

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19th DECEMBER 2007 AT THE SHIRE HALL,
BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE**

Present: Cllrs H Owens (Mayor), J. Kendall (Deputy Mayor), J. Tennant-Eyles, F. Evans, J. Wilding, G. Graham, Mrs E. Davies, Ms. J. Simpson, C Kirkby, P Gerrard.

Apologies: Cllrs. Mrs S. Frazer, Mrs P. Fraser-Scott.

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 meeting in accordance with the terms of the Model Code of Conduct Order 2001 issues under Section 51 Local Government Act 2002.

The following declarations were made:-

Cllr. Kendall	John Beddoes School
Cllr. Wilding	John Beddoes School
Cllr. Mrs Simpson	Chamber of Trade
Cllr. Tennant-Eyles	Chamber of Trade, Presteigne and Norton Community Trust
Cllr. Owens	Planning Application, Old Granary, Norton
Cllr. Mrs Davies	Planning Application for the Bull Hotel, Presteigne United Charities
Cllr. Gerrard	Planning Application Kraft Meadow, Norton

MIN 1856 ABSENCE OF COUNCILLOR MRS. S. FRAZER

Members heard that Cllr. Mrs Frazer had been unable to attend meetings due to illness and had requested an extension of absence until the elections next May. This was agreed unanimously.

MIN 1857 FINANCE

(1) Donations:

The following donations were approved:-

Powys Citizens Advice Bureau **£300 (Precepted).** The Clerk was asked to remind the CAB of the need for notices in the library, the Doctor's surgery and Community Support.

Bobath 15 **£100 (Precepted)**

Presteigne and Norton Community Trust Ltd. **£451.00**

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles updated Members on the Trust at the present time. It was heard that the remainder of the amount precepted could be called upon in previous years, as discussed in January 2007, and it was agreed that this amount continue to be held in reserve.

The **John Beddoes School** request for donation of £500 towards new a basketball court was deferred until more information could be obtained regarding the fund held in the town towards all weather facilities. The Clerk was asked to write again to the Committee holding the fund suggesting that a meeting be held as a matter of urgency to decide the future of the fund. It was heard that the money raised had now been held for a number of years. The Clerk agreed to chase Gareth Oldham of PCC for information on possible grants available for an all weather pitch.

The letter received from **Presteigne Little People's Playgroup** requesting inclusion on the list of donations for 2008/09 was read to the meeting. The Clerk confirmed that letters had been sent requesting the group's accounts and she agreed to remind them of this and to ask for the accounts to be sent before the January Meeting.

The request from **Powys Xtreme** for a donation was considered and it was decided not to give an allocation in the next financial year.

(2) **Payments:** The following payments were approved:

Powys County Council	£690.41
(£587.58 plus VAT) Meadow Account (grass cutting Wents Meadow)	

BDO Stoy Hayward LLP (External Audit Fee)	£158.63
(£135 plus VAT)	

Presteigne United Charities	£4.00
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It was agreed that enquiries be made with the Presteigne United Charities to see what the cost would be to 'buy' out the lease agreement.

Viking Direct (Stationery supplies)	£69.24
(£58.93 plus VAT)	

Kington Building Supplies	£75.20
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(3) **External Audit 2006/07:**

Members had received copies of the report from the external auditors and examined each issue raised in turn.

The amount of Fidelity Guarantee was considered and the Clerk confirmed that the Council's present insurers would make no charge for increasing the level of guarantee by £10,000. It was agreed that this be done.

It was noted that the risk assessment had not been minuted in 2006/07 but that it had been done in April 2007 and would in future be reviewed and minuted each March.

The comment on the Asset valuations was noted and the Clerk agreed to obtain more information on the best way to proceed in the future. It was suggested that valuations be updated on a five yearly basis. It was agreed to in future include the value of the Clerk's laptop in the annual valuation (devaluing over a four year period).

The Notice of Completion of Audit has been received and displayed in the Town library and on the Norton Notice Board for fourteen days. Members formally approved the return.

(4) **Financial Update:**

Balances at 5th December 2007	High Interest	£21009.39
	Treasurer	£301.15
	Meadow	£3041.86

These balances were noted.

(5) **New Projects:**

The following projects were submitted for consideration:-

Funding for Street Closures – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles explained that the possibility of jointly funding street closures was being considered, with £200 to come from each of the Bike Rally, Chamber of Trade and the Town Council. He agreed to confirm the amounts at the January Meeting.

Presteigne Shirehall Museum Trust – A request had been received from the Trust for a repeat of the grant (£1500) made during the current year.

Presteigne Little People’s Playgroup – The group had requested their inclusion in donations for the next financial year.

MIN 1858 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved with two amendments, under Minute 1844 Cllr. Kirkby had asked for confirmation of grass cutting not confirmed that cutting had not been done and the addition of ‘Powys’ in front of the words ‘Local Health Board’ under Minute 1848(6). The Mayor then duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 1859 MATTERS ARISING – To appear under the appropriate heading.

(1) **Christmas Lights/Llandandras Fair** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles confirmed that the event had been a success and that the £500 set aside by the Town Council in order to offset the additional cost of a cherry picker would not be needed. He confirmed that he would be requesting a precept of £1000 for the next financial year.

(2) **Welsh Assembly Government – Relationship Building** – Cllr. Kendall confirmed that details were available from the Clerk if any Members wished to see the final submission.

(3) **Secondary Schools Modernisation Policy** - Cllr. Kendall confirmed that details were available from the Clerk if any Members wished to see the final submission.

(4) **Draft Social Housing Programme** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles confirmed that Judy Bootle was willing to attend a meeting of the Town Council and supplied her telephone number for the Clerk to confirm details.

(5) **Town Shoppers Car Park** – Cllr. Kirkby confirmed that youths were now dismantling the wall and that this had been reported. He informed members that the pathway had now been improved although the gate had still not yet been moved. He agreed to review the situation in January.

MIN 1860 PLANNING

1) The following planning applications were considered and discussed:-

PR381525: Variation of Condition, variation of condition one of PR3815/21 to extend time limit for five years. SO 36 NW **17 Caefelyn, Norton**. No objections were raised.

PR418307: Listed Building Consent, various internal and external works. **Barns adjacent to the Old Granary, Norton**. Comments were reported from a neighbour who felt their property would be overlooked. No objections were raised.

PR636101: Detail, erection of local needs dwelling and a detached double garage SO36 NW, **Part OS Plot 4140 Kraft Meadow, Norton**. No objections were raised.

PR24212: Full, forming self contained apartment in existing building (Unit 1) (amendment to previous application PR242/10) providing 1 no. window to ground floor North West rear elevation. SO 36 SW. **Apartment One, Bull Hotel, Presteigne**. No objections were raised.

2) Reeves Hill, Lingen – Meeting with Developers

Those Members able to attend reported on the recent meeting held in Lingen with the developers. It was agreed to monitor the situation. No formal planning application had yet been received.

MIN 1861 HIGHWAYS HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

- (1) **Re-cycling** – Cllr. Kirkby outlined the present situation. He informed Members that oil was still being dumped at the site and that he had requested PCC pursue the matter using the cctv footage to obtain a prosecution. He was pleased to report however that the site was now generally well kept.
- (2) **UDP Modifications Consultation Report by Cllr. Wilding** – Cllr. Wilding reported on the modifications. He stated that none of these directly affected the Presteigne and Norton area. He suggested that the Town Council request a housing study for the area and also that a meeting between the Town Council, PCC and the Housing Association would be useful to identify the way forward. The Clerk agreed to approach PCC in the first instance to ask if a housing study would be possible.
- (3) **Presteigne Cemetery** – The recent correspondence from Gabbs Solicitors was read to the meeting. Cllr. Graham suggested a meeting with the solicitor now responsible for the Pryce Williams Trust would be the best way to progress. All were agreed on this course of action and Cllr. Tennant-Eyles agreed to accompany Cllr. Graham to this meeting. The Clerk agreed to arrange this as soon as possible. It was decided to suggest that a sum of around £2000 be set aside from the Trust income each year to enhance the cemetery, initial projects being the rabbit proof fencing of the cemetery and brackets to secure the larger headstones.
- (4) **Health and Social Care** – The letter was read to the meeting. Members were concerned that there was no mention of the future for Prestmede and asked the Clerk to write to Judith Paget asking why Prestmede wasn't mentioned.
- (5) **Pothole, Near Norton** – Cllr. Evans again raised this issue, which had been unresolved for nine months. The Clerk agreed to continue chasing this issue until resolved.
- (6) **Pavement outside Memorial Hall** – Cllr. Mrs Davies reminded the Clerk that this matter had not been corrected and asked that PCC be reminded.

MIN 1862 NORTON MATTERS

No matters to report.

MIN 1863 WENTS MEADOW

- (1) **Play Area** – Members were advised of the approximate cost of replacing the aerial ropeway which was considered to be beyond the scope of the Town Council. Cllr. Kirkby drew Members attention to the recent press article detailing work done in Llandrindod and the Clerk agreed to write to PCC asking when cash would be available for Presteigne and on the future of the Wilson Terrace play area generally.
- (2) **Sheep Music** – A letter of thanks had been received from the Trustees of Sheep Music.
- (3) **Vandalism** – Cllr. Kirkby reported that vandalism on the barn was continuing and that the damaged battens had now been removed. He asked the Clerk to contact the police to request that a particular watch be kept on the Barn and Car Park area and also the pavilion on the John Beddoes School grounds.

(4) **Hedge** – It was heard that the roadside hedge was considerably overgrown and that trimming was hampered by wire within the hedge itself. It was agreed to authorise payment of up to £250 to remove the wire so that proper trimming could be carried out with the intention of properly laying the hedge in around three years.

(5) **Tree Planting** – The Scouts were now planting the majority of the trees they had received on the Warden and only six would be planted on the Meadow.

(6) **Grass Cutting 2008/09** – Members heard that the increase proposed by PCC was 4.6 % and asked that the Clerk confirm acceptance of this figure for the next financial year.

MIN 1864 MEMORIAL HALL

(1) **Funding Calculations** – Members heard the replies from Jacquie Brown and the explanation for the differing amounts. It had been confirmed that for Presteigne the amount given to the Memorial Hall by the Town Council would result in an amount equal to 50% being given by PCC.

(2) **Meeting** – The date of 30th January was confirmed and the Clerk was asked to write to all those concerned. The Members to represent the Town Council at the meeting to be discussed at the January Meeting.

MIN 1865 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Nothing to report.

MIN 1866 CORRESPONDENCE

None

MIN 1867 INFORMATION ONLY/ON THE TABLE

Adjudication Panel for Wales Annual Report
PAVO News

These items were noted.

MIN 1868 OTHER MATTERS

(1) **Welsh Regional Waste Plans Survey** – Cllr Kirkby to complete and return on behalf of the Town Council.

(2) **Welsh Food Alliance Survey** – This item was brought to Members attention by Cllr. Mrs Davies.

(3) **Forums** – The Clerk was asked to write to the Welsh Assembly asking what future is envisaged for local forums.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.