

# Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019 AT THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

Present: Cllrs. T. Owens (Mayor), F. Preece (Deputy Mayor), C. Kirkby MBE, R. Bennett, R. Bamford, P. Linnett, L. Veary, D. Edwards, C. Ruby, N. Rogers, J. Wilding.

Apologies: Cllr. B. Baynham.

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.

### *Personal:*

*Cllr. T. Owens, friend of applicant re. information only item Planning Application 18/0779, Old Impton.*

### *Personal and Prejudicial:*

*Cllr. P. Linnett, close friend of applicant re. Planning Application 19/0843, Old Stores.*

*Cllr. N. Rogers, friend of applicant re. Planning Application 18/0779, Old Impton.*

*Cllr. J. Wilding, related to applicant re. planning application 18/0779, Old Impton.*

### **MIN 3625 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the annual and ordinary meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 were approved with one amendment – ‘his eighth term’ to be added to the second line of Min 2306. The Chairman then duly signed the Minutes.

### **MIN 3626 CLERK'S REPORT/UPDATE**

(1) Operation London Bridge: Cllr. Owens had yet to meet with Rev. Hollinghurst but the matter was in hand.

(2) Publishing of Third Party Comments on the County Council Planning Website: The One Voice Wales Area Officer was investigating practice at other County Councils and the Clerk would contact him to ask about progress.

(3) Proposed One Voice Wales Motion re Business Rates on Public Toilets: No reply had yet been received from Hay Town Council. The Clerk would chase for a reply.

### **MIN 3627 FINANCE**

(1) Donations: No new donations were approved this month but the previously discussed donation to Presteigne Scouts was confirmed.

Presteigne Scouts	£200.00
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The letter of thanks from Wales Air Ambulance was noted.

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved –

Mrs T A Price (June pay)	£1312.76
HM Revenue & Customs	£517.20
NEST (direct debit)	£122.99
Information Commissioner (direct debit)	£35.00
T. Lloyd-John	£660.70
Mrs T.A. Price (refund stamps)	£30.36
N. Close	£67.47
N. Close	£118.11 MEADOW ACCOUNT
JRB Enterprises	£117.72 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Presteigne Building Supplies	£1550.06 MEADOW ACCOUNT

Highground Maintenance Ltd	£ 297.07 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£132.32 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Hornsey Steels	£306.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Hornsey Steels	£16.80 MEADOW ACCOUNT
R. Rimington	£158.72 MEADOW ACCOUNT
S J Holder Ltd	£5972.40 MEADOW ACCOUNT

(3) Receipts: The following receipt was noted –

Sheep Music (twds community building) £900.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT

(4) New Pathways, Former Reservoir Ground: Cllr. Kirkby reported that work was progressing very well. The County Council had kindly carried out some of the work needed for the paths and to complete the work the same contractor had provided a very competitive quote of £1050. In addition approximately £150 would be needed to repair the fencing. Members approved both items of expenditure and also agreed to cover the costs of Mr. Close assisting with the installation of the information boards.

### **MIN 3628 PLANNING**

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

19/0835/TRE Grid Ref: E: 331469 N: 264445, Proposal: Works to 2 x trees in a conservation area - removal of decay through height reduction. Location: Harley House, 7 Broad Street, Presteigne Powys LD8 2AA – Confirmed no objections to this application.

19/0777/OUT Grid Reference: E:331758 N: 264485, Proposal: Erection of a rural enterprise dwelling, formation of vehicular access and all associated works (outline) with all matters reserved. Site Address: Land at Fold Farm, Presteigne. Resolved that the following comments be made - whilst having no objection in principle the site selected is not suitable and the unit, (if a rural enterprise dwelling is justified), should be sited immediately adjacent to the farm buildings (to facilitate access to the livestock concerned) not adjacent to the existing residential properties. The site is presently situated behind a padlocked gate (blocking a long standing footpath which is currently subject to a DMMO application). The locked gate is of additional concern because of the lack of easy/urgent access for emergency services to this proposed residential unit sited beyond that gate and this needs to be addressed.

*Cllr. Linnett left the room during the consideration of the following item.*

19/0843/HH, Grid Reference: E:329236 N: 265346, Proposal: Erection of extension to main dwelling and erection of new fence (part retrospective). Site Address: The Old Stores, Discoed, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2NP. Resolved no objections be raised.

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

19/0761/TRE, 27 Hereford Street, Presteigne: Approved 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019.

19/0542/FUL, Land at Rockbridge Park, Discoed: Refused 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

19/0502/LBC 4 Hereford Street, Presteigne: Approved 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

19/0501/FUL, 4 Hereford Street, Presteigne: Approved 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

(3) Titley Group Neighbourhood Development Plan Consultation by Herefordshire Council: Noted. No comment to be made.

(4) 18/0779/FUL Erection of a poultry unit and associated works. Site Address: Old Impton Farm, Mynd Road, Norton: Members noted that the application had been due to go before the Planning Committee on 13<sup>th</sup> June but that this had not been possible and the application would be considered at a later meeting.

(5) Powys LDP SPG – Public Open Space: Consultation on Draft Policy: Cllr. Kirkby reported that there were a number of inaccuracies relating to Presteigne and he agreed to contact the County Council Officer to discuss his concerns.

### **MIN 3629 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT**

(1) Highway Items for repair: The following items were discussed –

- Potholes Slough Road: Repaired.
- Road Surface Breaking Up, entrance to Caenbrook Meadow: Listed by County Council for repair.
- Loose Slab outside London House Broad Street: Clerk to report.
- Entrance to Lugg View branch hanging down: Clerk to report.

(2) PACDG Update: The following items were reported –

AGM held 11<sup>th</sup> June.

- ACE Recycling Bin for tetrapak: Working with PCC and ACE UK to see if one could be sited on the Bring Site.
- Updating of Tourist Information Boards being looked into.

- Guerrilla Gardening continues.
- (3) Active Travel Route: Cllr Edwards reported on the site meeting with Hereford Street residents and on the options considered – the reintroduction of bollards and a possible trial of a one way along Hereford Street. Whilst appreciating that many Hereford Street residents wished to see a one way introduced there was concern that there would be an impact on all residents, particularly those at the Secondary School end of the town. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the following comments be submitted to the County Council in response to the further information on the reasons for trialling a one way route along Hereford Street –
- Stating that the route and any issues would be better assessed once it was all completed and then following a three to six month trial period.
  - Concern that introducing a one way along Hereford Street would increase traffic along Broadaxe Lane beside the Secondary School.
  - Asking that if the trial goes ahead then the direction of the One Way should be towards the Town Centre.
  - Noting the feelings of Hereford Street residents but expressing concern that the effect of a one way would reach to all residents and so wider views should be sought.
- (4) Application for DMMO Fold Farm: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the request to the Planning Inspectorate had been submitted and the Inspectorate had written to the County Council asking for information.
- (5) Plastic Free Presteigne Update: Cllr. Bamford reported that the group was working towards accreditation and would be working with the litter picking group over the Summer.
- (6) Climate Emergency Working Group Update: Cllr. Veary reported on the meeting the Group had held with an officer from Renew Wales. She stated that first steps would involve drafting a Council policy and possibly an action plan and it was agreed that the Group would meet to discuss a draft of a policy and report back to the Council. The Group would also further consider whether to become part of Renew Wales.
- (7) Dark Skies Project: Feedback had been provided and the project had over one hundred likes on the its facebook page and had one hundred and twenty followers. There had been a display board and information at a Farmer's Market and the Food and Flower Festival and around two hundred signatures of support had been received. In addition the Clerk had that day spoken to a London lighting company interested in assisting the project with community consultation and fund raising as one of its two social initiatives in 2019. Members agreed that the company could attend the July meeting to provide more information.
- (8) Letter re proposed woodland assurance standard for named Woods near Presteigne: Members agreed that they had no objections but asked for more information on the benefits to the community.
- (9) Pound Lane, Scottleton Street, Back Lane - Report on site meeting 17<sup>th</sup> June: This had been attended by a County Traffic Engineer, the Clerk and Cllrs. Baynham, Owens and Preece. The following matters were reported –
- Pound Lane: The engineer had confirmed that there was insufficient visibility at the junction for the direction of traffic to be reversed but had suggested that the residents park on the opposite side of the road to improve access to the driver's side of their vehicles. The Clerk would reply to the residents who had raised the issue and pass on the suggestion of the traffic engineer.
  - Parking on Pavement, Forge Meadow, Scottleton Street: Members considered the options to prevent this and agreed to support the suggestion for double yellow lines given that properties had parking to the rear of their premises. It was also noted that there was a long waiting list for a traffic order. It was also noted that parking obstructed the stop line as well as close to the junction generally and severely restricted visibility – the engineer had confirmed that this was a matter the police could take immediate action upon and should be reported.
  - Back Lane: Members noted the concerns of a resident whose property had been damaged on several occasions by vehicles. It was noted that access for larger vehicles was difficult and the present white lines could not be extended for legal reasons. The engineer was arranging for a bollard to protect the property but had again pointed out that the police could take action if the highway was obstructed.
  - Request for Solid Double White Lines from Greenfield Roundabout out of Presteigne: The engineer had stated that the carriageway was of insufficient width for this to be permitted.

## **MIN 3630      NORTON**

- (1) Church: Matters were now progressing and a decision was expected from the Church of Wales in mid-July.
- (2) Potholes: These had still not been repaired. The Clerk would chase.

(3) Pavement outside Corte Cottage: Again, not yet repaired. Clerk would chase.

### **MIN 3631 SITES AND BUILDINGS**

(1) Public Conveniences: Nothing to report.

(2) Allotments: The potholes in the car park had now been repaired. Thanks to Cllrs. Bennett and Kirkby for doing this.

(3) Meadows:

- Community Building: Cllr. Kirkby provided an update on the community barn project. Work was progressing well and water and electricity would be put in soon. The building would be useable for the Carnival although not complete. He also advised that it had been decided to use Gift Aid as many of the personal donors to the project were eligible and this had provided more funds.
- Ligne Garden: In reply to a question from Cllr. Kirkby Cllr Preece confirmed that the Scouts were still intending to look after the Ligne Garden.

(4) Silia Wood: There had as yet been no response from the John Beddoes Charity Trustees on the request for a strip of land adjacent to the Wood. Cllr. Kirkby reported that he had still not received any reply from the Woodland Trust and it was agreed that the Clerk should write formally.

(5) Community Storage: The views of the Governors at the Secondary School were still awaited.

(6) Grass Verge Cutting: It was agreed to request one further cut in August before the Presteigne Festival at an approximate cost of £500. Members also asked that the July cut be carried out before the Carnival and that the visibility splays be cut as a matter of urgency as there were visibility issues.

### **MIN 3632 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS**

(1) Liaison with Schools: Cllr. Veary confirmed that the poster competition was complete and she would contact Cllr. Owens to arrange a time to judge these. She had still been unable to visit the Secondary School but was hopeful that the climate change issues would provide a good way of involving students.

(2) Christmas Lights 2019: The Clerk reported that in general commercial companies wished to install their own lights. She had requested the return of the Council's lights from Festive Decorations although they had not been received. CONNECT had offered to consider putting up the lights for the same price as the commercial company used. It was agreed that when they were returned Cllr Bennet would consider the feasibility of him organising the erecting the lights and then provide the council with a quote.

(3) Future for Older Persons Services: The reply from Portfolio Holders was noted as follows – *Thank you for your letter of 29<sup>th</sup> January regarding planning for residential, day and home care support in the Presteigne area, and please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.*

*The County Council, in partnership with Powys Teaching Health Board, is keen to support residents to remain independent and connected with their families and communities, reflecting the principles of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act and our own integrated Health and Care Strategy.*

*Our focus at the moment is on a safe transition of management of the council's own residential homes from Bupa to our new provider, Shaw. We will then be looking to plan the future role and scope of residential care in Powys, having regard to the emergence of alternatives such as Extra Care housing, and the growing role of home support and early intervention.*

*We will certainly want to involve Presteigne and Norton Town Council in discussions at the appropriate stage and welcome the Town Council's early recognition of these important issues.*

(4) Electric Vehicle Charging Points: Members were encouraged to complete the current County Council survey.

(5) Town Information Boards: PACDG was hoping to work with the Presteigne Trust and CONNECT to update the information boards. Members confirmed support for this project.

(6) Presteigne Schools: The letter from the Primary School Governing Body was noted. The Clerk would write to both Schools to request initial meetings. As stated at the May meeting Cllrs. Preece Kirkby and Baynham would attend.

### **MIN 3633 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY**

June Surgery: Cllrs. Owens and Rogers had attended. The following matters were discussed –

- Street light, Church Close: Request to be turned off/lit part night. Clerk to request light be changed to part night.
- Overhanging Branches, Clatterbrune (near post box): Clerk to request that these be trimmed back.

- Potholes, School Lane, Norton and poor visibility on exit: Clerk to report to County Council.
- Request for improved pathway from Allotments to Withy Beds to accommodate electric scooters: Improvements were already planned to the path down the Meadow alongside the main road and it was possible that improvements could be made to the paths on Lower Went's Meadow at the same time with grass cleared to restore the original stoning. Cllr. Bennett agreed to look at costs etc for digger hire.
- Suggestion for renewable energy generation to be included in sewage development improvements: Clerk to pass on suggestion to Welsh Water.

At this point Members also noted the recent update from Welsh Water on the plans for upgrading the sewage system.

Arrangements for July Surgery: Cllrs. Veary and Linnett to attend.

#### **MIN 3634 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr. Baynham reported the following –

- Elected as Chairman of Powys County Council at the meeting in May.
- Attendance at many events during recent weeks.
- Contact with planning enforcement over development at Clatterbrune.
- Assisting Norton residents regarding complaints made to Planning and Environmental Health.
- Reminder to complete electric vehicle charging points survey.
- Update on recent matters concerning the active travel route including damage to speed cushions caused by the removal of protective barriers over a weekend.

#### **MIN 3635 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR DIXON**

Members noted with disappointment the resignation of Simon Dixon and asked that the Clerk write formally to thank him for his work on the Council. The Clerk advised that initial notices of the vacancy would be displayed immediately after the meeting in order to start the process.

#### **MIN 3636 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION**

(1) Lloyds Bank: Cllr Kirkby noted the recent installation of a new cashpoint as well as the proposed access improvements which were welcomed. The Clerk was asked to write thanking the Bank for its continued investment in Presteigne.

(2) Radnor Hills: Members noted that Radnor Hills had purchased the former Countrywide site. The Clerk was asked to write to welcome the company to Presteigne and express support for the creation of jobs on the site.

#### **MIN 3637 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

*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 item.*

#### **MIN 3638 FUTURE OF LIBRARY SERVICE/ASSEMBLY ROOMS BUILDING IN PRESTEIGNE**

Members noted that both Cllr. Hywel Lewis and Cllr. Michael Jones had supported the Town Councils proposals for a fair distribution of the savings that needed to be made in the Service budget. The County Council had now met with the volunteers and attendees from Presteigne had provided a report indicating that essentially the meeting had been the same as that with the Town Councils with the emphasis on volunteers. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Powys Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council repeating the suggestions and adding that these points did not seem to have been properly considered.

The meeting closed at 9.31 pm