

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16TH AUGUST 2023
HELD AT THE EAST RADNORSHIRE DAY CENTRE, PRESTEIGNE AND ALSO VIA VIDEO
CONFERENCING

Present: Cllrs. B. Baynham (Mayor), R. Bamford (Deputy Mayor), J. Gray, L. Firth, J. Poster, F. Preece, T. Owens, M. Price, A. Van Huls, J. Wilding, M. Williams.

Apologies: Cllrs. D. Edwards, L. Abecasis.

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: None.

Personal and Prejudicial: None.

MIN 4228 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th July, 2023 were approved without amendment. The Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

There were no urgent updates. Full updates would be taken at the September meeting.

MIN 4229 FINANCE

(1) Payments: The following payments were approved –

Welsh Water (Hereford Street Toilets)	£347.11	
Welsh Water (Wilson Terrace Toilets)	£27.71	
Welsh Water (Barn)	£18.46	MEADOW ACCOUNT
EDF Energy (Wilson Terrace)	£19.24	
PHS Group (services at Hereford Street)	£122.52	
PHS Group (services at Wilson Terrace)	£49.38	
NEST (pension conts.)	£139.37	
Mrs T.A. Price	£1495.00	
HM Revenue & Customs	£586.51	
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£345.89	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Mid Wales Ecology	£175.20	
Mr. N. Close	£40.00	
Mr. N. Close	£192.00	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Ms T. Lloyd-John	£667.23	
JRB Enterprises Ltd	£734.16	MEADOW ACCOUNT (Direct Debit)
J. Bird (street cleaning)	£168.00	
Powys County Council (bunting licence Xmas lights)	£115.00	
HSBC (bank charges)	£8.00	
HSBC (bank charges)	£8.00	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Nature Reserve Payments –		
Amazon (refund R. Bamford)	£25.99	
Amazon (refund R. Bamford)	£17.99	
Amazon (refund R. Bamford)	£13.99	

(2) Renewal of Annual Insurance (inc three year agreement):

AJ Gallagher Insurance £1431.62

(3) Dark Skies Project: Request for funding/part funding or guarantee against loss for Bat Walk:

Costed at £100. Agreed to provide a guarantee against loss from the Dark Skies Reserve monies.

MIN 4230 PLANNING

Cllr. Wilding joined the meeting at this point.

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

23/0984/LBC Grid Reference: E:331434 N: 264351 Proposal: Installation of gas fired central heating and domestic plumbing pipework, replacing rusted steel and lead pipes, a very old oil-fired Rayburn cooker and a couple of storage heaters that provided the heating Site Address: Millfields, Hereford Street, Presteigne, LD8 2AT. Resolved no objections be raised.

23/0983/HH Grid Reference: E:331434 N: 264351 Proposal: Installation of gas fired central heating and domestic plumbing pipework, replacing rusted steel and lead pipes, a very old oil-fired Rayburn cooker and a couple of storage heaters that provided the heating Site Address: Millfields, Hereford Street, Presteigne, LD8 2AT. Resolved no objections be raised.

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

23/0789/FUL Unit 1, Broadaxe Business Park, Presteigne: Approval 17th July.

23/0790/FUL Units 5 and 6 Presteigne Industrial Estate, Presteigne: Approval 17th July.

MIN 4231 GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Use of Meadow: Request to use Meadow for Fun Day – 9th September: Noted as now cancelled.

(2) Nature Reserve - Update on ponds: Cllr. Bamford reported on recent site visits and on quotes received for options to line the ponds on the site. The most expensive option was a clay liner at around £11,000 plus installation; plastic lining with coir pond matting (pre planted) around the edges around £5000 plus installation and matting; and for clay only a cost was still awaited. She felt that in order to secure water to the top pond that this one at least should use a plastic type liner and that following that options for the bottom pond could be considered. Members agreed that Cllr. Bamford proceed with the work subject to a budget for the top pond of up to £10,000. Once this was done that options could be considered for the other pond.

(3) Street Cleaning Insurance Update: Cllr. Baynham reported that the contractor was currently not willing to take out public liability insurance. This was a requirement for all Council contractors. Members agreed that this was not negotiable although they would consider paying slightly more (20p) per hour to cover this if requested. If insurance cover was not taken out and details provided then the contractor would not be able to continue.

MIN 4232 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) Silver Kite Award: Cllr. Baynham reported that Cllr. Wilding had recently been presented with a Silver Kite Award at the Royal Welsh Show for his work in the community around Presteigne and Norton. She read her speech at the awards ceremony to the meeting and thanked Cllr. Wilding again for all his efforts locally.

The meeting closed at 7pm and was followed by the annual town walk.

Sites visited were –

- Eddie's Meadow: The need to cut out the blackthorn shooting at the top edge of the site was pointed out by Cllr. Price. Cllr. Wilding reminded Members of the suggestion in the new management plan that steps be put at the top to aid access onto the Warden. The management plan would be reviewed fully in September.
- Visit to new Nature Reserve: Members looked at the new site and Cllr. Bamford explained the tree planting and the acceptance onto the National Forest for Wales Scheme.
- Trees, Station Road (resident request to pollard): Agreed to ask County Council to inspect.
- Review of Grass Verges/Cutting: Various areas were looked at and options discussed. Full review at the September meeting.
- Countrywide Roundabout: Members thought the roundabout looked very good indeed and thanks to Radnor Hills were noted. The Clerk would write to thank the firm.
- Kington Roundabout: Had been fairly recently cut but arrangements for 2024 would be reviewed in due course.
- Norton Community Hub: Members were impressed with the progress made.
- Memorial Hall: Not visited but Cllr. Baynham gave a brief update on the current situation with the building not expected to be open before the end of the year.