

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllrs. B. Baynham (Deputy Mayor), N. Humphreys, C. Kirkby MBE, H. Marchant, J. Matthews, H. Owens, F. Preece, P. Robinson, B. Price, J Wilding.

Apologies: Cllrs. J. Tennant-Eyles (Mayor), G. Banks, P. Smith.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk; member 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. Preece, position with 1st Presteigne Scouts re donation towards lighting for scout hut.

Cllr. H. Owens: member of Presteigne and Norton Community Support re. precept grant to PNCS.

Cllr. J. Wilding: Trustee, East Radnorshire Day Centre re future of Day Centres Consultation.

Personal and Prejudicial:

Cllr. Marchant, employee of Powys Library Service, re future of Presteigne Library.

Cllr. Ms. B. Baynham, employee of East Radnorshire Day Centre re future of Day Centres Consultation.

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting Mr. Rhodri Edwards, Fields in Trust Officer for Wales spoke to Members on the advantages of including Council recreation areas within the Fields in Trust programme. He then answered Members questions on the programme.

Mr. Edwards had visited Went's Meadow with the Clerk and Cllr. Kirkby and was able to confirm that the land was eligible for inclusion. Members thanked Mr. Edwards for attending.

MIN 3183 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 17th August 2016 were approved with one amendment, item 3174(3) Burnt amended to Brunt. The Chairman then duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 3184 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

(1) Fundraising: Cllr. Kirkby reported that his fund raising walk was now completed.

(2) Pump Albert Square: Members had not managed to visit on the Town Walk but Cllr. Kirkby reported that residents were delighted to have the pump re-instated.

(3) Knighton Road Development: Works were not yet completed. The Clerk was asked to find out when the properties would be ready for occupation.

(4) Statement on EU Citizens: The Clerk reported that a reply had just been received from the County Council and that this would be circulated to Members.

(5) August Meetings: Cllr. Kirkby raised concerns at the need for an August meeting, particularly given the Clerk's holidays were presently taken through August. The Clerk confirmed the need for August meetings in order to process formal business. A review of the current holiday arrangements for the

Clerk would be carried out as part of the job evaluation process to be carried out during the next few months.

(6) Harford House: Concerns over the property had been expressed to Members who wished to ask Cllr. Banks when works would be carried out. It was agreed to note that the Council wished to receive an update at the next possible Council meeting.

(7) Hereford Street Toilets: The Clerk reported that the air freshener unit had now been fitted. In addition the Clerk was in the process of arranging for visits from refurbishment companies with a view to possibly submitting grant applications to fund such work.

(8) Skateboard Area: The Clerk was pressing for the remaining seams on the pyramid unit to be welded by the supplier.

MIN 3185 FINANCE

(1) Donations: The following donations were approved

East Radnorshire Day Centre	£2000.00 (precepted)
Presteigne Memorial Hall Grant for 2016/17	£1500.00 (precepted)
St. Andrews FC Colts	£250.00 (precepted)
Presteigne and Norton Community Support	£500(precepted)
Powys Citizens Advice Bureau	£100 (precepted)
Warden Guardians Foundation	£200 (precepted)
The Samaritans	£100 (precepted)
Bobath	£50 (precepted)
Air Ambulance	£100 (precepted)

The letters of thanks from BISYOC and All Things Bright and Beautiful Flower Festival were 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)		
OCS Group Uk Ltd	£15.77	
PHS Group (air freshening unit H'fd Street gents toilet)	£93.02	
Clearview Cleaning Services Ltd	£815.74	
Clira Ltd (legionella inspections)	£168.00	
Npower (electricity Wilson Terrace Toilets)	£28.69	
Presteigne Building Supplies	£52.41	
Wallgate Ltd	£53.08	
Swayne Johnson Solicitors	£643.00	
Highground Maintenance (grass cutting)	£263.28	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Npower (electricity Barn)	£28.17	MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£125.00	MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£381.25	
N. Close (refund for purchase of part)	£9.99	
Lyreco	£31.18	
Amazon UK	£38.00	
SLCC (parks and open spaces book)	£24.95	

(3) Annual Return External Audit: The external audit had been completed with no issues raised.

(4) Wales Audit Office: Consultation on Fee Scales and Rates for 2017/18: No changes were proposed. Resolved no comment.

(5) The bank balances as at 5th September 2016 were noted -

Treasurer Account	£66,129.16	Meadow Account	£8,884.04
Allotments Account	£1794.99	Money Manager	£15,390.23
Warden Reserve	£2960.78		

(6) Receipts: The following receipt was noted -

Powys County Council	£18,562.57
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MIN 3186 PLANNING

(1) Planning Applications: The following application was considered -

TREE/2016/0028, works to trees within a conservation area at St. David's House, St. David's Street, Presteigne. Resolved no objections be raised.

(2) Planning Decisions: The following planning decision was noted -
10 Kings Court, Presteigne: Conditional Consent.

MIN 3187 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) PACDG: Cllr. Ms. Baynham outlined the latest report from PACDG. Support was needed for two projects and it was resolved as follows -
to write in support of the installation of a notice board for PACDG and the Town Council inside the arch of the Assembly Rooms;

to support the planting of the site marked on the plan supplied although Members would appreciate more information on the exact planting nearer the time. Members also pointed out the need to be careful not to obstruct (or plant something that could grow to obstruct) the view of passing traffic.

In addition the Council was offered a place on a forthcoming PAVO course arranged by the group.

PACDG to supply further details nearer the time.

(2) Fold Farm Footpath Update: Cllr. Kirkby submitted nine statements for inclusion with the DMMO application. The Clerk would now proceed to submit the application.

(3) Naming of Roundabout: This item had been deferred twice. It was agreed to take no further action at present and that Cllr. Smith could raise the issue in October if he wished to press his suggestion further.

(4) Telephone Kiosk, Station Road: The Clerk reported that BT had agreed to have the kiosk cleaned. The Clerk had also submitted photographs to BT in order to make a formal request for the kiosk to be re-painted. The kiosk in Castle Road was due to be removed.

(5) Street Lighting Update: A new project to replace existing lights with LEDs was due to start in October.

(6) Sewerage Services Update: Members had all received a copy of the update from Welsh Water. A further update would be provided in twelve months. The Clerk was asked to reply indicating a need for any increased capacity to be future proofed in order to allow development into the future and reminding the Company that work needed to be programmed early in the capital plan.

(7) Closure of Presteigne Works Depot: Members noted that the closure of the Presteigne Depot had been confirmed.

(8) Horses on New Footpath, Along Secondary School Field: Members noted that the County Council would not place signs as requested but that the highway code clearly stated that horses should not use the footway. The local PCSO had been asked by the County Council to keep an eye on the path and speak to any horse riders using it.

(9) White Lining High Street: This work had just been completed.

(10) Overgrown Trees, between Kings Court & Meniva Court : Cllr. Baynham reported that trees were hanging down over the pathway. Cllr. Kirkby agreed to check. If County Council trees then the Clerk would ask for them to be trimmed.

MIN 3188 NORTON

(1) Norton Civic Society: Notice of winding up: Noted.

(2) Defibrillator/Kiosk: Email from Chris Davies MP: Both email and reply were noted.

(3) Bonfire/Fireworks: Planned for 30th October.

MIN 3189 WENT'S MEADOW AND EDDIE'S MEADOW

(1) Grant Applications Update: The Clerk reported that one of the three applications to Tesco Groundworks had been successful - for equipment for the Wilson Terrace Play Area. Voting would now take place in the Ludlow store to decide the allocation of funds at £800, £10,000 or £12,000. A press release would be prepared in due course.

It was agreed that the Clerk would consider further grant applications for work on the Meadow and at the Scout Hut in due course.

Members also noted the complaint received about the bench at Wilson Terrace play area. They noted that the complainant had been advised to contact the County Council and that the Clerk had also reported the complaint direct to PCC.

(2) Fields in Trust: Members agreed to consider the possibility of registering the Meadows at a later meeting. The matter would also be discussed at a meeting of the Sites and Buildings Committee.

- (3) Tree Works to Footpath along edge of Withy Beds: Agreed that the work proceed and that the Clerk be delegated to allocate the work.
- (4) Cutting of Hedges: Cllr. Wilding reminded Members that this was due to be done and that assistance would be needed to keep the footpath clear during the cutting of the lower hedge.
- (5) Car park Extension: It was hoped that this work would take place in mid to late October.
- (6) Electrical Work for External Lighting, Scout Hut: Members agreed that this work to proceed using the donation monies precepted for the Scouts. One quote was awaited. The Clerk was asked to allocate the contractor and arrange the work once the final quote had been received.
- (7) Litter Signs: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the sign at the barn asking people to take litter home seemed to be working and additional signs would be put up near the river area.
- (8) Warden: Cllr. Kirkby reported that Ms Lin Scrannage had now left and Heather Lewis had taken over. The Group were looking at applying for grant funding to produce a management plan.
- (9) New Bench: Cllr. Kirkby asked that a letter of thanks be sent to Terry and Christine Wells for supplying a bench.
- (10) Criminal Damage: There had been a couple of incidents over the summer. Both had been reported to the police.

MIN 3190 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

- (1) Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner Consultation: Resolved that the Clerk ask for more police on the streets.
- (2) Email of Thanks re dropped kerbs etc: Noted. Cllr. Robinson reported the need for an additional dropped kerb near to Warden Close. Members agreed to look and to consider raising this at a later meeting for action.
- (3) Invitation to Presentation Evening, JBS Campus: Noted.
- (4) Presteigne War Memorial: Site Visit with Stone Mason: Cllr. Baynham reported on the site meeting held with Mr. Protheroe. A report was awaited, together with a quote for the works identified. The Clerk would then submit a request to the County Council for the grant monies to carry out the work.
- (5) Defibrillators for Presteigne Town: Cllr. Baynham outlined the possibilities for community access defibrillators in Presteigne. She confirmed that neither the secondary school or the Leisure Centre currently had one on site. It was agreed that the Clerk apply for funding for two units, the heated cabinets and electrician costs. Fund raising was also being carried out at the Royal Oak.
- (6) Requirement to Advertise amended Code of Conduct: Noted. The Clerk would be arranging this in the near future.
- (7) County Council Consultation: Day Time Activities for Older People: Members expressed concern that the questions were difficult to understand and unclear with the options provide leading those completing it to one option. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the County Council strongly supporting the retention of funding for the East Radnorshire Day Centre but adding that the consultation should be reissued using clear questions and better related to the consultation document. The Clerk was also asked to enquire what alternative provision would be provided if Day Centres closed. Finally the Clerk was asked to send the questionnaire to the Plain English Campaign, to Kirsty Williams AM and to Chris Davies MP on the issue of the lack of clarity of the survey document.

MIN 3191 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

- (1) Report on September Surgery: Cllr. Kirkby had attended. No issues had arisen.
- (2) Arrangements for October Surgery: Cllrs. Price and Baynham to attend.

MIN 3192 DEVOLVEMENT OF SERVICES

- (1) Community Hub Update: A meeting was arranged for 13th October with the Chief Executive and a number of Portfolio Holders at the County Council. Issues to be raised would include the way forward for
 - the Youth Centre Building
 - the Drill Hall
 - The cemetery and the necessary extension

car parks and their income

(2) Tennis Courts/MUGA Update: The transfer papers were ready for signing but would not be returned until the repair to the MUGA and to the court surface had been completed. The spare net and posts was also awaited.

The Clerk and Cllr. Marchant left the room for the discussion on item 3.

(3) Assembly Rooms Project Update: Cllr. Kirkby reported on the recent copy letter from Hay Town Council on the unfairness of smaller communities being asked to provide funding for their libraries whilst libraries in the main towns were being maintained at County Council expense. In addition the library membership of those libraries under threat was not exclusive to the Councils approached for funding. Members agreed that this approach was completely inequitable. It was resolved to put the plans for an expression of interest in the transfer of the Assembly Rooms on hold and support Hay Town Council in its opposition to the request for funding etc from the County Council. A letter would be written to the County Council confirming this. The Clerk was also asked to contact the other Councils affected for their position on this matter.

MIN 3193 INFORMATION

The items for information were noted.

Powys County Council Secondary School Consultation Report (available online)

Presteigne Library Consultation Information: as previously emailed.

Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine

MIN 3194 URGENT_BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) New Head teacher, Presteigne Primary School: Cllr. Price reported that Mr. Adam Faulkner had been confirmed as Head Teacher.

(2) Shoppers Car Park: Cllr. Ms. Humphreys raised the low use of this car park and the possibility of low cost residents permits being provided. The Clerk was asked to include an item on the October Agenda.

(3) Parking in High Street: Members noted that drivers were regularly over-staying the time limit, even staying all day and that shopkeepers had raised concerns. Cllr. Kirkby agreed to liaise with the Chamber of Trade to see if a joint letter could be drafted, politely asking drivers to not overstay the time limit.

(4) Home Presteigne: Cllr. Marchant had attended a recent meeting. She appealed for new Directors to come forward. The Group had also asked if it could attend a future meeting. Members agreed that the Group could attend a future meeting.

(5) East Radnorshire Day Centre AGM: 6th October 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.