

## PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

### CLERK'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2017

1. Grant Application Tesco Bags of Help: Voting for our application for outdoor works around the scout hut has now closed but it will be a few more weeks before we have the result.
2. Training: Thank you to our new Councillors for attending the training over the Summer. I hope you all found it useful. Further training is available and if you would be interested please let me know.
3. Grant Awarding Policy: Included in your meeting papers are the notes from the Working Group Meeting together with a shortened draft policy. I do appreciate the need to make things as easy as possible for those wanting grants/donations from us but this needs to be balanced against the fact that we are using public money and must take appropriate care with this. Our process could be examined by external audit and so must be seen to be fair to all.
4. Welsh Language Policy: I've kept it short. Comments are welcome.
5. Hereford Street Toilets Refurbishment: Some issues cropped up during the works but all can be or have already been dealt with.
6. Grant Application to OPCC (works around Scout hut): Unfortunately unsuccessful. Applications for around £550,000 of projects were submitted but the fund only had £75,000 to give out. With a maximum application of £5000 you will see there were an enormous number of applications and competition was tough.
7. Scout Hut: Cllrs. Wilding, Kirkby and myself met with Fiona Preece, Chair of Presteigne Scouts and John Fisher, Group Scout Leader to discuss the hut and the scouting movement in Presteigne. The new Scout Master is looking to rebuild the group and indeed the first meeting has already taken place. He is also looking to revamp the building. Permission was asked to use the Meadow for scout camping both for their troop and for group events.
8. Caloo Outdoor Gym Equipment: I have been told that we are shortlisted and a decision will be made before our Council meeting.
9. Community Support: PNCS is moving its office to the High Street although the Drill Hall will continue to be used for sorting in the short term.
10. Pavings, High Street: I understand these were recently damaged. Our County Councillor has asked that they be replaced
11. Planning Guidance: A short note was emailed to everyone in early Sept. Please let me know if you would like a copy of the planning aid handbook. It is a little out of date and should at some point be updated but it is still a good basic guide.
12. Council Plan: It can be helpful to have a broad view of what the Council would like to achieve over the coming five years even if only in outline. If this is something you would like to consider then we can start by setting up a working group to discuss in more detail. There is no legal requirement for this so it is entirely your choice. Comments welcome.

13. Council Newsletter: Information is currently put on the website, facebook, in the parish magazine and via PACDG. I notice Knighton has introduced a newsletter. The parish magazine article could easily be converted into a short monthly new flyer if you felt this would help get the activities of the Council across and could be left in the Library. Thoughts?