

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20TH MAY 2009 AT THE SHIRE HALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

Present: Cllrs. J. Wilding (Mayor), J. Tennant-Eyles (Deputy Mayor), Ms. B. Baynham, N. Green, C. Kirkby, H Owens, P. Robinson, Ms. A. Wake.

Apologies: Ms. N. Humphreys, J. Kendall, B. Price, J. Simpson, P. Spawton.

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	H. Owens	Member of Shirehall Museum Trust
Personal and Prejudicial	None	

Cllr. Kirkby asked Members approval to have the discs on the Mayoral chain brought up to date and this was agreed.

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

Cllr. Kirkby summarised his year as Mayor which had been an exceptionally busy year with a number of major issues, many related to climate change. These included the wind turbine application for Reeves Hill, the reduction in street lighting, allotments, the support of Presteigne as a Transition Town and the proposed wood pellet mill on the Countrywide site. He was pleased the Memorial Hall project had made major progress and mentioned a host of enjoyable events he had attended in his capacity as Mayor. He thanked all the Members, old and new for working so well together over the year, with special thanks to Cllr. Tennant- Eyles. The Mayors Sunday lunch had raised £420 for the Charles Renton Unit. Finally he thanked his wife Ruth for her valued support.

MIN 2068 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR

Cllr. Kirkby invited nominations for Mayor.

Cllr. Wilding was proposed by Cllr. Tennant-Eyles, seconded by Cllr. Owens and duly elected. Cllr. Wilding assumed the Chair and thanked Members for his election.

MIN 2069 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Nominations were invited for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles was proposed by Cllr. Owens and seconded by Cllr. Kirkby and duly elected.

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

MIN 2070 FINANCE

(1) Donations:

Presteigne Shirehall Museum Trust

£1500 (precepted)

Members considered the request by Time and Place, a local charity which had recently visited John Beddoes School. Following a proposal by Cllr. Owens which was seconded by Cllr. Tennant-Eyles it was agreed that £100 be donated on this occasion. The Clerk was asked to request that the charity to apply earlier in future years in order to be considered for inclusion in the precept.

Time and Place (Working to save young lives on the road) **£100**

The letters of thanks from Powys Carers Service, Presteigne Young Farmers Club and Mid Border Arts were noted.

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

Viking Direct **£80.63**
(Office Supplies)

Lyreco **£27.21**
(Office Supplies)

C. Kirkby **£14.19**
(Reimbursement for retirement gift Mr. E. Cross)

Clearview Cleaning Services Ltd. **£285.20**
(Cleaning Contract Toilets)

Clerks Salary (April to June Quarter) **£1771.04**
(inc. additional hours Memorial Hall and Pay Arrears after final pay award 2008/09)

HM Revenue and Customs **£680.49**
(Income Tax, NI and Employers NI for above payment)

Mr. E. Cross **£80**
(Meadow Inspections) MEADOW ACCOUNT

Artisan Print **£174.90**
(Flyers for Hall Exhibition)

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

Grant Wilson Terrace Toilets **£500.00**

First instalment of Precept **£10526.62**

Memorial Hall C'ttee **£465.23**
(Contribution towards costs of additional hours for Clerk to end April)

(4) **Internal Audit:** The Clerk confirmed that this had been completed by Mr. David Morris without any problems.

(5) **Town/Community Council Borrowing Regulations** – These details were available for Members' information.

(6) **Memorial Hall Costs** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles explained the Hall budget sheet supplied and asked Members to consider approving a further amount for further additional hours to be worked by the Clerk. He reminded Members that the Hall Committee had agreed to contribute half the cost of the Clerk's ongoing hours. Members agreed to authorise further hours up to a maximum cost of £1000 (Town Council share).

(7) **Annual Governance Statement** – Cllr. Wilding read the annual governance statement section by section for Members approval and it was agreed to approve section one, Statement of Accounts and section two, the Annual Governance Statement , together with supporting documentation, and these sections were duly signed by the Mayor, Cllr. Wilding and the Clerk. Section four was already completed and signed by the Internal Auditor, Mr. D. Morris.

MIN 2071 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of 15th April were approved with no amendments. The Mayor then duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 2072 MATTERS ARISING

(1) **Notice Board, Station Road** – Members heard that Powys County Council had replied indicating that they were willing to paint out the incorrect information but were concerned that this would lead to vandalism. Members agreed with this view and it was agreed that Powys County Council be asked to leave the information.

(2) **Wall at Castle Dyche, Presteigne** – The Clerk stated she was still trying to obtain information from Powys County Council on this matter.

(3) **Norton Manor** – Cllr. Green reported that since the last meeting the events had ceased and so he had not visited as discussed at the previous meeting.

(4) **20 mph Limit** – Cllr. Kirkby brought recent headlines in the Telegraph on the need for 20 mph limits to Members' attention. He commented on Powys County Council's refusal to act on the Town Council's recent suggestion for such a limit in Presteigne.

MIN 2073 PLANNING

(1) The following applications were considered –

P2009/0523 Full, general improvements to front elevation at **2/3 West Wall, Presteigne** – No objections raised.

P2009/0492 Full, erection of a garage at **Dan y Fron, Presteigne** – No objections raised.

(2) **Planning Application, Feed Mill on Countrywide Site** – The Clerk informed Members that the application had been considered at the Powys County Council Planning Committee the previous day and had been approved subject to conditions.

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles updated Members on the negotiations concerning community benefits for the town. He had been informed that the Planning Officer would present the resulting document to the Planning Committee for their information. Members agreed that this was very satisfactory.

(3) Applications before Planning Committee – The Clerk informed Members that the four applications listed (P/2008/1741, RAD/2007/0313, RAD/2007/0278 and P2009/0242) had all been approved subject to conditions.

MIN 2074 HIGHWAYS HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT

(1) **Allotments** – Cllr. Wilding confirmed that a number of options were still being pursued regarding possible sites. One of the families approached had written to the Council indicating strong opposition to the use of their site. In addition nearby residents had also objected. The Clerk was asked to reply to these letters indicating that no decision had been made and that all comments would be borne in mind.

The availability of grant funding had also been explored. It was felt that it was likely to be later in the year before any real progress could be made. Cllr. Ms. Baynham stated that she had been contacted by the Allotment Association asking for a progress report.

(2) **Affordable Housing** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles confirmed that he had met with Terry Flynn of Powys County Council and that he approved of both the possible sites and would take matters further. Mr. Flynn had pointed out that as the Council Depot in Presteigne was to be closed normal procedure would be to consider this site first for any target areas. This would include affordable housing. He did however feel that the site would not be suitable for such a use.

(3) **Recycling Centre** – Cllr. Kirkby was pleased to announce details of a planned grant application by the Cwm Harry Land Trust. If successful this scheme would provide kerbside recycling for a greater range of materials, allow the recycling centre to be removed and replace the normal Powys County Council refuse collection for its period of operation. The project would run for one year. He asked that Members support the grant application to the Welsh Assembly. No financial commitment would be required. All agreed that the application be fully supported by the Council.

(4) **Transition Presteigne** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles informed Members that he was standing down as Town Council representative due to large number of other Council commitments. All agreed that Cllr. Kirkby replace him as Town Council representative.

(5) **Rockbridge Footpath** – Cllr. Kirkby updated Members on progress with this matter.

(6) **General Footpath Matters** – Cllr. Kirkby informed Members on the site meeting with Carlton Parry of Powys County Council at Wents Meadow. As part of this it had also come to light that a short length of path near to the Mill was not included on the definitive map and an application pack was due to be received so enable this stretch to be formally added.

(7) **Information Board, Station Road, Presteigne** – See under Matters Arising.

(8) **Community Benefits from Wind Energy Developments** – The Clerk informed Members that she understood this document had been withdrawn for amendment and that a revised timetable was now in place for submission to the Powys County Council Board. She agreed to remind Powys County Council of the Town Council's request to include additional energy schemes in the document.

(9) **School Funding** – The reply from the Welsh Assembly Government was noted.

(10) **Other Highways Matters** – No additional matters were raised.

MIN 2075 NORTON MATTERS

(1) **Post Office Premises** – Norton Members reported that they were not aware of any suitable site and the Clerk agreed to reply to that effect.

(2) **Recent Events** – Cllr. Wilding detailed recent successful events in the village. He also informed Members that Norton Sports Committee had donated £152 towards the purchase of a small marquee and storage boxes.

MIN 2076 WENTS MEADOW

(1) **Weed killing Quotation** – The quotation from Powys County Council was accepted. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles confirmed that he had met with the grounds team and outlined the exact area to be treated.

(2) **Removal of Kissing Gate** – Cllr. Kirkby and the Clerk had met with Carlton Parry to discuss this. Mr. Parry had agreed to speak to the Radnorshire Wildlife Trust and the appropriate Officer at Powys County Council to confirm they were happy for the gate to be removed.

(3) **Meadow Inspections** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that these seemed to be working well with smaller matters being dealt with on the spot and more major items being reported. It was agreed that maintenance items would be referred to John Selley for action. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles asked for guidance on one recent item, some damage to the sheep netting and it was agreed that as a temporary measure the wire should be made safe.

(4) **Play Area Inspection Reports** – Cllr Kirkby had only received a copy of the one site report and this had been passed on to Richard Rimmington for action to be taken up to a cost of £250. The Clerk agreed to obtain a copy of the additional report.

(5) **Tidy Towns Matters** – Members asked the Clerk to obtain progress reports on the replacement of the oak bollards and also the proposed new length of path.

(6) **Sheep Music** – It was agreed that Sheep Music be approached to ensure that plans were in place to protect the football field from damage and to remind them of the need to replace the sleepers at the front of the stage area before any performances took place.

MIN 2077 MEMORIAL HALL

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that both grant applications had been successful, the first applied for via PAVO for 74% of the total cost and the second from a Powys County Council fund for 13% of the cost. This left a balance of just over £3000 to be met jointly by the Hall Committee and the Town Council.

He detailed the composition of the Hall project steering group and reminded Members of the forthcoming exhibition. All agreed to assist with the hand delivery of the flyer advertising the exhibition. This would be delivered to each household in Presteigne and Norton. Both the architect and consultant would be present and in addition one Member of the Town Council and one Hall Committee Member would also be present throughout the day. Details of work over the past month included visits to seven nearby Village Halls to obtain information and a meeting with PAVO to go over the conditions of the grant. A page was to be set up on the town website to provide continuing updates for the public.

Cllr. Wilding asked if Cllr. Kirkby would like to continue on the Steering Group and Cllr. Kirkby agreed to consider this.

MIN 2078 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles confirmed that the electrician had been instructed to do the necessary work and that it should be completed shortly. The mural on the building needed re-doing and it was suggested that this could maybe form part of a school project. Cllr. Kirkby agreed to ask John Beddoes School if it would be interested in doing this.

MIN 2079 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) **Dyfed-Powys Police** – Appointment of Temporary Chief Superintendent - Noted

(2) **Post Office Temporary Closures** – Noted.

(3) **Powys County Council Improving Liaison with Town/Community Councils** –Noted.

(4) **Letter re. Footpath, Slough Road to By-Pass** – This had been passed to Carlton Parry at Powys County Council for action.

(5) **Powys Carers Service** Reply indicating numbers supported in Presteigne and Norton – Noted.

(6) **Radnorshire Chairman's Report 2008/09 (PCC)** – Noted.

(7) **Residents Concern about speeding vehicles on By Pass** – This had been passed on the Police for action and the Clerk agreed to contact them again to ask for an update.

(8) **Concerns re. Station Road** – This had been passed to Powys County Council for action. In addition the Clerk was asked to contact County Councillor Banks to inform him of the concern about the trees and ivy.

MIN 2080 INFORMATION ONLY/ON THE TABLE

The items for information were noted.

MIN 2081 OTHER MATTERS

Cllr. Ms. Wake raised the issue of health care at Hereford Hospital for Powys residents as she was aware of recent problems and some confusion over present policy. The Clerk agreed to write to the Local Health Board for clarification.

Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press were excluded at this point of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the following item.

MIN 2082 HONORARY CITIZENSHIP

This was discussed at some length and raised some concern that a precedent would be set if this suggestion went ahead. As a result it was agreed not to proceed with this option.

It was agreed that Cllr. Kirkby look at an alternative option for the local resident in question and that this be arranged urgently.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.20 pm.