

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

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008 AT THE SHIRE HALL, BROAD  
STREET, PRESTEIGNE**

**Present:** Cllrs. C. Kirkby (Mayor), J. Wilding (Deputy Mayor), H Owens, Ms. J. Simpson, P. Spawton, B. Price, P. Robinson.

**Apologies:** None

**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.

Cllr. Wilding Planning application for land adj. Kings Turning, Presteigne and Norton Matters (creation of new entrance).

Cllr. Mrs J. Simpson Finance for Shirehall Museum Trust

Cllr. H. Owens Finance for Shirehall Museum Trust

Cllr. P. Spawton Norton Matters - Churchyard

For this part of the meeting Members proceeded to the Courtroom.

**MIN 1917 FORMATION OF NEW COUNCIL**

All those present duly signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office witnessed by the Clerk. Members heard that Mrs Fraser-Scott had decided not to take up her position for health reasons and it was agreed that the Clerk post Notices of Vacancy in the usual places. Providing no formal election was called, applications for co-option to be considered at the June Meeting.

The Clerk informed Members that a new Code of Conduct had now been issued and that the Town Council had six months from March to adopt it. It was agreed that the adoption of the new Code be placed on the Agenda for June. Copies of the Guidance Notes issued by Powys County Council and the Welsh Assembly had already been circulated. Members agreed that the necessary advertisement be placed via Powys County Council at a cost of £35. This cost would be deducted from the next precept instalment.

The date of the next meeting was re-arranged for Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June at the usual time.

**MIN 1918 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR 2008/09**

The outgoing Mayor, Cllr. Owens welcomed the new Members to the Town Council. Before commencing proceedings he asked that a minutes silence be observed in memory of Mrs Rowe, a former Town Councillor who had died recently.

He then commented on his year as Mayor. In particular he praised the unity of and democratic nature of the Council, with all Members working together. He added that on the few occasions when differences had occurred everyone had abided by the majority decision. He stated that

three events stood out over the year, the opening and successful first year for the Wilson Terrace public conveniences (with special thanks to former Cllr. Tennant-Eyles), the submission of a planning application for a retail development in Presteigne and the Sheep Music Festival which had to cope with atrocious weather. He added that the Meadow had now been completely restored after this event. He stated that over the year he had attended many functions and had enjoyed meeting the representatives of other Councils in Powys.

He then invited nominations for Mayor in 2008/09. Cllr. Kirkby was proposed by Cllr. Wilding and seconded by Cllr Mrs Simpson and duly elected. He thanked Cllr. Owens for his hard work as Mayor over the previous year and in particular for his hard work in restoring Wents Meadow after the torrential rain during the Sheep Music Festival. He added that he felt an interesting year lay ahead with many new Members settling in and confirmed that his fundraising over the year would be in aid of Breast Cancer and the Macmillan Trust.

Members then returned to the Meeting Room to continue their business.

#### **MIN 1919 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2008/09**

Following a proposal by Cllr. Mrs Simpson and second by Cllr. Kirkby, Cllr. Wilding was elected unanimously as Deputy Mayor.

#### **MIN 1920 COUNCIL VACANCIES**

Members heard that six applications had been received for the five vacancies but that one had now withdrawn. The remaining applications were read to the meeting and the following five persons were elected to serve on the Council; Beverley Baynham, Nathaniel Green, John Kendall, James Tennant-Eyles and Ann Wake.

#### **MIN 1921 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

Outside bodies currently with Town Council representatives were the Leisure Centre, Primary School and the Shirehall Museum Trust. It was suggested that the Health Focus Group needed a representative as Mrs E. Davies was no longer a Council Member. It was agreed that the appointments be deferred until the June Meeting when the co-opted Members could be included in the selection process.

#### **MIN 1922 FINANCE**

(1) **Donations:** The following donations were approved:

<b>Shirehall Museum Trust</b>	<b>£1500.00</b> (precepted)
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The request from Sheep Music for support in 2008/09 was deferred until June for Members to have time to study the accounts.

The letter of thanks from Tour de Presteigne was noted and the Clerk was asked to write congratulating them on another successful event.

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

<b>Cannon Hygiene</b>	Account to 30/09/08	<b>£2.61</b>
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(the Account is reduced due to a credit for the period the toilets were closed in 07/08).  
(£2.22 plus VAT)

<b>Clearview Cleaning Services (Hfd) Ltd.</b>	<b>£386.00</b>
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(Monthly account for toilet cleaner £328.51 plus VAT)

<b>Viking Direct</b> (£65.96 plus VAT)	Stationery	<b>£77.50</b>
<b>SLCC Enterprises Ltd</b> (£45 plus VAT)	Conference fee Sept. 2008	<b>£ 52.88</b>
<b>Audit Risk Investigations</b> Internal Audit fee for 2007/08		<b>£ 126.00</b>
<b>Clerks Salary</b>		<b>£1220.82</b>
<b>Tax and National Insurance on above</b> (inc TC NI of £24.79)		<b>£ 356.62</b>
<b>A.G. Hopkins</b> (Meadow Account)		<b>£20.00</b>

**(3) Receipts:** the following receipts were noted:

<b>Powys County Council Precept Payment</b>	<b>£10,011.50</b>
<b>Powys County Council Grant Payment (toilets)</b>	<b>£ 1000.00</b>
<b>HM Revenue and Customs VAT Refund</b>	<b>£ 1037.95</b>
<b>HM Revenue and Customs Tax Incentive</b> (Online Filing)	<b>£ 100.00</b>

#### **(4) Internal Audit**

The letter from the Internal Auditor was noted. No action was necessary as a result of his comments.

#### **(5) External Audit Form**

Members examined the External Audit Annual Return Form for 2007/08 together with supporting documentation and it was agreed to approve section one, Statement of Accounts and section two, the Annual Governance Statement and these sections were duly signed by the Mayor, Cllr. Kirkby and the Clerk. Section four was already completed and signed by the Internal Auditor, Mr. D. Morris.

#### **(6) Bank Mandate**

A new signature mandate was completed.

#### **MIN 1923 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> April were approved with no amendments. The Mayor then duly signed the Minutes.

#### **MIN 1924 MATTERS ARISING**

- (1) Local Health Board Meeting** – The Clerk reminded Members that as a consultation paper was due out shortly it had been agreed to defer any meeting until the report had been considered.
- (2) Presteigne and Norton Community Support Shop** – Members were informed that the shop was a great success.
- (3) Radiation Monitoring Scheme** – Cllr. Kirkby confirmed that he had agreed to become the local monitor for this.

## MIN 1925 PLANNING

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

**P2008 0587** Outline, erection of a dwelling with new vehicular access. **Land adj. 2 Appletree Meadow, Presteigne.** No objections were raised.

**P2008 0568** Deemed, erection of new canopy over courtyard and improved access into school. **John Beddoes School, Presteigne.** No objections were raised.

**P2008 0569** Full, erection of rear dining room extension. **10 Caefelyn, Norton.** No objections were raised.

**P2008 0711** Full, erection of four dwellings at the **Builders Yard, 25 Hereford Street, Presteigne.** No objections were raised.

**P2008 0707** Full, erection of holiday lodge at **Harley Farm, Warden Road, Presteigne.** No objections were raised.

**P2008 0313** Full, demolition of 2 small bungalows and 2 garage structures. Erection of 4 houses and associated garages and creation of new vehicular access. **Land adj. to Catholic Church, Kings Turning, Presteigne.** Comments were made on the proximity of the proposed dwelling on plot 4 to adjacent property and the high pitch of the roof of the proposed dwelling on plot 3. The Clerk was asked to forward these observations to Powys County Council.

2) None received.

3) **Powys Local Development Plan Community Meetings** – The dates were noted and Cllr. Kirkby agreed to try to attend.

## MIN 1926 HIGHWAYS HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

(1) **Draft Fire and Rescue National Framework 2009/10** – Cllr. Spawton agreed to take this report and report to the next meeting.

(2) **Street Lighting Core Areas Consultation PCC** – Members were disappointed to hear of the poor response to the part night lighting consultation. They asked that the Clerk suggest three areas which would be suitable for reduced lighting, the by pass, the Slough and Offas Green, Norton. She was asked to request a meeting to discuss the issue more fully when more details were known.

(3) **Footpath Issues** – A reply had been received from Powys County Council Officer, Carlton Parry concerning the problems on part of the Warden footpath and also raising two other issues. Given the existing queries concerning Rockbridge and Clatterbrook paths it was agreed to request a site meeting.

(4) **Affordable Housing** - The response from the Planning department was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk reply asking for possible sites to be marked on a copy a town map. It was also felt that with a Local Development Plan currently being produced an early indication of any extension to industrial and housing areas should be requested.

(5) **Interim Development Control Guidance Consultation (Onshore Wind Farm Developments)** – Cllr. Robinson took this item and agreed to report back to the next meeting.

(6) **Powys UDP Further Consultation (Amendments)** – Cllr. Kirkby took this document and agreed to report to the next meeting.

**(7) Noise outside Dukes Arms Public House** – It was reported that the practice of placing tables and chairs on the pavement in front of the premises was leading to increased noise, sometimes until the early hours of the morning. The Clerk agreed to report the matter to Powys County Council and ask for action to be taken.

**(8) Obstruction of Pavement, Broad Street** – Comments had been received concerning the placing of goods outside the Curios shop, which had been increasing recently. Cllr. Owens agreed to approach the shop owner to see if the number of items could be reduced.

**(9) Reeves Hill Wind Farm Development** – Cllr. Robinson asked that Powys County Council be reminded to send a copy of any plans to the Town Council as soon as they are received.

#### **MIN 1927 NORTON MATTERS**

**(1) Speed of Traffic** – Cllr. Price raised the issue of the speed of traffic through Norton generally. He commented that a previous survey of traffic speeds had been taken during the middle of the day and so was not indicative of the true depth of the problem. He felt that to get a true picture speeds would need to be monitored during the peak times of early morning and teatime/early evening. The Clerk was asked to contact the Highways Department to see when the last survey was done and request that another be carried out very soon.

**(2) Churchyard** – Cllr. Spawton asked for advice as there were no more plots available in Norton itself. Members were generally of the opinion that Powys County Council would not provide a site in Norton but would suggest the Presteigne Cemetery be used. The Clerk agreed to supply the contact details for the PCC Cemeteries Officer so that Cllr. Spawton could investigate further.

**(3) Creation of New Entrance** – Cllr. Price agreed to liaise with Powys County Council to assist a resident who had problems with a new access created by a neighbour. It was heard that a Planning Officer was due to visit the site in the near future.

**(4) Wall at Norton Manor** – Cllr Wilding asked that the Planning Department be reminded that this issue was still outstanding.

#### **MIN 1928 WENTS MEADOW**

**(1) Play Inspections** – Cllr. Kirkby confirmed that the inspection reports had been considered and that work was in hand to correct the issues raised. Mr. Richard Rimmington was carrying out the work at the skateboard park and Mr. Gareth Graham was looking at the other matters.

**(2) Presteigne United Charities** – The Clerk reported that the estimated solicitors costs were £200. After some discussion Members agreed that the projected costs were too great and that it was not reasonable incur such costs to buy out a rent charge of only £4 annually. The Clerk agreed to write to the Charity explaining the decision.

#### **MIN 1929 MEMORIAL HALL**

Nothing to report.

#### **MIN 1930 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

Nothing to report.

#### **MIN 1931 CORRESPONDENCE**

**(1) Zurich Municipal Local Council Advisory Service Seminars** – No one wished to attend this event.

**(2) Proposed Turbines Reeves Hill** – Letter about flying blimps. This letter was noted.

**(3) Bus Timetabling** – Letter from Norton Resident. The Clerk stated she had already asked Powys County Council for their comments but had not as yet received a reply. She agreed to copy the letter to the Norton Members for information.

**MIN 1932      INFORMATION ONLY/ON THE TABLE**

These items were noted.

**MIN 1933      OTHER MATTERS**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.