

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20TH NOVEMBER 2013
AT THE SHIREHALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

Present: Cllrs. Ms B. Baynham (Mayor), C. Kirkby MBE (Deputy Mayor), Ms. N. Humphreys, J. Matthews, H. Owens, Ms. F. Preece, B. Price, P. Smith, J. Tennant-Eyles, J. Wilding

Apologies: Cllrs. Banks, Robinson

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 this annual meeting in accordance with the terms of the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct Order) (Wales) Order 2008.

Personal *None*

Personal and Prejudicial *None*

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Cllr. Kirkby circulated his MBE and photographs from the presentation ceremony.

MIN 2747 CASUAL VACANCY

The Clerk advised Members of the procedures to be followed. The notice of vacancy had been published and no formal election had been called. The Clerk would now proceed to advertise the vacancy with a view to the formal co-option taking place at the January meeting.

MIN 2748 MINUTES

The Minutes of 16th October and 7th November were approved without amendment. The Mayor then duly signed both sets of Minutes.

MIN 2749 CLERK'S REPORT/UPDATE

(1) Recycling Site Storage Container: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the County Council Waste Management had no problem with the unit remaining on site but that the Area Manager Bryan Davies had to give approval. He hoped to have a decision from him in the next week.

(2) Accounts from Organisations: These had been requested and would be circulated as soon as all of them had been received.

MIN 2750 FINANCE

(1) Donations: The requests for donations from Montgomeryshire Family Crisis Centre and Urdd National Eisteddfod were refused.

The letters of thanks from the Fire Fighters Charity and Bobath Childrens Centre were noted.

(2) Payments:

The following payments were approved -

T.A. Price	£649.36
HMRC (tax and Ni due on above)	£219.18
Clearview Cleaning Services Ltd	£393.67
N. Close	£42.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£84.00
Orphans Press (website)	£600.00
Powys County Council (Christmas Lights Licence)	£56.00

(3) Interim Audit: The Clerk confirmed that this had been carried out without any problems.

(4) Christmas Lights: Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that it was now hoped to go ahead with the town lights and that an inspection of the existing lights would be carried out in the next few days. If all was in order the lights would be erected on 30th November. The expected costs were £56 for the licence (above), £400 for a cherry picker, £240 for electricity and possibly something for replacement bulbs. Members noted that given the £500 plus £250 guarantee against loss already allocated to the Chamber of Trade for the Christmas Fair it was possible that the project would exceed the precepted amount of £1500.

MIN 2751 PLANNING

(1) Planning Applications

P2013 1026: full, construction of 28 affordable dwellings and creation of vehicle and pedestrian access at **Development opposite playing field, Knighton Road, Presteigne:**

A public meeting had been arranged for 2nd December. Posters would be displayed in the town and comment forms would be produced for completion at the meeting or submitting by post. The plans would be displayed in the library until 30th November.

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles gave a summary of the additional information provided since the last meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that an extension until 9am on 12th December had been given by the County Council to submit comments. It was therefore agreed to bring the December Council meeting forward to the 9th December.

MIN 2752 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) Tennis Courts: The Clerk confirmed that Rhayader Town Council had now agreed to their part of the transfer and that the tender details were now with the County Council procurement section.

(2) Cycle Route: Nothing to report.

(3) Replacement Sign, Scallions: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the catalogue supplied by the County Council had no suitable signs and the Clerk agreed to ask for different catalogues.

(4) Defibrillators: Nothing further to report.

(6) Town Regeneration / Speed Limit Request: The Clerk reported that the County Council had refused the request to introduce a 20mph speed limit throughout the town. Following some discussion Cllrs. Kirkby and Smith agreed to draft more detailed proposals to submit to Powys.

The notes from the recent meeting with the County Council (Vanessa Garwood and Cllr. Rosemarie Harris) were noted.

(7) Closure of Public Conveniences: The Clerk reported that despite several requests she had been unable to obtain any further information from the County Council. It was reported that the cemetery toilet had been closed and the Clerk agreed to investigate why this had been done. The emails from Kirsty Williams were noted.

(8) Car Park Information PCC: The Clerk reported that Cllr. Banks had that day telephoned to inform her that the portfolio holder had refused to consider the possible transfer of the Hereford Street car park to the Town Council. It was agreed that she write formally to the portfolio holder asking that the request be formally considered. Cllr. Banks had also confirmed that the budget for car parks was centralised and that a breakdown by car park was not possible. The initiative of the proprietor of the Salty Dog in refunding car park charges for a minimum spend was commended.

(9) Dog Fouling, John Beddoes School: Cllr. Ms. Baynham reported on the second meeting held at John Beddoes School to discuss the problem. The County Council Officers felt the re-routing of the path would be difficult and it had met with objections whenever it had been raised in the past. The School was also concerned that the field was not secure. The possibility of drawing up a dog control order was also discussed but it was felt this would be of little use if it could not be policed.

Members agreed that they would not wish to see the field closed to the public although they would support the re-routing of the footpath.

(10) Street Cleaning, Broad Street: The cleaning seemed to have been done but there were weeds that needed removing. The Clerk agreed to ask for this to be done.

(11) Electrical Works, Wilson Terrace: This item was deferred until the December meeting.

(12) Dukes Passage: Cllr. Matthews reported that there had been recent doubts over the ownership of this lane. He agreed to provide the Clerk with details so that she could look into the ownership.

(13) PNAA Meeting: The notes from the recent meeting were noted.

(14) General Highway Matters: The Clerk was asked to report the surfaces of Mynd Road, Norton and Station Road, Presteigne as needing attention.

MIN 2753 NORTON

(1) Bonfire: Norton Members reported on a very successful bonfire/fireworks particularly given the bad weather conditions.

(2) Benches: Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that a resident had offered to repaint both benches free of charge if materials were provided. The estimated cost of materials was £50. Members agreed to the work taking place.

MIN 2754 WENT'S MEADOW/EDDIE'S MEADOW

(1) Trees: Cllr. Wilding was asked if he would look at the trees for the annual risk assessment report.

(2) Horse Driving Request: Members considered this request again as the Sub-Committee would not be meeting for several months. After due consideration it was decided that this was not be suitable for the Meadow and the Clerk was asked to reply refusing the request. The request to hold an annual horse show would be considered on submission of a full detailed proposal.

(3) Vintage Show: Members noted the request to use the Meadow one weekend in June. The request to have a horse driving display was agreed to as a one off event and providing the ground conditions were suitable.

MIN 2755 YOUTH MATTERS

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported briefly on recent events at the Youth Centre.

MIN 2756 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Town Emblem Update: Nothing to report.

(2) Memorial Hall Progress Report: Nothing to report at present.

(3) Polling Places Consultation: Members had no comment to make in respect of Presteigne but for Norton the Clerk was asked to reply asking that in future the use of the Church be considered given that toilet facilities were soon to be installed.

(4) Mobile Telephone Signal: The Clerk was asked to contact the company administering the Mobile Infrastructure Project asking that Norton be considered and stating that there was a possible site for consideration for a telephone mast.

(5) BT Vulnerable Customer Scheme: Noted.

(6) Potential Closure of Knighton Fire Station: Members noted with concern the possible closure of Knighton Fire Station. The Clerk was asked to write opposing the closure and stressing the need for both Knighton and Presteigne Stations in order to provide adequate cover for the area.

(7) Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Consultation: Cllr. Ms. Baynham took this document and agreed to complete the documentation on line.

(8) Lack of Local Government Funding, Powys: The Clerk was asked to write to the Welsh Government about the inadequacy of the grant to Powys County Council, particularly given the rural nature of the area.

(9) War Memorials Trust Call to Remember: Members noted the letter and accompanying leaflet. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr. Protheroe to ask what could be done to clean the Presteigne Memorial and whether this needed to be done professionally. Members agreed that any works needed should be done in the Spring of 2014.

(10) Regional Technical Statement Consultation (aggregates): Noted.

(11) Knighton and East Radnor Leisure Centres Local Consultative Committee: Cllr. Ms Baynham reported on the recent meeting. Knighton Centre would now be closed on Saturday but there was no change to the Presteigne opening hours. Generally the finances were in fair order.

(12) Email from Llandrindod Wells Town Mayor: It was agreed that the Clerk write to Llandrindod Wells Town Council to ask that it be recorded that Cllr. Ms Baynham had not agreed for her name to be included on the original email and pointing out that this had still not been retracted.

MIN 2757 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERIES

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported on the November Surgery.

MIN 2758 INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

MIN 2759 URGENT ITEMS

The Meeting closed at 9.55 pm.