

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH NOVEMBER 2008 AT THE SHIRE HALL,
BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE**

Present: Cllrs. C. Kirkby (Mayor), J. Wilding (Deputy Mayor), Ms. B. Baynham, N. Green, Ms. N. Humphreys, J. Kendall, H Owens, Ms. J. Simpson, P. Spawton, J. Tennant-Eyles.

Apologies: B. Price, P. Robinson, Ms. A. Wake.

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 Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct Order) (Wales) Order 2008.

Personal

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles Chamber of Trade As confirmed in writing previously.

Cllr. Ms. Baynham Change of Use for Mill, Countrywide

The meeting commenced with an interesting talk and update from Sgt. Gareth Wheatman of Dyfed Powys police. He was able to give Members details of the current issues facing the police locally and also to answer Members queries on a number of issues which had given rise to concerns. These matters included problems at the shoppers' car park, the burglaries that had taken place around a year ago the effect of the street lighting switch off and road safety in Norton. He confirmed that he would be asking for the light outside the Assembly Rooms to be switched back on and agreed to further investigate what could be done about the speeding through Norton. Cllr Kirkby thanked Sgt. Wheatman for attending.

Cllr. Kirkby was pleased to announce that after the recent online vote he had won the lifetime achievement award from the MRW.

MIN 1994 FINANCE

(1) Donations: The following donations were approved:

Citizens Advice Bureau	£300
Royal British Legion	£30
Presteigne Colts Junior FC	£250.00

Members considered the request for support from the National Eisteddfod but decided against giving any contribution at this time.

The accounts submitted by the Presteigne Bowling Club were examined and it was agreed that the Clerk should write asking for more information with a view to possibly precepting an amount into the budget for next year.

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles submitted two reports, one on the present financial situation regarding the Christmas Lights and Fair and one on the possibility of the Council purchasing a stall for use on the street at such

events. Members agreed that they would purchase the stall from Apex at a cost of £335 plus VAT and also to use some of the funds set aside for the lights to pay for the hire of the cherry picker. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles agreed to obtain the necessary invoice for the hire of the picker at £500 and also to provide Members with final figures at the January meeting.

Apex **£393.63**

The letters of thanks from Bobath Children's Therapy Centre and Presteigne St. Andrews Football Club (fireworks) were noted.

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

Clearview Cleaning Services (Hfd) Ltd.	£369.11
T.A. Price	£1299.42
HM Revenue and Customs	£406.51
Cannon Hygiene	£4.89
Community Design	£3.00

(3) **Inspection of Invoices and Accounts:** Cllr. Kirkby confirmed that he had inspected the invoices and accounts and that everything was in order.

(4) **Interim Audit:** The Clerk confirmed that this had been completed successfully.

(5) **Memorial Hall Funding:** It was agreed to use some of the funds set aside for this project to pay for the Clerk to work additional hours to obtain further information to move the project forward. This was to be subject initially to a maximum of £1000.

MIN 1995 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of 15th October and 3rd November were approved with no amendments. The Mayor then duly signed both sets of Minutes.

MIN 1996 MATTERS ARISING

(1) **Fence near Labtech** – The Clerk was asked to follow this up again with the Welsh Assembly.

(2) **Safe Routes to School** – A site meeting had now been arranged for 4th December and representatives of both schools are to be invited.

(3) **Traffic Monitoring, Norton** – The Clerk agreed to follow this up.

(4) **Local Dentist** – Cllr. Kirkby reported that he had received a telephone call from a gentleman trying to set up as an NHS dentist in the area. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Local Health Board and Cllr. Banks to ask if the funding promised in earlier years was still available. A copy of these letters was to be sent to Sally Boyce of the Mid Wales Journal.

(5) **Shoppers Car Park** – Nothing further had been done at the park and the Clerk agreed to contact Kevin Lloyd of Powys County Council again.

(6) **Flooding Mynd Road, Norton** – The Clerk confirmed that she had again reminded the officer concerned about this work and agreed to do so again.

(7) **Land Registry** – No reply had been received and the Clerk agreed to follow this up.

(8) **Funding for East Radnorshire Day Care Centre** – No response had been received from Social Services although Cllr. Kirkby had spoken to Phil Robson of Powys County Council and received verbal confirmation that all establishments were effected, both private and Council run. The Clerk agreed to write a further letter asking for full details.

(9) **Selling of Alcohol** – Cllr. Kirkby had approached the shop owner and the matter should now be resolved. He had been unable to contact anyone at the pub mentioned as yet.

(10) **Signs about Norton Manor** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles had spoken to George Lloyd at Powys County Council and the matter had largely been cleared up. Mr. Lloyd had stated that the fence at the entrance to the Memorial Hall did not belong to Powys County Council. Members felt that this was incorrect and that it did belong to Powys. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles agreed to look into this.

(11) **Code of Conduct** – Cllr. Kirkby clarified the situation regarding prejudicial interests and the necessity for any Member to leave the room in such circumstances. He informed Members that anyone with a prejudicial interest could remain while the public were speaking and also speak themselves but must then leave the room, even if the public remained.

MIN 1997 PLANNING

(1) There were no planning applications this month.

(2) The items for information were noted.

(3) The reply from Powys County Council regarding planning modernisation was noted. It was heard that the next Planning Liaison meetings would discuss this further and Members were advised of the relevant dates.

(4) **Community Benefits from Wind Farm Developments** – Members heard that the formal consultation had now been received. The Clerk had already submitted comments and had received confirmation that detailed replies would be issued after the consultation period had closed at the end of the month.

(5) **Changes to Mill, Countrywide Farmers** – Six Members had been able to attend the presentation given by Land Energy and Countrywide. Cllr. Kirkby summarised the details and Members discussed the proposed alterations. Cllr. Wilding handed in a letter objecting to the development which he asked be circulated to all Members before the next meeting. The Clerk confirmed that a public meeting had been arranged by Land Energy for 1st December at the Memorial Hall. Cllr. Spawton asked that it be noted that he, together with Cllrs. Price and Robinson, would be unable to attend that meeting due to another engagement. It was anticipated that a formal planning application would be made in the near future.

MIN 1998 HIGHWAYS HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

(1) **Street Lighting** – Cllr. Kirkby reported on the ‘town walk’ which he and several other Members had conducted to look at the lighting in the central area of Presteigne. He stated that the results had been forwarded to Powys County Council and received a positive response. It was agreed that the Clerk ask Powys County Council if it would be worthwhile the Town Council surveying the remainder of the town. Cllr. Wilding reported that he was not aware of any problem with the present situation in Norton.

(2) **Presteigne Recycling Centre** – Cllr. Kirkby read the reply received from Lee Marshall of Powys County Council. It was agreed that the Town Council accept the centre for the time being providing the site is kept clean and tidy. This would allow time for the County Council to improve kerbside recycling and try to provide a civic amenity site. This was hoped to be in place for 2010. The Town Council will meanwhile monitor the site on a fortnightly basis.

(3) **Amendments to Parking Arrangements High Street** – The Clerk confirmed that the matter would be going before the appropriate County Council Committee shortly and that the Town Council’s

observations would be reported at that time. If the lines were still placed they would be the thinner lines as required in a conservation area. The Clerk was asked to write to Cty. Councillor Banks to ask him to support the Town Council's views.

(4) Regional Transport Plan Public Consultation – No one had been able to attend this.

(5) Herefordshire Council Draft Consultation on Shop Front Design – It was felt that this consultation was not relevant and the Clerk was asked to write to Herefordshire Council about this.

(6) Affordable Housing – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles updated Members on the current situation in Presteigne and Norton. He confirmed that the Norton site was 5th on the list of proposals but that the site in Presteigne had been dropped. He had spoken to Terry Flynn at Powys County Council and the situation regarding sites to Presteigne had been explained in detail. As Presteigne was not a small village, development was restricted to sites within the Unitary Development Plan whereas small villages could have sites outside this plan for use for affordable housing. Members felt that in the current economic climate it was worth suggesting some sites within the area of the plan in Presteigne and Cllr. Tennant-Eyles agreed to do this.

(7) On Demand Bus Service – It was heard that the service would be retained for the time being and that an annual review would in future be carried out by Powys County Council.

(8) Rockbridge Footpath – Cllr. Kirkby outlined the present situation and was pleased to confirm that the landowner had agreed to a permissive path subject to various conditions. He added that he hoped to be able to speak to Carlton Parry at Powys County Council about these conditions soon.

(9) Allotments – Cllr. Kirkby read two letters to the meeting, one from a town resident and another from Roger Williams MP. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles confirmed that he had received verbal enquiries about the present situation also. There was some discussion over possible sites and the problems of acquiring land, the costs involved in providing allotments and the work of the Allotment Group in the town. It was decided that the Clerk reply to Roger Williams MP outlining the present situation and Cllr. Tennant-Eyles agreed to liaise with the Allotment Group on behalf of the Town Council. Cllr. Wilding also proposed that the Allotment Group draw up a formal business case to present to the Council, together with any details they may have on possible grants for the project and Members agreed with this suggestion. Cllr. Kirkby suggested that consideration be given to budgeting £1000 towards allotments in 2009/10 at the next meeting when new projects are given consideration prior to the setting of the precept.

MIN 1999 NORTON MATTERS

(1) Parking Near to Bus Stop – The reply from Powys County Council was noted, as was the letter from Mrs Galliers.

(2) No Footpath Sign – This had now been removed as requested.

(3) Telephone Kiosk, Norton – The Clerk confirmed that the kiosk was not on the list of kiosks presently under review and Members therefore agreed that no further action was required at present.

(4) Annual Bonfire - Cllr. Wilding reported that the bonfire had been very successful and thanked the Mayor for judging the pumpkins and scariest costume and the Council for its financial contribution.

MIN 2000 WENTS MEADOW

(1) Play Area, Wilson Terrace – Powys County Council had confirmed it did not have the funds to provide a new aerial slide for the site but had confirmed the total cost of the recent refurbishment was between £25,000 and £30,000.

(2) **Provision of Additional Bin, Wilson Terrace** – The Clerk reported that the bin should be in place very soon.

(3) **Wents Meadow Sub-Committee Meeting** – Cllr, Kirkby provided Members with copies of the Minutes from this meeting and briefly explained each item. It was noted that the wood chip had been left by the Barn as suggested. The Clerk agreed to thank Powys County Council for this.

MIN 2001 MEMORIAL HALL

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles submitted a list of points for further consideration which the Clerk agreed to look into as soon as possible. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Hall Committee giving details of the situation to date and asking if they would be prepared to contribute £500 towards the initial costs (as discussed under Finance).

MIN 2002 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The toilets were now safely closed for the winter months.

MIN 2003 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) **Review of Community Council Election Results** – Noted.

(2) **Powys Regeneration Partnership** – Launch Event for new funding schemes. The Clerk agreed to attend if possible.

(3) **Dyfed Powys Police Authority** – It was agreed the priorities for 2009 should be anti social behaviour and the visibility of the police.

(4) **Powys County Council** – Result of election to Standards Community Sub-Committee – Noted.

(5) **Radnorshire Liaison Meeting** Notes compiled by Powys County Council – Noted.

(6) **Cascade** – Letter re. affordable housing provision – Cllr. Wilding agreed to look into this.

(7) **Presteigne United Charities** – Unfortunately no one was able to act as Town Council representative on the Charity at present.

(8) **Dyfed Powys Police Authority Community Consultative Forum** – The dates were noted.

(9) **Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales Workshops 2008** – Noted.

(10) **East Radnor Leisure Centre Notice of Meeting**- Cllr. Kirkby confirmed that he would be attending.

(11) **Community Welcome Scheme Funding for Tourism Projects** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles took this information.

MIN 2004 INFORMATION ONLY/ON THE TABLE

These items were duly noted.

MIN 2005 OTHER MATTERS

None

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.