

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24th JANUARY 2008 AT THE SHIRE HALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

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

Cllr. J. Kendall (Deputy Mayor) joined the Meeting at 9.00 pm.

Apologies: Cllrs. F. Evans, 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	Chamber of Trade
Cllr. Wilding	Norton Sports Committee, Presteigne Young Farmers
Cllr. Mrs Simpson	Chamber of Trade, Presteigne Colts Under 8's, Presteigne Shirehall Museum Trust
Cllr. Tennant-Eyles	Chamber of Trade, Presteigne and Norton Community Trust, Presteigne Festival
Cllr. Owens	Chamber of Trade
Cllr. Mrs Davies	Memorial Hall, East Radnor Border Health Group
Cllr. Kirkby	Presteigne Festival
Cllr. Mrs S. Fraser	Presteigne Shirehall Museum Trust

MIN 1870 ABSENCE OF COUNCILLOR MRS. P. FRASER-SCOTT

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

MIN 1871 FINANCE

(1) Donations:

The following donations were approved:-

Air Ambulance	£100.00 (precepted)
East Radnor Border Health Focus Group	£50.00 (precepted)
Linkline	£200.00 (precepted)
The Samaritans	£100.00 (precepted)
Memorial Hall	£1500.00 (precepted)
Presteigne and Norton Community Support	£500.00 (precepted)

The Clerk was asked to request information from Linkline on their current activities.

The request for a donation towards a girl guiding trip to Austria from Miss E. Brick was considered. Members praised the quality of the letter from Miss Brick but were unable to contribute as she did not live in the electoral area. The Mayor did however agree to give a personal donation from his allowance.

The letters of thanks were noted.

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

Mayor's Allowance (2nd payment)	£465.00
Petty Cash	£ 50.00
Printex	£289.00

It was agreed that due to the increased workload the Clerk be asked to keep note of the additional hours worked so that an additional payment could be made. The Clerk agreed to submit details to the March Meeting.

(3) **Receipts:**

Powys County Council Precept Payment	£7807.40
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(4) **Village Hall Funding:**

No change was made to the current level of funding.

(5) **Annual Precept**

Members considered the budget for 2008/09.

Mayor's Allowance – This was increased by the usual percentage.

Election Expenses – The sum of £1500 was included to cover election costs in May.

One Voice Wales – It was agreed not to join for the upcoming year.

Donations – The donations were all approved as existing with the exception of the contribution towards the Radnorshire Wildlife Trust, which was increased by £100 to £400. Members asked that their appreciation of the bonfire/fireworks events in both Norton and Presteigne be minuted. Members also requested that accounts be submitted in respect of the Presteigne Colts Under 8's Football Club as they were a relatively new group and had not previously done so.

Projects – The figure for the Wilson Terrace public conveniences was set at £3500 to include a sum to cover decorating/repair costs for work which would be needed during the next twelve months.

No sum was precepted for the Memorial Hall Working Fund as the amount precepted for 2007/08 had not yet been used.

Wents Meadow – The sum of £2290 was set to include grass cutting/weed killing charges by PCC, the weekly inspections, the electricity account and general maintenance.

New Projects – The Presteigne Little Peoples Playgroup had supplied their annual accounts and it was agreed to add them to the list of regular donations. It was heard that the cost of street closures was less than expected and so no contribution was needed from the Town Council. Although plans for Sheep Music had not been finalised it was agreed to precept the usual amount in case it was required.

The precept was set at £25 per household.

MIN 1872 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of 19th December and 9th January were approved with no amendments and were duly signed by the Mayor.

MIN 1873 MATTERS ARISING – There were no Matters Arising.

MIN 1874 PLANNING

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

PR665400: Full, Demolition of existing building and erection of 2 pairs semi-detached houses and alteration to existing access SO36 SW. **The Old Veterinary Surgery, Slough Road, Presteigne.**

PR241405: Listed Building Consent, Installation of 4 (1.3 metre square) slim line solar thermal collectors to the southerly incline of the roof surface SO36 SW. **Barley Mow, 35 Hereford Street, Presteigne, LD8 2AT.**

No objections were raised to the above applications.

2) The items for information were noted.

3) Planning Application Progressive Products :-

At this point Cllrs. Mrs Simpson, Owens, and Tennant-Eyles left the meeting and the Chair was taken Cllr. Kirkby.

The Clerk reported that the Planning Officer was still awaiting reports and so a meeting had not yet been arranged. The working group of Cllrs. Gerrard, Kirkby and Wilding reported on the three options considered for the ballot of local opinion. The first option, using the Electoral Reform Society, was the most expensive at £2435. The second option of calling a community poll was rejected on the grounds of the short polling hours and its reduced ability to reach all electors and encourage a large percentage of votes. The remaining option was for the Town Council to administer its own ballot and after due consideration it was decided that this was the best option. The draft letter prepared by the working group was approved and the Clerk was asked to approach Artisan Press for a quote on costs. It was agreed that returned ballots must be signed and have the full address. Returns to be made either direct to the Clerk or into a ballot box which would be situated in the Post Office. Ballot papers to be issued on 1st March and to be returned by 15th March, to allow papers to be counted before the March Town Council meeting.

A large number of letters concerning the application had been received and were retained by the Clerk for Members to inspect.

Cllrs. Mrs Simpson, Owens, and Tennant-Eyles returned to the Meeting at the conclusion of this item.

MIN 1875 HIGHWAYS HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

- (1) Presteigne Cemetery** – The Clerk confirmed that the solicitor currently overseeing the Pryce Williams Trust had agreed to meet with representatives of the Town Council but that the date for a meeting had yet to be arranged. She confirmed that Powys County Council had stated they were not able to fund rabbit proof fencing in the foreseeable future.
- (2) Pothole, Norton** – Members were pleased to hear this had now been repaired.
- (3) Local Health Board** – The local health board had replied stating the Prestmede was run by BUPA and as such was not under the authority of the Board.
- (4) Clatterbrook** – Powys County Council had confirmed that work on the Presteigne network of footpaths would be commencing in April.
- (5) Flood Alleviation Scheme Clatterbrook** – This was noted.
- (6) Draft Interim Control Guidance: Planning Obligations Strategy** – Cllr. Wilding agreed to look at this document on the PCC website.
- (7) Proposals for delivery of integrated health and social care for the communities of Built Wells** – Cllr. Mrs Davies took this document for information.
- (8) Proposed Amendments to Parking Arrangements, Presteigne** – Members asked that the Clerk repeat the comments they had made in response to an earlier consultation on this matter.
- (9) Recycling** – The letter from Mr. Bell was read to the Meeting. Cllr. Kirkby confirmed that he felt the site was no longer suitable for local control due to a number of issues. In particular he stressed the problems with Health and Safety regulations. The Clerk agreed to write to Mr. Bell.

MIN 1876 NORTON MATTERS

Licensing Application, Norton Manor – The Clerk reported that three letters of objection had been received. She confirmed that the Town Council was not consulted on licensing matters and that the individuals needed to forward their objections direct to Powys County Council. Cllr. Wilding confirmed that he had also spoken to the Licensing Officer and he outlined details of the application for Members information. It was heard that once valid objections were received the application would need to be heard before a Licensing hearing. The Clerk agreed to notify the objectors of the situation.

MIN 1877 WENTS MEADOW

No matters were discussed.

MIN 1878 MEMORIAL HALL

Members were reminded of the meeting on Wednesday, 30th January.

MIN 1879 CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Planning Training Seminar for Community/Town Councillors – One Voice Wales** – No one was able to attend.
- (2) Complaints Handling Seminar Ombudsman** – No one was able to attend.
- (3) Letter re. Play area facilities/grass cutting –Wilson Terrace** – PCC had responded promptly to this complaint and it was hoped that the grass cutting could be adjusted to improve matters during the next growing season. The comments on the removal of play equipment had been passed on to PCC.

MIN 1880 INFORMATION ONLY/ON THE TABLE

These items were noted.

MIN 1881 OTHER MATTERS

It was reported that the water tank on the Warden had now been removed.

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