

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH FEBRUARY 2016 AT THE SHIREHALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

Present: Cllrs. C. Kirkby MBE (Mayor), J. Tennant-Eyles (Deputy Mayor), Ms B. Baynham, N. Humphreys J. Matthews, Ms F. Preece, P. Robinson, P. Smith.

Apologies: Cllrs. G. Banks, Ms. H. Marchant, H. Owens, B. Price, J. Wilding.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk, Ms M. Taylor-Saunders, Members of the public.

Declarations of Interest: Members were requested to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests they may have in matters to be considered at the meeting in accordance with the terms of the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct Order) (Wales) Order 2008.

Personal:

Cllr. J. Tennant-Eyles, Chairman, Presteigne Youth Project: re devolved services. NB Dispensation from February 2013 applies to membership of clubs and charities.

Personal and Prejudicial: None.

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting Ms Taylor-Saunders gave a short presentation on the work of the Community Plan Steering Group and the way forward for the future. She also answered Members' questions. Future work would focus on communication, the recruitment of volunteers and working with the Town Council in order to benefit the town.

MIN 3084 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings on 20th January 2016 and 4th February 2016 were approved without amendment. The Chairman then duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 3085 CLERKS REPORT/UPDATE

(1) Sign Outside Bennett's Window: The Clerk had heard nothing further and agreed to follow the matter up with the County Council.

(2) Dropped Kerbs, Slough Road: The Clerk had heard nothing further and agreed to chase the County Council for a reply.

(3) Footpath, Fold Farm: No reply had been received from the landowner. Cllr. Kirkby agreed to call again to ask that a response be made.

(4) Donation of Bench: The new bench should be in place during March/April.

(5) Quote from Harpers for Path Works, Scout Hut: Cllr. Kirkby agreed to ask for this to be sent as soon as possible.

(6) Removal of Hedge, Knighton Road: The Clerk was asked to telephone the Planning Department to get the necessary information.

(7) Complaint, re Property in Hereford Street: Cllr. Tennant-Eyles had contacted the landowner who had agreed to clear the site.

(8) Volunteers: The Clerk had spoken to Michiel Blee at PAVO who had confirmed that health and safety issues raised by the County Council had caused problems in setting up the scheme planned. Cllr. Ms. Baynham had spoken to another PAVO officer working in the town on the recruitment of local volunteers.

(9) New Development, Knighton Road: The Clerk had contacted Cllr. Brunt to ask why there had been delays in responding to the contractors so that the infrastructure on site could be built. As yet she had not had any reply.

MIN 3086 FINANCE

(1) Donations: Resolved that the following payment be approved
Presteigne and Norton Community Trust £750.
The £250 remaining in the budget for 2015/16 to be returned to general reserves.

(2) Donation to Poetry in Presteigne Festival: It was agreed that the proposed donation would be set aside as an allocated reserve for claiming in future years.

(3) Payments: Resolved that the following payments be approved:

Mrs T. Price	£836.72
HMRC	£198.52
(income tax and employees and employers NI due on above)	
Clearview Cleaning Services Ltd	£405.76
Presteigne Building Supplies	£23.54 MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£25.00
N. Close	£156.25 MEADOW ACCOUNT

MIN 3087 PLANNING

(1) Planning Applications: The following applications were considered:
P/2016/0137, outline (all matters reserved), erection of two dwellings at Clatterbrune House, Greenfield Road, Presteigne. Deferred to a special meeting on 1st March.

P/2016/0139, erection of extensions and demolition of part of dwelling at Caenwood Rise, Presteigne. No objections raised.

(2) Withdrawal of paper plans: Members remained concerned about this matter and the Clerk was asked to write to Kirsty Williams AM, Chris Davies MP and to Welsh Government direct to ask for their help and support with this issue. In addition Members reported that using the planning portal was slow and that the zoom facility was cumbersome and resulted in images being poorly focussed and difficult to understand. The Clerk was asked to report this to the County Council asking that changes be made.

(3) Powys Local Development Plan Consultation on Focussed Changes: Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reminded Members of the process to date. In addition he listed the comments made by the Town Council in July 2015 and related these to the focussed changes in the Plan.

The County Council had not responded directly to any of the points raised by the Town Council but some of the points can be found in the detail of the focussed changes and these are -
(Town Council Comment in italics)

The period of plan to be changed to 2015-2030: It remains at 2011-2026.

Other major towns such as Presteigne to be included in the central corridor: There is no change in plan.

Monies from the Community Infrastructure Levy to be spent locally: No decision is being made on this in the plan but it is still under consideration.

live/work to be work/live: No change.

Support for the reduction to 20% affordable housing on sites above five units, and request that it should be adhered to particularly at Kayes: In fact it has been increased to 30% in the Presteigne area, subject to negotiation with developers, the threshold remains at five houses, and the target of affordable housing in the plan has been raised from 1044 dwellings to 1257.

Concern that open space provision in new developments was not adequate: PCC states that the policy will require 0.25 hectare per 1000 residents of formal equipped playground. Informal playing spaces will also be required for all developments.

Sewage capacity issue in Presteigne: This is acknowledged in several places in the focussed changes.

Additional industrial land provision: Not included.

Request that Mill Lane with four units, Countrywide, the Primary School, and the Primary School site to be included in the LDP: These sites have not been given any allocation, but all are within the development boundary on the plan and therefore could be the subject of applications without resort to exception site status.

Norton Manor Park should be included in the calculation for village designation of Norton: The Focussed changes state that PCC consider their methodology in arriving at the designation for settlement size is sound, and that correspondingly Norton remains designated as a small village with no inset map.

Other points that might be of interest were

The policy on large energy renewal projects such as wind farms has been confirmed as restricted to designated strategic areas, and the policy has been amended to ensure that impact on landscape and tourism are adequately addressed.

Residential building requirement in the plan period has been reduced from 5519 to 4500.

Only four candidate sites remain in the LDP for Presteigne as allocated sites. They are

 Knighton Road is designated HA1, for housing allocation. This is to the extent of the original application for 28 units, which is more than the current development, but does not include the whole field.

 Broadaxe Industrial Estate including the field at the back that is in the current allocation designated EA1.

 Part of Broadaxe Farm is designated HA2, for housing allocation. The development boundary however includes the land between the lane and the designated area which is thus white land.

 Kayes site is designated MUA1, for multiple use allocation.

There were specific comments about these sites in the focussed changes document.

There is a policy to maintain retail use in high streets proposals for residential conversions on first and upper floors will generally be supported.

It was resolved that no further comment be made.

(4) MWAH Development/Home Presteigne (Concern over colour of properties, Knighton Road): Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that the colours of the new properties were not in line with what had been agreed with Home Presteigne and that he had taken this up with Mid Wales Housing Association. The Association had apologised and explained that this had been inadvertently missed when issuing instructions to the contractors. No further action required.

(5) Planning Aid Wales Training Events: Noted. No one was able to attend.

MIN 3088 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) Community Led Plan: Cllr. Kirkby explained that the County Council was awaiting feedback on the plan process. The Clerk was asked to respond making the following points -

- the time scale for production was much too short and restrictive
- the Town Council felt the process should have been more under the direction of the Town Council with representatives of Community Groups/businesses being invited as well as community residents

- it was not made clear that R4C would not be doing the bulk of the work which actually fell to the Steering Group and of the volume of this work (even the paper surveys had to be input manually by the Group not R4C)
- dissatisfaction with the list of questions
- dissatisfaction with the postcard which included a question against the general consensus and muddled the message to complete the full survey
- staffing issues with R4C initially which did improve when a change was made
- the Town Council was not invited to the initial feedback meeting held by the County Council at the conclusion of the process
- no figures or percentages have been produced in support of or against the various options and the Town Council is disappointed with this.
- none of the above are any reflection on the Steering Group itself which worked extremely hard to produce something which would be useful for the town and helpful in evidencing need etc for grant applications.

Cllr. Kirkby expressed sincere thanks to the Steering Group for the presentation and added that the Town Council was looking forward to continuing the dialogue in the future for the benefit of the town. The Plan would remain on the monthly agenda for the time being and the Council would look to drawing up a list of strategic issues on which future efforts could be focussed.

(2) Future of Presteigne Works Depot: Cllr. Kirkby reported that four depots were currently under review of which Presteigne was one. In addition the situation regarding the mini digger and street sweeper had been clarified and would remain available for use in Presteigne as required.

(3) Reporting of Highway Items for repair: None this month.

MIN 3089 NORTON

(1) Broadband: The Clerk reported that cabinet 2 was not being upgraded because fibre to the premises was to be installed. There had been no time scale given for this.

MIN 3090 WENT'S MEADOW AND EDDIE'S MEADOW

(1) Tesco Bags of Help Grant Decision: Unfortunately this application had been unsuccessful. Around 5000 applications had been received. The Clerk was investigating the possibility of applying through the LEADER fund.

(2) Skateboard Pyramid: Further works had now been carried out and had been viewed by Cllr. Tennant-Eyles. The company had been informed that the work would not be signed off as complete until a further ROSPA inspection had been carried out. This was due in the Spring.

(3) Graffiti: Cllr. Kirkby reported that there had been a recent incident at the skateboard area but that this had been dealt with by Mr. Close who was on site at the time.

(4) Vintage Car Show: Members approved the use of the Meadow for the annual event. Provisional dates 18/19th June.

MIN 3091 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Youth Project: Cllr. Tennant-Eyles presented a short report on the Youth Project. He informed Members that the County Council was cutting youth support and this would only be in the High Schools from September. The Project Board was exploring the possibility of employing a youth worker to provide for this reduction in service. There was a possibility of the County Council setting up a fund to be run jointly with PAVO to provide some funding for this. The current lease on the building was due to expire in April and it was hoped to continue in the building on a month

by month basis until the Town Council negotiations with the County Council were complete. The views of the Project Board on moving location had been circulated prior to the meeting.

(2) Letter of Thanks from Mrs Beryl Evans: Noted.

(3) Armed Forces Day Funding: Noted. The Clerk to send the information to the British Legion.

(4) Christmas Lights 2015, Report from Chamber of Trade: Noted. Cllr. Tennant-Eyles reported that negotiations with the supplier of the new lights were continuing.

(5) Notification of Section 137 limit for 2016/17, Welsh Government: Noted.

(6) Welsh Government Engagement Event, Swansea 2nd February, Clerk's Report: Noted.

(7) Community Health Council Meeting 5th April, New Radnor: Noted.

(8) One Voice Wales Area Meeting 5th February and Minutes 9th October: Noted.

(9) Future of Day Centres in Powys: Cllr. Ms. Baynham reported on the present situation in Powys generally and for the East Radnorshire Day Centre specifically. She asked that the item be kept on the agenda for regular updates.

(10) Consultation, Public Participation for the National Development Framework: Noted. No comment to be made.

(11) One Voice Wales Training Programme Spring 2016: Noted.

(12) NEST Warm Homes Scheme: Noted. Information to be passed to Home Presteigne and the Community Plan Steering Group.

MIN 3092 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

(1) February Surgery: The request for an additional bollard on Hereford Street had been repeated together with an offer to contribute towards costs. The Clerk was asked to contact the County Council to ask for a site meeting.

(2) Arrangements for March Surgery: Cllr. Smith to attend.

MIN 3093 DEVOLVEMENT OF SERVICES

(1) Buildings in Presteigne: Cllr. Kirkby outlined the revised proposal for discussion with the County Council. Presteigne Youth Project and Community Support had both looked at the drill hall and the sixth form building and were in principle in support of the proposals. Resolved that the amended proposal be taken forward and that a meeting with the County Council be arranged as soon as possible.

(2) Presteigne Cemetery: One trustee had now confirmed a willingness to meet. The Clerk was asked to continue to press for a meeting as soon as possible.

(3) Tennis Court Transfer: There had been no progress and responses from the County Council to the legal questions raised were still awaited.

MIN 3094 FUTURE PENSION PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEES

The Clerk's report was noted. It was resolved that a working group comprising Cllrs. Kirkby and Ms. Baynham, together with the Clerk be set up to discuss arrangements and report back to Council by June.

MIN 3095 INFORMATION

None this month.

MIN 3096 URGENT_BUSINESS INFORMATION

None.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm.