

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 21ST DECEMBER 2016
AT THE SHIREHALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

Present: Cllrs J. Tennant-Eyles (Mayor), B. Baynham (Deputy Mayor), G. Banks, C. Kirkby MBE, H. Marchant, F. Preece, J. Matthews, H. Owens, B. Price, P. Robinson, J Wilding.

Apologies: Cllr. N. Humphreys.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk; members 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 and the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016.

Personal:

Cllr. Banks, position as County Councillor re. all County Council related matters.

Cllr. Baynham, employee of East Radnorshire Day Centre re future of Day Centres (information only item).

Personal and Prejudicial: None.

MIN 3220 RESIGNATION OF CLLR. P. SMITH

Members noted and accepted the resignation of Cllr. Smith due to work commitments. It was agreed that the vacancy would not be filled as full Council elections were due in May and as there was less than six months to run.

MIN 3221 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 16th November 2016 were approved with two amendments. Minute 3208 (7) 'financial' year and Minute 3213 (4) 'Ligne Garden' not 'Meadow'. The Chairman then duly signed the Minutes.

The Minutes of the Sites and Buildings Committee meeting held on 30th November were approved without amendment and duly signed by the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. Kirkby.

MIN 3222 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

- (1) Information on Planning Requirements for Tree Works: These had been re-circulated as requested.
- (2) Skateboard Pyramid: Nothing further had been heard from the company representative that had recently attended despite the Clerk leaving messages. The Company would be pressed again for a response.
- (3) DMMO Application Fold Farm: This had been re-submitted with signed copies of the route map from each witness.
- (4) Donation of Tree: Cllr. Kirkby had spoken to the donor about possible sites and these were being considered.
- (5) War Memorial Grant: The Clerk had yet to complete the maintenance plan.
- (6) Christmas Lights: There had been praise for the lights this year.
- (7) Community Group Fair: PACDG representatives were able to confirm that feedback from groups had been positive and that new contacts had been made by those attending.

- (8) Replacement Bench for Norton: The Clerk had attempted to obtain a bench from Marmax in the sale but this had not been possible due to an excessive carriage charge.
- (9) Norton Notice Board: Mr. Close had inspected the Board. The Clerk would bring figures to the next meeting.
- (10) Car Park Extension: The lottery sign was now in place.
- (11) Hedge-Trimming: Cllr. Wilding had arranged a site meeting for 23rd December and the work should take place in the New Year.
- (12) Presteigne Carnival: Cllr. Kirkby reported on the need for volunteers. A further committee meeting would be held in January.
- (13) Open Manhole: The County Council had made this safe and the landowner would be invoiced for the work.
- (14) Cleaning of Pavements, Station Road: The Clerk would remind the County Council that this needed to be done. Cllr. Banks would also submit a request.
- (15) Tesco Bags of Help Grant: Cllr. Tennant-Eyles and the Clerk had attended Tesco's Shrewsbury store for a formal photograph.
- (16) Tennis Court Transfer: This was now being recorded at the Land Registry.
- (17) Missing length of Footpath, Old Mill: Cllr. Kirkby reported that this land was actually part of the Withy Beds. He would send the map to the County Council with the request that the length of path be formally recorded.
- (18) Business Rates Valuation, Hereford Street Toilets: The Clerk had challenged this.
- (19) Freedom of Information Request re Legal Advice on Community Council Spending: This had been refused. Cllr. Kirkby had made a personal request, challenging the grounds for refusal (Section 42) and had had the same reply. He would raise these grounds direct with the Information Commissioner.
- (20) Dropped Kerbs, Warden Road: the Clerk asked for photographs of the suggested locations so that these could be submitted with the request. Cllr. Baynham would supply.
- (21) Parking Notices, High Street: These had been drafted and would be placed on vehicles overstaying the permitted time, commencing in the New Year.

MIN 3223 FINANCE

(1) Donations: No precepted donations this month. A request had been received from the British Red Cross but it was resolved not to make any donation at this time.
The letter of thanks from Presteigne Colts was noted.

(2) Payments: the following payments were approved –

Mrs T. Price	£911.27
HMRC	£241.59
(income tax and employees and employers NI due on above)	
Clearview Cleaning Services Ltd	£405.76
OCS Group UK Ltd (Hygiene Units H'fd Street)	£15.77
Border Janitorial Supplies Ltd	£84.00
Clun Solutions (computer service plan)	£140.00
Came & Company (additional insurance Christmas Lights)	£25.00
EDF Energy (Barn)	£21.49 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance (grass cutting)	£263.28 MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£75.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Powys County Council (licence for access)	£10.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT

(3) New Projects 2017/18: New projects submitted were -

- Purchase of Cemetery Land
- Funding for Town Library Service
- Transfer of Old School Building
- Transfer of Drill Hall building
- Additional Christmas Lights, Norton.

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that the Chamber of Trade was unlikely to request any grant in 2017/18 towards the funding of the Christmas Lights/Fair providing income from the recycling site continued.

(4) Bank Balances: The following bank balances as at 5th December were noted..

Treasurer	£49,871.59	Meadow	£7403.45
Allotments	£1794.99	Money Manager	£15,392.03
Warden Reserve	£2961.13		

(5) Organisation Accounts: Accounts from organisations receiving over £250 had been received and were currently being circulated. The Clerk reported that many Councils ran an annual application process with grants being allocated on an annual basis. The Clerk would draft the necessary documentation for future use. In the meantime a letter would be written to those organisations in receiving grants that had either made a surplus in the previous year or had more than adequate reserves asking for reasons that the current grant should continue in 2017/18.

(6) Request for Inclusion in 2017/18 Precept new canopy for Norton Sports Committee (approx £400): No longer required, application withdrawn.

(7) Receipts: The following receipt was noted -
Allotment Rent £27.00

MIN 3224 PLANNING

(1) Planning Applications: The following application was considered -
P/2016/1210, Grid Ref: 331256.42/267629.55 for Erection of Sun Room at Westering, Stonewall Hill
Presteigne: Resolved no objections be raised.

(2) Planning Decisions: The following planning decisions were noted -
P/2014/0638 development land off Wills View, Norton: Outline Consent with S.106
P/2016/0393 land adj Green Lane, Presteigne: Conditional Consent
P/2016/1114 3 Jacks View Norton: Conditional Consent
P/2016/0137 Clatterbrune House, Presteigne: Conditional Consent.

MIN 3225 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) PACDG: The more detailed information on the proposed garden plot were noted.

(2) General Highway Items: Lugg Bridge still not repaired.

(3) Powys County Council Review of Rights of Way Improvement Plan: Members reviewed this consultation and the Clerk would respond.

(4) Presteigne Bring Site Removal of Plastic and Cans Containers: Noted. The Clerk had contacted the County Council to confirm that the glass banks were not being removed.

(5) Response from Cllr. Brunt re. reduced price car park permits: Members noted the reply with disappointment. The Clerk was asked to further respond stating that the permits had not been envisaged as being for tourists but for local residents. The price of these permits could be £50 per annum, around a £1 per week.

MIN 3226 NORTON

Killhorse and Newton Lanes: Both needed machine sweeping and cleaning.

MIN 3227 SITES AND BUILDINGS

Members considered the recommendations of the Committee and confirmed the decisions as follows -
Allotments:

- swapping of plots to be stopped
- rent refunds to be ceased, part year payments to be half rent for six months or more, no rent for under six months
- a quote be obtained for the cutting of the inside of the roadside and pond boundaries
- hedge trimming of the outer side of roadside boundary to be arranged
- second (within one household) plots not be considered at present
- the present tenant of plot 36 be asked if they wished to retain the separate area and if not this be removed and placed under general areas. No change in rent.

Went's Meadow etc -

- grass cutting contract for 2017/18 be awarded to High Ground
- quote to be obtained by Cllr. Kirkby for cutting of rough grass areas on Lower Went's Meadow twice yearly in early May and late August
- skateboard area - Mr. Close be asked to look at the wooden fence, Mr. Rimington to sort the guard rails, Cllr. Kirkby to remind Harpers of agreement to carry out work to tarmac.

- annual visual tree inspection: The Clerk to arrange with Mr. Close
- fields in trust: - further consideration needed and recommended that legal advice be sought
- budget - draft budget recommended unchanged (for final confirmation at the budget setting meeting)

Toilet Blocks -

- cleaning contract for 2017/18 be awarded to Clearview Cleaning Services
- basic refurbishment of Hereford Street be undertaken with Healthmatic using money from the allocated reserve
- estimate be obtained from Mr. Close for the painting of inside and outside of Wilson Terrace Toilets (obtained and agreed at this meeting, with mural to be left as existing)
- missing tap in Wilson Terrace to be replaced with heavy duty commercial tap at approx cost for tap of £100.

Drill Hall/Old School Buildings

- Draft budget Information agreed (for final confirmation at the budget setting meeting)

MIN 3228 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Working with Young People/Youth Representation: Cllr. Marchant reported that the Primary School was enthusiastic but she was still awaiting further contact from the Secondary School. Members felt that Cllr. Marchant should proceed with the Primary school suggesting that pupils speak to the Town Council once a year to put forward ideas. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles would contact the secondary school.

(2) Review of National Standards for Community Health Councils in Wales: No further comment.

(3) Community Energy Wales Email: Cllr. Marchant reported that this project was being taken forward by PACDG. No further action required by the Town Council.

(4) Powys County Council Consultation on closure of Welsh medium stream at Brecon High School: No comment to be made.

(5) Open Manhole, Old Surgery Harpers Lane: See 3222 (13).

(6) Heart of Wales Line Walking Trail Feasibility Study Information: Noted.

(7) National Development Framework: Call for Evidence and Projects: No comment.

(8) Consultation on Changing the Name of the National Assembly: No comment.

(9) Buckingham Palace Garden Parties 2017: The Clerk would submit the form for Cllr. Tennant-Eyles.

(10) Powys County Council Update on Day Time Activities and Day Centres: Cllr. Baynham reported on the cabinet meeting the previous day and on the recommendations made. She also informed Members that the BUPA contract for residential homes was being renewed.

(11) Independent Remuneration Panel Meetings: No one could attend.

MIN 3229 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

(1) Report on December Surgery: One matter had been raised concerning the condition of the footpath along the Clatterbrook, between the industrial estates. This would be passed to the County Council for a response.

(2) Arrangements for February Surgery: Cllrs. Tennant-Eyles and Owens to attend.

MIN 3230 DEVOLVEMENT OF SERVICES

(1) Old School Building/Drill Hall EOI Update: Both EOI applications were complete and were just awaiting letters of support before submission. A draft of the proposed consultation was circulated and comments were invited. This consultation would run in February.

(2) Assembly Rooms Update: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the meeting of the Strategic Asset Board at which the EOI was to be discussed had been cancelled and would not now be held until 11th January. He had accordingly re-arranged the meeting with Kay Thomas, Principal Librarian for 13th January.

(3) Library Service, Reply from PCC on cost of legal advice: Noted at £864.

(4) Presteigne Cemetery Update/Report of Working Group: Cllr. Kirkby reported on the recommendations of the Working Group and these were agreed as follows -

- Notes from the working group meeting to be circulated
- The County Council be pressed for details on the proposed grant fund mentioned by Cllr. R. Harris.

- The County Council be pressed for written confirmation that it would not provide monies to purchase land to extend cemeteries in Powys.
- The landowner to be re-visited to clarify the exact area he wished to sell. Note this had already been done and written confirmation received. The independent land valuation had been completed.
- The Town Council proceed to request transfer of burial board responsibilities from the County Council.
- The Clerk proceed to complete and submit the forms for approval of public borrowing to purchase the land.

MIN 3231 INFORMATION

The following item for information was noted:-

Temp Closure - High Street, Presteigne - Christmas Fair 2016 (as emailed)

MIN 3232 URGENT_BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) Christmas Fair: Members commented on a very successful fair. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Chamber of Trade and Mr. David Tennant-Eyles to thank them for organising the event.

(2) Presteigne Pantomime: This had again been an excellent production. The Clerk was asked to write to the Players congratulating them on the performances.

MIN 3233 REVIEW OF START TIME FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS

Following a vote it was agreed to return the start time to 7.30pm unless a speaker was attending when it would be 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.21 pm.