

**Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton  
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL**

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16TH SEPTEMBER 2015  
AT THE SHIREHALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE**

**Present:** Cllrs. Ms B. Baynham, Ms. N. Humphreys, Ms. H. Marchant, H. Owens, J. Matthews, Ms. F. Preece, P. Robinson, P. Smith.

**Apologies:** Cllrs. C. Kirkby MBE (Mayor), J. Tennant-Eyles (Deputy Mayor), G. Banks, B. Price, J Wilding.

**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.

*Personal: None*

*Personal and Prejudicial: None*

In the absence of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor it was unanimously agreed that Cllr. Ms. Baynham be elected Chairman for the meeting.

**MIN 3016      APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meetings of 15th July and 19th August 2015 were approved without amendment. The Chairman then duly signed the Minutes.

**MIN 3017      CLERKS REPORT/UPDATE**

**(1) Smoke Free Playground Signs:** The Clerk reported that these were currently in production and would be received shortly.

**(2) Footpath, Fold Farm Lane:** Cllr. Ms. Marchant reported that there had been further concerns and it was agreed that the matter be placed on the October agenda.

**(3) Royal Welsh Show Reception:** Cllr. Ms. Preece had attended.

**(4) Norton Sewerage Problems:** The Clerk reminded Members that there would be a further meeting with Welsh Water on 22nd September.

**MIN 3018      FINANCE**

**(1) Donations:** Resolved that the following precepted donations be approved.

Air Ambulance	£100
Presteigne and Norton Community Support	£500
Powys Citizens Advice Bureau	£100
Radnorshire Wildlife Trust	£150
Warden Guardians Foundation	£200
The Samaritans	£100
Bobath	£50

The letters of thanks from East Radnorshire Day Centre and Presteigne Carnival were noted.

Members then considered arrangements for the firework display in Presteigne. £500 had been set aside to support the event. Cllr. Smith reported that Sheep Music were not prepared to run the event but would provide £500 towards costs. He estimated that a total of £1500 would be needed. Various possibilities were discussed and the Clerk reminded Members that the Council insurance policy did not cover any display and that extending cover would necessitate complying with strict conditions. It was therefore necessary for a local organisation to run the event with financial support from the Town Council and Sheep Music. It was agreed that Cllr. Smith would approach the Young Farmers Club to ask if they would consider running the event. Should the Club agree to run the event the Clerk was authorised to release the £500 funding to it as soon as required.

**(2) Payments:** Resolved that the following payments be approved:

Mrs T. Price	£836.72
HMRC	£198.52
(income tax and employees and employers NI due on above)	
C. Kirkby (Mayor's Allowance)	£500.00
Presteigne Building Supplies (H'fd Street toilets)	£15.89
Clearview Cleaning Services Ltd	£405.76 & £409.98
Npower	£82.77 MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£66.66 MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£81.25
Npower (Wilson Terrace Toilets)	£23.50

**(3) Receipts:** The following receipts were noted.

Powys County Council (2nd precept payment)	£18,047.77
Powys County Council (grant payment Wilson Terrace)	£500.00

**(4) Bank Balances and Review of Budget for Year to Date:**

Members received and examined the budget update. The Clerk confirmed that spending was in line with that planned. In addition the following bank balances were noted.

Money Manager	£15,379.46	Meadow	£6879.03
Warden Reserve	£2958.70	Allotments	£1272.33
Treasurer	£47,016.07		

## **MIN 3019 PLANNING**

**(1) Planning Applications:** The following applications were considered.

P/2015/0737, full, erection of a new residential dwelling, garage and ancillary works at Land adjacent to The Laurels, Green End, Presteigne. *Resolved that no objections be raised.*

P/2015/0724, full, erection of single one storey dwelling and detached garage with a new access driveway and alterations to the existing entrance at land to south of Clatterbrune Farmhouse, Presteigne. *Resolved that no objections be raised.*

P/2015/0810 & 0808, construction of a car port at 2 Myrtle Cottage, Harpers Lane, Presteigne. *Resolved that no objections be raised.*

P/2015/0828, Proposed side extension and rear conservatory extension at Harley Meadows, Warden Road, Presteigne. *Resolved that no objections be raised.*

**(2) BT Broadband cabinet:** Cllr. Ms. Baynam reported on issues with recent work commenced by BT outside the Assembly Rooms. The work had been temporarily halted pending a site meeting with

the County Council to determine the exact location. The Clerk had asked to be kept informed of progress but reminded Members that planning permission was no longer required for such boxes although consultation with regard to highways and street issues was needed.

## **MIN 3020 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT**

**(1) By Pass Car Park, introduction of charges:** The Clerk was asked to write to the County Council objecting to the introduction of the charges and asking why residents parking permits were not available in Presteigne car parks.

**(2) Presteigne Cemetery:** The Clerk informed Members that the planning permission was expected very soon. Gabbs Solicitors had not yet agreed to a meeting with the Town Council and were awaiting details of expenditure etc from the County Council. The Clerk reported that Hay Town Council had recently been offered £100,000 to find land and extend their cemetery. This money was part of a capital receipt from the sale of a cemetery property.

**(3) Community Led Plan Progress Report:** Cllr. Smith reported on progress of the plan and expressed concern at the low response rate within only two days until the closing date.

**(4) Grass Cutting Wilson Terrace Play Area:** The Clerk stated she had reported the long cut grass left on site. The County Council had confirmed that cuts were now three weekly and that cuttings were not collected.

**(5) Building Control Visit, Station Road/Hereford Street Pavement Safety:** The County Council building regulations officer had visited and requested works be carried out. These works had not yet taken place.

**(6) Playing Fields (Community Involvement in Disposal Decisions) (Wales) Regulations 2015:** Noted.

**(7) Repairs to Old Boultribrooke and Lugg Bridges:** The repairs to the old Boultribrooke bridge were now considered satisfactory. Cllr. Kirkby had informed the Clerk that work was still needed on Lugg Bridge and she would remind the County Council.

**(8) Rats, Clatterbrook:** The sighting of rats had been reported to the County Council and an officer had visited. Residents had been advised that pest control measures would be charged for and that it was inadvisable to feed the birds as leftover food would attract rodents.

**(9) Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013:** PCC Consultation, possibilities for Presteigne and Norton: The Clerk would be meeting the County Council Officer in October to discuss possibilities. Cllr. Ms. Marchant agreed to also attend. Members agreed that the priority remained the Norton to Presteigne route despite the Welsh Government restrictions stating that routes should be within a single urban area. The Clerk was asked to write to Welsh Government, Kirsty Williams AM and the County Council stating that Presteigne and Norton was one community and putting the case for this route being considered. If necessary a meeting with the portfolio holder, Cllr. John Brunt would be requested. Members agreed to give more consideration to other possible routes including a zebra crossing across the by pass, and submit them to the Clerk before the meeting with the County Council.

**(10) Radnorshire Committee Decision re. On Street Parking Review:** Members noted with disappointment that the County Council had not taken forward the changes to the parking spaces opposite the Farmers Arms. The Clerk reported on possible courses of action and following consideration it was agreed that the Town Council would accept the decision for the time being providing there was full and proper enforcement to prevent illegal parking. The Clerk was also asked to contact the police to ask if any action could be taken against those vehicles for obstructing the flow of traffic by parking illegally.

**(11) Highway Items for Repair:** The following items were reported

- deteriorating road surface between the Stagg Inn, Titley and the Stansbatch junction
- overgrown trees opposite Orchard Close

## **MIN 3021      DEVOLVEMENT OF SERVICES**

**(1) Report of the Working Group:** Members received and agreed the report from the meeting of the working group. Members agreed that the Clerk contact the County Council to ask for various additional pieces of information and to ask that no further lease be signed for the Drill Hall until negotiations with the Town Council were concluded. The Clerk reported that she had reminded the County Council that it had been asked to review the conditions placed on asset transfers.

**(2) Appointment of Solicitor to handle Tennis Court Transfer:** Members considered the estimates and relevant experience of the three firms. Following discussion it was agreed that Swayne Johnson Solicitors be appointed to handle the tennis court transfer due to their extensive experience with community asset work. Further transfers would be considered at the appropriate time.

**(3) Letter from Mid Border Arts:** Noted.

## **MIN 3022      NORTON**

Members noted that Norton Show had been very successful.

## **MIN 3023      WENT'S MEADOW AND EDDIE'S MEADOW**

**(1) Grant Application (Welsh Government Small Scale Project Funding):** Members noted that the Clerk had submitted a grant application for work to Lower Went's Meadow.

**(2) Electricity Contracts:** Members noted the revised contract for electricity supplied to the barn. It was agreed that the Clerk be authorised to negotiate future contracts for electricity supply for all the Council accounts in liaison with the Mayor at the time.

**(3) Other Matters:**

- Regular maintenance of the Ligne Garden was approved
- Tree Maintenance Programme: The Clerk reported that two surgeons had so far visited and quotes were awaited.
- Grounds Maintenance Course: Members agreed that the Clerk could attend a future cost at a cost of £150.
- preparation of regular maintenance work schedule: the Clerk reported that she was in the process of drawing this up with Mr. Close.

## **MIN 3024      YOUTH MATTERS**

Nothing to report.

## **MIN 3025      CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS**

**(1) Poetry In Presteigne, display of poetry around Presteigne:** Members confirmed agreement for poems to be placed on the Meadows providing these were collected afterwards.

**(2) Centenary Fields Email/Leaflet:** Noted. There were no suitable sites in Presteigne.

**(3) Allotment Working Group:** The annual meeting with PNAA was confirmed for 3rd November. Cllr. Ms. Humphreys was appointed to the Working Group, replacing Cllr. Smith.

**(4) Reply from David Adams, Community Health Council:** Noted.

**(5) One Voice Wales, notification of Conference Motions:** Noted.

**(6) Speeding between John Beddoes Campus and Roundabout, Greenfield Road:** The Clerk had received a message complaining about the speed of vehicles on this stretch of road. The police had been notified.

**(7) Email from Norton Civic Society:** Cllr. Ms. Baynham read the email to the meeting to remind Members of the content. The email was noted.

**(8) East Radnorshire Day Centre AGM Report:** Deferred to October meeting,

#### **MIN 3026 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY**

September Surgery: Cllr. Robinson reported two items -

- poor repairs to trenching near the Kington roundabout: Clerk to report
- concern at the additional charges for interments in Presteigne Cemetery for non Powys residents. Members noted that the County Council made the additional charge as no Council Tax was received from non Powys residents.

Cllr. Smith to attend the October Surgery. Cllr. Kirkby to be asked to accompany him.

#### **MIN 3027 INFORMATION**

The following items of information were noted - Welsh Government summary of White Paper Responses, British Weights and Measures Association Newsletter, Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine, PAVO funding briefing sheet, Play Wales Magazine.

#### **MIN 3028 URGENT\_BUSINESS/INFORMATION**

Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations: It was noted that grants might be available to hold events.

Attendance by Hughes Architects: A short presentation would be made to the October meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.