

**Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton**  
**PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL**

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020**  
**AT THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE**

Present: Cllrs. T. Owens (Mayor), C. Kirkby MBE, R. Bamford, R. Bennett, B. Baynham, J. Wilding, C. Ruby, P. Smith, L. Veary.

Apologies: Cllrs. F. Preece (Deputy Mayor), D. Edwards, N. Rogers.

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. R. Bennett, Trustee and Festival Director, Sheep Music, re. budget allocation to Sheep Music. Trustee, Presteigne Youth Project.

Cllr. C. Kirkby, Director of Judge's Lodgings Trust, re budget allocation to Judge's Lodging Trust.

*NB Blanket Dispensation in force for membership etc of voluntary organisations.*

*Personal and Prejudicial:*

*Cllr. B. Baynham, Employee and Trustee of East Radnorshire Day Centre re. budget allocation to East Radnorshire Day Centre.*

*Cllr. T. Owens, friend of applicant, re. planning application 19/1982/RES.*

**MIN 3715 PLANNING**

*Cllr. Owens left the room for the duration of the following item and Cllr. Kirkby assumed the Chair for the item.*

The following planning applications were considered:

19/1982/RES Grid Ref: E: 330026 N: 263265 Proposal: Application for reserved matters following the approval of P/2016/0468 for the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling, installation of septic tank, improvements to access and all other works. Location: Hill Farm Road, Evenjobb, Presteigne Powys LD8 2NH. Resolved no objections be raised.

*Cllr. Owens returned to the room.*

**MIN 3716 FINANCE**

(1) Payments: The following payments were approved:

NEST (direct debit)	£122.99
Mrs T.A. Price (salary)	£1312.76
HM Revenue & Customs	£517.20
CLIRA Ltd (legionella awareness training)	£90.00
Elan Events (R. Bennett)	£200.00
T. Lloyd-John	£417.20
Green-Tech	£74.52 MEADOW
EDF Energy (direct debit- Wilson Terrace Toilets)	£24.57
EDF Energy (direct debit - Hereford Street Toilets)	£113.58
EDF Energy (direct debit – Meadow Barn)	£31.11 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£297.07 MEADOW ACCOUNT

(2) Webinar re public accessibility and word/pdf documents: It was agreed that the Clerk attend the course at a cost of £30.

(3) Review of Allocated and Free Reserves and Budget Monitoring to end December: Members considered the budget update and reviewed the allocated and free reserves held. The Clerk answered questions on both documents and confirmed that the free reserves were a little above the minimum three months

expenditure recommended and had some leeway for use as part of the 2020/21 budget. This was considered sufficient given that allocated reserves were held towards major Council projects/services.

Members noted the allocated reserve for the renewal of Christmas lights was low and would consider adding to that reserve in future years.

It was agreed that the allocated reserve for Presteigne and Norton Trust be re-allocated as a reserve for the town website which had been taken over by the Council in November. It was noted that £276 costs had already been incurred.

Cllr. Wilding noted the balance in the allotment account and suggested that this could be used for additional grass cutting around the site to reduce the vole population. It was agreed that this be further discussed at a later date.

(4) Receipts: The following receipts were noted:

Powys County Council Third Precept Payment	£23211.44
Website Advertising	£104.00

(5) Bank Balances at 1st January: The following balances were noted -

Treasurer	£45,175.59	Meadow	£14,631.43
Allotments	£2144.06	Money Manager	£28,802.26
Warden Reserve	£1240.78	Capital Reserve	£36,104.66

(6) Budget and Precept for 2020/21:

*Cllr. Baynham left the room for the duration of the discussion and decision on the budget allocation for the East Radnorshire Day Centre.*

Members considered the allocations for each section of the budget in turn.

No amount was required for Councillor Remuneration as the allocated reserve had not been used.

Donations: The following donations were allocated for 2020-21 –

Air Ambulance	250.00
British Legion (Remembrance Wreaths)	60.00
East Radnorshire Day Centre	1750.00
Knighton & District Leg Club	100.00
Memorial Hall	750.00
Mid Border Arts	1250.00
Norton Community Trust	2000.00
Norton Sports Committee (Fireworks)	200.00
PACDG	250.00
1st Presteigne Guides	75.00
2nd Presteigne Brownies	100.00
Presteigne Rainbows	100.00
Presteigne Festival	1250.00
Presteigne Fireworks Display (Sheep Music)	500.00
Presteigne Little Peoples Playgroup	500.00
Presteigne & Norton Community Support	250.00
The Judge's Lodging Trust Ltd	1750.00
Powys CAB	100.00
Radnorshire Wildlife Trust	250.00
St. Andrews FC Colts	250.00
The Samaritans	100.00
Wardens Guardian Foundation	250.00
Youth Project	1200.00
Miscellaneous	300.00

Mid Border Arts to be asked to consider broadening the use of the building as much as possible.

#### Existing Projects:

The amount for PACDG street cleaning was reduced to £250 given the current allocation was still not spent by the Group and £362 remained in the current year.

The amount for the running of the public toilets was reduced by £1000 to £9000 with the balance of £1000 to be funded from the allocated reserves for toilets. The specific toilet reserve to be reviewed again when setting the 2021-22 budget with a view to possibly reducing the allocated toilet reserve to one year's expenditure.

New Projects 2020/21: Members considered the new projects put forward and agreed the following for 2020-21 –

Website Improvements	£500.00
(website accessibility audit agreed to take place immediately at a cost of £240 plus VAT)	
Laptop	£500.00
Climate Crisis Project Grants	£1000.00
VE Day Anniversary Celebrations	£500.00 (would only be drawn if needed)
Sheep Music Event	£500.00 (would be returned if a profit made on the event)
Tables for TC Meetings	£375.00
Wildflowers/Bulbs/Verges/Roundabouts	£500.00
Street Lighting/Dark Skies Project	£750.00

No amount was allocated to the Community Composting Proposal as it was understood that various voluntary groups were likely to provide funding. Discussion on the use of Went's Meadow for the site would take place at a future Council meeting.

Nothing was allocated for the Tri-Towns Chronicle (Council already has a monthly newsletter) or for payroll software (given that no Members had taken the allowance the current free software was adequate).

The quoted cost of £900 for additional Silia Wood signage was felt to be too high and no amount was allocated.

No amount was allocated towards tourist information signage as it was understood that surplus Trust monies had been transferred to PACDG and it was felt this could be used.

£2000 was allocated for devolved services. The £2000 in the current budget to be placed in an allocated reserve.

The draft budget suggested by the Sites and Buildings Committee for the Meadows was amended with the MUGA/ Barn reserve reduced by £1000 to £2000 (as in 2019-20) as it was felt works for the barn would be unlikely in the early years and the £1000 allocated for tree works was removed and would come from Meadow reserves.

A total budget of £70,888 was reached and it was agreed to set the precept for 2020-21 at £55.00 per Band D property per year. This represented an increase of £0.86 per year. (1.6%) on 2019-20.

#### **MIN 3717 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION**

Cllr Kirkby reported that light PR229 in Sparey's entrance not working. The Clerk would report.

The meeting closed at 9.42 pm