

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

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2009 AT THE SHIRE HALL,  
BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE**

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

**Apologies:** B. Price, Ms. J. Simpson, 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. J. Wilding – Finance Item – Donation to Norton Sports Committee (Chairman of Committee).

Personal and Prejudicial - None

**MIN 2124 FINANCE**

**(1) Donations:**

The following donations were approved –

<b>Norton Sports Committee (Fireworks)</b>	<b>£50 (precepted)</b>
<b>Bobath Children’s Therapy Centre</b>	<b>£100 (precepted)</b>
<b>Presteigne Football Club (Firework/Bonfire Display)</b>	<b>£400 (precepted)</b>

Cllr. Wilding reported that the Football Club were experiencing greatly increased costs in putting on the display and asked Members to note this when setting the precepted amount for 2010/11.

The letters of thanks from Wales Air Ambulance, East Radnorshire Day Centre and Presteigne Memorial Hall were noted.

**(2) Payments:**

<b>Clearview Cleaning Services (HFD) Ltd</b>	<b>£369.08</b>
(cleaning services Wilson Terrace Toilets – Sept) (£320.94 plus VAT)	
<b>Lyreco (office supplies)</b>	<b>£35.70</b>
(£31.04 plus VAT)	
<b>BDO Stoy Hayward</b>	<b>£327.75</b>
External Audit Fee	(£285.00 plus VAT)
<b>MER Industries Ltd.</b>	<b>£408.25</b>
(electrical work Wilson Terrace toilets) (£355.00 plus VAT)	
<b>Npower (electricity account Toilets)</b>	<b>£42.24</b>
(£40.23 plus VAT)	

<b>Presteigne Memorial Hall</b> (Contribution towards CFAP grant application Fee) (£250 plus VAT)	<b>£287.50</b>
<b>A.G. Hopkins</b> (Meadow Inspections) MEADOW ACCOUNT	<b>£13.50</b>
<b>Npower</b> (electricity account Barn) (£45.95 plus VAT) MEADOW ACCOUNT	<b>£48.25</b>
<b>Powys County Council</b> (grass cutting charges as quotation) MEADOW ACCOUNT	<b>£840.58</b> (£730.94 plus VAT)

**(3) External Audit:**

The Clerk reported that the external audit had been completed with no comments and Members formally approved the Annual Return. The Notice of completion of Audit had been displayed in the usual places.

**(4) Inspection of Invoices and Accounts:**

Cllr. Wilding confirmed that he had inspected the invoices and accounts and that everything was in order.

**MIN 2125 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> September were approved subject to the clarification of Minute 2110 (12). 'The Clerk wasn't aware *whether* the bins had been put in place'. The Minutes of 22<sup>nd</sup> September were approved without amendment. The Mayor then duly signed the Minutes.

**MIN 2126 MATTERS ARISING**

**(1) Shoppers Car Park** – Cllr. Kirkby explained that the Officer who had been dealing with this matter was now off work. A site meeting had been arranged for the following Monday with a different Officer.

**(2) Community Benefits From Wind Energy Developments** - Cllr. Kirkby informed Members that the request for the inclusion of other forms of renewable energy to be included in the policy had been repeated. The draft policy was due to go before the Board in the next few weeks.

**(3) Clerk's Report** - The contents of the Clerk's report were noted and the Clerk agreed to follow up the outstanding footpath matters and the installation of the litter bins on the Meadow.

**MIN 2127 PLANNING**

**Planning Application – TREE 2009 0032 Tree Works Heather Cottage, Harpers Lane, Presteigne**

Members had no objection to his application but were concerned that a formal application had to be made for such a matter. The Clerk was asked to find out why an application had been required.

**MIN 2128 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT**

**(1) Allotments** – This item was deferred to the closed session of the meeting.

**(2) Transition Presteigne (inc Low Carbon Communities Challenge)** – Cllr. Kirkby reported on the details of the proposed grant application which would include four projects – district heating from the Mill, a treatment plant to complement the zero waste project, a wood pellet heating system, photovoltaics, wind turbine and ground source heat pumps for the Memorial Hall and Smart Meters for the whole community. The bid would be submitted jointly by the Town Council and Transition Presteigne and Members were pleased to approve the sending of the necessary letter stating an intention to bid for funding. The intention would be to have the full application prepared over the next two months and a decision would be expected in early 2010.

**(3) School Modernisation Project** – Cllr. Kendall reported on a presentation by Powys County Council he had attended on the forthcoming project. He was able to confirm that the review of the John Beddoes catchment would commence in January. Of particular concern was the lack of any Town/Community Council representative on the project Board. It was agreed that it was essential for the Town Council to have a presence on this Board given the effect that decisions would make not only on the Schools affected but also on the communities in which they were situated. It was also felt that this was particularly applicable to Presteigne which had both a Primary and Secondary School in its area. The Clerk was asked to write making this point and asking that at the very least a representative of the Town Council (it was felt that this should be the Mayor) be invited to sit on the Board. The Clerk was instructed to add that the Town Council was, if required, willing to represent the views of the other Community Councils in the area.

**(4) Presteigne Police Matters** – The Clerk reported on the recent communications with Sgt. Wheatman. Members noted that minor crimes were increasing in the town and it was agreed that Sgt. Wheatman be invited to attend the next meeting of the Council so that Members could get more information.

The introduction of a new 101 number for reporting crimes that were not emergencies was noted.

**(5) Affordable Housing** - This item was deferred to the closed session of the meeting.

**(6) Street Naming and Numbering** – The Clerk reported that Powys County Council had requested approval of the Welsh translation of an Estate name. On checking the address it was found that the Estate was not in Presteigne and the Clerk was asked to reply to this effect.

**(7) Planting of Roundabouts** – Powys County Council had replied explaining that the island near Countrywide would be planted with bulbs and shrubs in the Autumn. It had also offered to take Town Council views on board regarding the type of plants to be used.

**(8) Road Damage, Court Gardens** – This matter had been reported by a resident and had been repaired by Powys County Council within a few days.

**(9) Extension of High Street Waiting Restrictions** – The Clerk had written to Powys County Council supporting the extension of the waiting period to one hour. Powys had also suggested that in order to make the changes quickly the Town Council could pay for the necessary works at a cost of two to three thousand pounds. Members did not feel able to meet these costs at the present time.

**(10) Cwm Harry Land Trust Zero Waste Project** – Cllr. Kirkby reported that work was continuing with setting up the project and that it was being presented at the Cylch conference (the Wales community waste sector organisation) on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

**(11) Other Highway Items** – Cllr. Robinson raised concerns about the speed of vehicles travelling along High Street. The introduction of a 20 mph zone had been considered in the past but Powys County Council had refused to implement it.

It was noted that the potholes in Mynd Road had now been filled in and that the trimming of the trees at Castle Road was now scheduled.

## **MIN 2129      NORTON MATTERS**

- (1) Adoption of Telephone Kiosk** – Members discussed the possibility of adopting the kiosk but noted that this would mean the removal of the telephone service. It was agreed that the Clerk write to British Telecom and Powys County Council stressing the need for the phone service to be retained for use in emergencies and given the complete lack of mobile phone signal.
- (2) Flashing Speed Signs** – It was noted that these were scheduled to be placed in Norton very soon.
- (3) Norton Bonfire** – Cllr. Wilding reported that the annual bonfire would be on 1<sup>st</sup> November.

## **MIN 2130      WENTS MEADOW**

- (1) Sub-Committee Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> September** – Members noted and accepted the Minutes of the meeting as previously circulated. In particular they accepted the proposal to lay the hedge adjacent to the Withy Beds at an approximate cost of £1050.
- (2) Extension of Orchard Area** – Cllr. Kirkby circulated an outline plan for the extension of the orchard area. He confirmed that he was willing to use £500 remaining from his fund raising efforts whilst Mayor in 2007/08, towards the cost of installing additional trees in the area. Members were happy for a more detailed plan to be compiled and brought back to a future meeting.
- (3) Other Matters** – Cllr. Wilding reported that he had met Richard Rimmington on site about work on the wetter areas of the Meadow and some stoning of the roadway. Members were happy that this took place.

It was reported that vandalism on the Meadow was an increasing problem.

It was confirmed that the Fire Officer's letter had been forwarded to the Council's insurer and would be retained on file.

The forthcoming apple juicing event at the Barn was noted.

## **MIN 2131      MEMORIAL HALL**

- (1) Consultation on New Powys County Council Funding Method** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles agreed to attend the briefing on the changes in mid November.
- (2) Hall Project Update** – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles was delighted to report that the outline submission to the Big Lottery had been submitted and that the go ahead to the second stage had already been received. In addition the grant application to the Welsh Assembly Government's Communities, Facilities and Activities Programme had now been sent in and a reply was awaited.

The next meeting of the Steering Group was to be held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

Members were happy to authorise the Clerk to work further additional hours on the project as necessary.

They also asked that their thanks to Cllr. Tennant-Eyles and the Clerk for all their hard work be noted.

## **MIN 2132      PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

(1) Electrical Installation – Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that the work had now been completed and the necessary certificate issued. The electrician had noted that a number of lights needed replacing at a cost of £120 for the inside lights and £58 for the outside lights. This cost included supply and fitting.

(2) **Arrangements for Winter Closure** – Cllr. Wilding agreed to assist Cllr. Tennant-Eyles to close the toilets at the end of the month.

(3) **Mural** – Cllr. Kirkby agreed to see what the present situation was regarding repainting the mural.

#### **MIN 2133 CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence this month.

#### **MIN 2134 INFORMATION ITEMS**

The items for information were noted.

#### **MIN 2135 URGENT INFORMATION**

The arrangements for Remembrance Sunday were noted and Members were asked to attend if at all possible.

#### **MIN 2136 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

*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 items.*

(1) **ALLOTMENTS** – Members heard that negotiations regarding the piece of land were still continuing and it was hoped that progress would be made soon.

Cllr. Tennant-Eyles also reported on the public meeting organised by the PNAA which he, Cllr. Wilding, Cllr. Ms. Baynham and the Clerk had attended.

#### **(2) AFFORDABLE HOUSING –**

**Appointment of Rural Housing Enabler** – It was agreed that it would be useful to arrange a meeting with Ms Hobby and Cllr. Tennant-Eyles agreed to arrange to meet the Officer.

**Report from Mid Wales Housing Association** – Full details had not yet been received. Cllr, Tennant-Eyles agreed to contact the Association with a number of points which Members felt to be relevant.

**Letter requesting Town Council Support for Specific Site** – Members had each received a copy of the letter and it was agreed that the comments contained would be borne in mind as more information became available. The Clerk was asked to reply to this effect.

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