted by the Powys War Memorial Project. A Town Council contribution of 10% (£37) would be required. Members agreed to meet the cost of this from the Norton general reserve.

MIN 3360 SITES AND BUILDINGS MATTERS

(1) Public Conveniences.

Update on Refurbishment: The Clerk reported that there had been some issues and that a meeting was to take place with the contractor on site.

Painting of External Doors etc: Agreed that Mr. Close proceed with the painting. Hammerite paint to be used.

(2) Allotments.

Report on Open Day: Cllr. Linnett had attended. It had been a very wet day. It was noted that no formal invitation had been received and the Clerk had asked if in future the Council could be told well in advance of the date for the event.

(3) Meadows.

Additional Outside Representative on Committee: It was agreed that Gareth Graham be invited to sit as an outside representative on the Sites and Buildings Committee.

Lower Branches, Upper Went's Meadow: Mr. Graham had offered to assist with the removal of the lower branches.

Date for Committee Meeting: Cllr. Kirkby to circulate some possible dates.

Skateboard Pyramid: The remaining issue with Park Leisure was still not resolved. Cllr. Kirkby and the Clerk had met young people on site and suggestions had been put forward for new equipment. The Clerk would investigate the suitability of the items for the site.

Sheep Music Proposal: An update would be provided for consideration at the October meeting.

Apple Pressing: Cancelled due this year to a lack of fruit.

OPCC Grant Application Scout Hut: Unfortunately not successful. Further grant opportunities would be sought when the opportunity arose.

Meeting with new Scout Leader: Cllrs. Wilding and Kirkby, together with the Clerk had met with the Scout Chairman, Fiona Preece and the new Scout Leader. The Group was now up and running and there were hopes for a refurbishment of the building. The Scouts had requested permission to camp on the Meadow occasionally and Members agreed that this should be permitted.

Outdoor Gym Equipment: The application was runner up. This gave a 50% discount on equipment purchased before the end of December. Members agreed that the Clerk should pursue options for grants to provide equipment.

Former Reservoir: Cllr. Kirkby and the Clerk had met Heather Lewis from the Warden Guardian Foundation on site to discuss the creation of a new path and information plinths around the former reservoir area.

Goal Posts: Cllr. Baynham stated that she had had a comment that the posts were loose. The Clerk confirmed that these were regularly checked but that she would arrange for a special check over the next few days.

(4) Wilson Terrace Play Area: Swing still not replaced.

MIN 3361 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Small Business Rate Relief, Welsh Government Consultation: Following a short discussion it was agreed that the Clerk submit the comment that the rate relief be concentrated on small businesses rather than small premises i.e. by restricting the number of premises on which one company could claim relief. Cllr. Kirkby would add comments if he felt it necessary.

- (2) Electoral Reform in Local Government in Wales: Welsh Government Consultation: No comment to be made.
- (3) Standards Community Sub-Committee Result of Ballot: Noted.
- (4) Email re town cleanliness; See Surgery item.
- (5) Old Council Laptop Confirmation of nil value: Noted.
- (6) Local Business Links Information Request from PCC: Members considered that much of this information would be available via the business rates database and that it was in any event for the County Council to compile. The Clerk was instructed to reply explaining that the Council would not be compiling the data for the document. The Clerk had forwarded the information request to CONNECT so that it could compile information if it wished.
- (7) Clerks and Councils Magazine: Noted.
- (8) Presteigne War Memorial: The Clerk reported that the War Memorial Project Officer had suggested a plinth from David Ogilvy. This would be funded from the Project but was conditional on attending training to produce the information for the Board. Members viewed the proposed structure and agreed that the Clerk accept the offer and proceed to make arrangements.
- (9) Llandrindod Wellness Branding: This was being extended to the other Wells towns and Rhayader to promote tourism. The Clerk had been in touch with the Organiser to make sure there was no opportunity for Presteigne and Norton and it had been confirmed that a present there was not.

MIN 3362 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

(1) Report on September Surgery: Cllrs. Baynham and Bamford had attended and a number of items had been raised –

- Black bags of rubbish being left out at the bottom of Greenend, the flat / house behind the Moroccan: Reported by Cllr Baynham.
 - Possibility of County Council installing disabled access to the Radnor Buildings i.e. The St. Michael's Hospice Shop: Not a Town Council issue but Cllr. Baynham would raise with the County to see if it would consider it. It was felt that this would be for the building owner.
 - Tables & chairs outside the Moroccan causing an obstruction on the pavement for pushchairs & disabled scooters: It was felt that this was not a problem.
 - Lack of access to fast broadband for part of the town; This was a British Telecom issue.
 - Speeding
 - The need for a roundabout at the top of town by the new houses: noted.
 - the need to turn the bridleways into rights of way for cyclists: Not practical due to the need to improve surfaces to achieve this.
 - parking on pavements – Cllr. Baynham had spoken to Tony Caine at the County Council about this in the last few months and been told it was a police matter. The police stated it was a traffic warden issue. It agreed that the Clerk write to both suggesting that it was obstruction and needed to be tackled.
 - a general problem with the vintage car people coming to Presteigne and that the Radnorshire Arms should provide better parking.
 - Verges, Norton and grass cutting: No action required.
- (2) October Surgery: Cllrs. Baynham and Linnett to attend.

MIN 3363 DEVOLVEMENT OF SERVICES

- (1) Old School Building/Drill Hall: The Community Support Office was now moving out of the Drill Hall although the sorting would remain in the short term. The advantages and disadvantages of both buildings were considered. It was agreed to defer any decision until a future meeting.
- (2) Presteigne Cemetery Land: A formal letter had been sent to the County Council outlining the proposed conditions of sale. No reply had as yet been received.
- (3) Presteigne Library: Funding was not now required for the 2017/18 year. A letter had just been received by Cllr. Kirkby on the recent meeting of the Strategic Asset Board and the lease extension requested but more information was required. It was agreed that no decision would be made on future library funding until further information on the negotiations with the Mid Border Arts was received.

MIN 3364 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Matters of note over the last month were –

- Queen's Baton Relay

- Army Cadet Parade, Crickhowell
- Opening of Knighton Hospital Family Suite
- Forthcoming visit to Mrs Phyllis Gurney in Prestemede (103 on 24th September)
- By Pass Car park not becoming a charged park
- The need to have a Traffic Regulation Order to change speed limits within a community could be removed
- Possible meeting with Portfolio Holder, Liam Fitzpatrick to discuss highways parking, grass cutting etc.
- New Headmaster, Mr. Rob Smith now in post at Secondary School.

MIN 3365 POLICIES

- (1) Welsh Language Policy: Adopted with no changes.
 (2) Grant Awarding Policy: Adopted with no changes.

MIN 3366 START TIME OF MEETINGS

It was agreed to continue with a start time of 7.30pm (7pm for any speakers).

MIN 3367 FUTURE MEETINGS

Future Speakers –

October: Richard Pitt, Local Development Plan

November: Police and Crime Commissioner.

February/March: New Headteacher, Newtown High School.

Future Meetings

25th September: Meeting with Red Kite Healthcare

9th or 11th October: Dementia Awareness.

MIN 3368 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

None.

The Meeting closed at 9.26pm.