



Community News

Special Issue - February 2025

*The Community News is an information service from PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group
"Working Together For Our Community"*



Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton Presteigne & Norton Town Council NEWS from the meeting held in December 2024

Planning applications: The following planning applications were discussed –
24/1682/TRE Grid Ref: E: 331565 N: 264492. Proposal: Works to mature Beech tree in a conservation area.
Location: St Andrews Church, Broad Street, Presteigne LD8 2AF: Resolved to request that the applicant obtain a professional opinion on the need to remove the tree as none had been included with the application.

Planning Decisions: The following decisions were noted: -
24/1471/TRE Craftsman's Mews, Presteigne: Approval.
24/1482/TRE Radnorshire Arms Hotel, Presteigne: Approval.
24/0338/FUL Holiday Chalet at Harp Meadow, Presteigne: Approval.
24/1504/TRE The Rectory, St. David's Street, Presteigne: Approval.
24/1349/TRE 1 Wherby Cottage, Presteigne: Approval.

Leisure Centre Future: Many residents will be aware of the recent report issued by the County Council which placed the future of the Leisure Centre under threat. The review of Leisure Centres has been pushed on to Summer time but the threat has not gone away. Please watch out for any updates in the press or on the Town Council website and facebook pages and be ready to comment to support the retention of the Leisure Centre when the consultation goes live. In the meantime please be aware that the use of the centre is monitored and the figures will be part of the County Council's considerations - please try to support your local centre.

Fold Farm DMMO Application: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the Officer expected to work on the draft report over the Christmas period with a view to issuing it in early January.

Presteigne Memorial Hall Update: It was confirmed that the formal transfer had now taken place and the Committee was now hoping to open for early February. It was agreed that the Clerk write and thank the Committee Members for all their efforts. It was also agreed to release the grant awarded for 2024-25 and which had been held pending the transfer.

Meadows: Update - Bike Track: Cllr. Owens reported that he had been in touch with the parents and was now waiting to hear from them on their plans.
Update - café bar/storage: Cllr. Kirkby reported that he had now submitted the planning application and the grant application to the lottery.

Possible New projects for 2025/26. Potential projects put forward were:
Meadow Access Paths (match funding); Meadow Bar/ Storage; New Website; Christmas Lighting; Dark Skies Project; East Radnor Leisure Centre. These projects would be considered fully at the budget setting meeting on 15th January.

Conclusion of External Audit for 2023-24: Members noted the conclusion of the audit. No matters requiring action had been raised.

Website Advert Renewals: Letters/emails had gone out to all the current advertisers. If any business or accommodation provider wishes to have an advert on the town site please get in touch. Cost currently 50p per week.

Car Parking: The Portfolio Holder had responded to the email from the Clerk citing loss of income as one of the main reasons for not allowing free parking for the first hour. Cllr. Kirkby felt that the statement over the loss of income was incorrect given the under use of the Shoppers Car Park in particular. The Clerk to reply to the Portfolio Holder stating that little income would be lost and again pressing for a first hour free. The Clerk also to ask whether community asset transfers would be considered as part of the new review.

Full Minutes are available on the website - http://www.presteigne.org.uk/Town_Council

Tracey Price, Town Clerk

PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group ... "Working together for the Community"
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Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton

**PRESTEIGNE & NORTON TOWN COUNCIL
NEWS – BUDGET SPECIAL**



Setting of Budget and Precept for 2025/26:

Members considered each budget line in turn.

Grants for 2025-26 were as follows –

Donations and S137s	
Air Ambulance	250
British Legion (Remembrance Wreaths)	75
East Radnorshire Care	2000
Memorial Hall	1500
Mid Border Arts	1500
Presteigne and Norton Community Trust	2000
Norton Community Trust (Fireworks)	400
PACDG	250
Presteigne Festival	1500
Presteigne Fireworks Display (Sheep Music)	500
Presteigne & Norton Community Support	0
The Judge's Lodging Trust Ltd	2000
Powys CAB	200
The Samaritans	250
Youth Project	1000
Miscellaneous	500
	13,925.00

It was decided not to provide a grant to Presteigne and Norton Community Support due to the level of the current reserves but the Organisation would be welcome to apply again for 2026-27.

New projects included were –

New Projects 2024-25	
New website	2300
Disabled Access Paths Meadow (Match Funding)	3000
New Storage Building (Match Funding)	3000
Christmas Lighting	3000
Dark Skies Project	1500
Additional for Devolved Services inc car parks/Leisure Centre	5,000
	17,800.00

Ongoing projects allocated further monies were –

Ongoing Projects:	
Anchorage Test for Xmas Lights	125
Toilet Blocks (2) (reserves to be used for any excess)	5000
Devolved Services (inc Town Library Service)(reserve held)	0
Presteigne Christmas Lights (installation)	1200
Wildflowers/ Bulbs/Verges/Roundabouts - 2024 via sponsorship	120
Street Lighting/Dark Skies Project	0
Climate Crisis Project Grants	0
Street Cleaning Arrangements	0
Christmas Lights, Norton	0
	6,445.00

Administration costs were agreed as £36,413 and the amount for the maintenance and running of Went's Meadow £14,515.

This produced a budget of £89,098. It was agreed to use £13,000 from free reserves and to set a precept requirement of £76,053.04. This would result in a precept of £56 per Band D property, the same as in 2024-25.

The full budget has been placed in the Council Accounts section of the Presteigne.org.uk website.

Review of Income:

Noted that the review of the allotment rent was next due in late 2025 for implementation in March 2026.

Website Advertising Income: Review deferred for consideration when considering quotes for a new site.

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Tracey Price, Town Clerk.