

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON 15TH JULY 2015 AT THE SHIREHALL, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

Present: Cllrs. C. Kirkby MBE (Mayor), Ms B. Baynham, J. Matthews, Ms. F. Preece, B. Price, P. Robinson, P. Smith, J Wilding.

Apologies: Cllrs. J. Tennant-Eyles (Deputy Mayor), G. Banks, Ms. N. Humphreys, Ms. H. Marchant, H. Owens.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk; 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. B. Price, member of Norton Sports Committee re LDP in Norton, TC appointed School Governor Presteigne Primary School re LDP Presteigne.

Cllr. Ms. B. Baynham, employee of East Radnorshire Day Centre re precepted donation to Day Centre.

Cllr. Wilding, trustee East Radnorshire Day Centre re precepted donation to Day Centre.

Personal and Prejudicial:

Cllr. Ms. B. Baynham, related to landowner with candidate site re. LDP Norton.

Cllr. C. Kirkby, friend of landowner with candidate site re. LDP Norton.

Cllr. J. Wilding, landowner with candidate site re. LDP Norton.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Cllr. Kirkby welcomed PC Andrew Barden and PCSO Anna Bowen. PC Barden updated Members on local policing in the area and introduced new PCSO Anna Bowen. Both officers answered Member's questions. Cllr. Kirkby thanked both officers for attending.

MIN 2998 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings of 17th June, 2015 were approved without amendment. The Chairman then duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 2999 CLERKS REPORT/UPDATE

(1) New Footway, By Pass/School Field: Members noted that this was almost complete but were concerned that the footway did not meet the specified width. The Clerk agreed to check.

(2) Norton Traffic Safety Scheme: The Clerk confirmed that the white lining work had been completed and that the signs had been ordered.

(3) Norton Sewerage Problems: Cllr. Robinson reported on the most recent site meeting on 10th July. Welsh Water had made a number of changes to the pumping station and were monitoring the situation. Residents were asked to report any further problems. One property had particular issues and Welsh Water were continuing to look for a solution.

(4) Building Condition Report, Sixth Form Building: The Clerk confirmed that this was expected later in the month along with the other information requested as part of the devolvement of services process. She was asked to request a site meeting at the building as part of the town walk in August.

MIN 3000 FINANCE

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

Presteigne Brownies	£50.00 (precepted)
East Radnorshire Day Centre	£2000.00 (precepted)
Presteigne Memorial Hall Grant for 2015/16	£1500.00 (precepted)
St. Andrews FC Colts	£250.00 (precepted)

The letter of thanks from St. Michael's hospice was noted.

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved:

Mrs T. Price	£836.72
HMRC	£198.52
(income tax and employees and employers NI due on above)	
Clearview Cleaning Services (Hereford) Ltd	£815.74
Viking (printer ink etc)	£120.20
Welsh Water (Wilson Terrace Toilets)	£28.97
Lyreco (stationery)	£24.12

Post dated payments for August -

Mrs T. Price	£836.52
HMRC	£198.72
(income tax and employees and employers NI due on above)	
Clearview Cleaning Services (Hereford) Ltd	£815.74

(3) Receipts: The following receipts were noted:

Powys County Council	(toilet grant)	£7000.00
Powys County Council	(toilet repairs)	£428.91

(4) External Audit: The Clerk reported that the External Auditors had requested an amendment to item 7 of Section 1 and re-approval of the return. Members approved the change and the return was re-signed by Cllr. Kirkby and the Clerk.

MIN 3001 PLANNING

(1) Planning Applications:

P/2015/0663 (re-submission), full, erection of new two storey dwelling to replace existing bungalow, formation of new vehicular access (close up existing) and change of use of agricultural land to form additional residential curtilage at Corner Brook, Presteigne, Powys: Resolved that no objection be raised.

(2) Local Development Plan Consultation: Members had all received copies of any responses to the recent consultation with residents and a copy of the draft comments prepared by the Working Group. Cllr. Kirkby reviewed the original comments for Presteigne as submitted in August 2014. He pointed out to Members the items now no longer applicable that the Working Group had recommended for removal and the new items added. Cllr. Price reported concern from the Chair of Governors at Presteigne Primary School that the Town Council was supporting the through school concept. The issue was debated and it was considered that the comment should remain. The Town Council was including the comment in order to ensure the site was included for possible development should this become an option. It was felt that the need to ensure the maintenance of both primary and secondary education in Presteigne was very important and that to achieve this the possibility of a through school would need to be considered at the appropriate time. The Clerk was asked to write to the Chair of Governors explaining the Council's position.

Resolved that the comments be submitted as circulated subject to a small re-wording of the paragraph on the Primary School site.

Due to the prejudicial interests of Cllrs. Kirkby, Ms. Baynham and Wilding the meeting was not quorate and no decision could be taken on comments in respect of Norton. The matter was therefore deferred to the end of the meeting when Cllr. Ms. Preece would be present.

(3) Planning Applications at Clatterbrune: The Clerk confirmed that both applications had been withdrawn.

(4) Planning Liaison Meeting, County Hall, 6th July: The written report from the Clerk was noted.

MIN 3002 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) Tennis Courts/MUGA: The Clerk reported that the courts were now finished and the arrangements for the opening were proceeding. The County Council had asked if the Town Council would attend for a press photograph very soon. It was agreed that this should wait for the opening event on 15th August. The Mayor confirmed that he would provide refreshments from the Mayor's allowance.

The Clerk was asked to remind the County Council that the additional net and posts had still not been handed to the Town Council.

Concern was expressed that dogs were able to access the MUGA court and that there had been some dog fouling on the court. It was agreed that signs prohibiting dogs would be placed on site.

(2) Presteigne Cemetery: Cllr. Kirkby reported on the progress of the planning application and on the further information required by the Environment Agency. Herefordshire Council had also indicated that conditions would be imposed on the planning permission requiring the submission of details of any alterations etc to the mature hedge along the boundary of the current cemetery and also for the type of new boundary fence.

(3) Community Led Plan: Cllrs. Ms. Baynham, Kirkby, Wilding and the Clerk had met to review the questionnaire and submitted suggestions to R4C. Cllr. Smith reported that the Steering Group had met on 14th July and it had been agreed that there were concerns at the tight time scales imposed by the contract awarded to R4C by the County Council and it had been decided that a preliminary plan would be produced within the time scales with the aim of working further on this in order to produce a final plan in due course.

(4) Squirrel Damage, The Warden: This had been reported to the County Council and an officer had visited the site to inspect the damage. No further action was planned at the present time. Cllr. Kirkby had also spoken to the Radnorshire Wildlife Trust which had advised that in any event squirrel control was best carried out between April and June.

(6) Smoke Free Playground Initiative: It was agreed that the Clerk request two free signs for erection near the tennis court and MUGA.

(7) Former Kayes Factory Site: Ground conditions were still being investigated and feedback from the County Council was awaited.

(8) Repair of Fence, Industrial Estate: This had now been completed.

(9) Damage to Lugg Bridge: The Clerk had reported the damage and requested that it be repaired.

(10) Wilson Terrace Play Area: Concern was expressed that the long grass was not being removed after cutting and this was causing problems for small children. The Clerk was asked to ask if the grass could be collected and removed.

Cllr. Ms. Preece arrived at the meeting.

(11) Boulthbrooke Bridge: The Clerk confirmed that the removal of stone had been reported to the County Council. She was asked to follow this up.

(12) Blocked Drains, Pound Lane, St. David's Street: Cllr. Kirkby had supplied photographs illustrating the problem and these had been sent to the County Council.

(13) Footpath, Fold Farm Lane: There had been a problem with use of the path recently but this now appeared to be resolved.

(14) Property alongside Station Road: Members reported receiving a number of complaints and concerns about the condition of the garage and wall. The Clerk was asked to report this to both Highways and building control.

MIN 3003 DEVOLVEMENT OF SERVICES

(1) Report on first meeting of Working Group: The notes from the Working Group meeting had been circulated and the County Council had agreed to supply the information requested by the end of July.

It was agreed to try to include visits to the sixth form building and the Assembly Rooms as part of the Town Walk.

If necessary the Working Group would meet again over the summer to examine the information.

(2) Amended Car Park Figures from PCC: Noted.

MIN 3004 NORTON

(1) Defibrillator: Cllr. Price confirmed that the unit had been delivered and that the electricity supply was due to be arranged in the next week. The first training session was planned for two weeks time.

MIN 3005 WENT'S MEADOW AND EDDIE'S MEADOW

(1) ROSPA Report: Noted. The works needed on the new unit had been reported to the Park Leisure and some remedial work had been carried out although not everything had been done. The Clerk would follow this up and ask for the firm to re-visit the site.

Cllr. Kirkby would discuss the other matters raised in the inspection with Mr. Close and arrange the necessary work.

(2) Weed-killing of Paths: This had been completed.

(3) Electrical Fire: Cllr. Kirkby reported that there had been a small electrical fire in the barn. The Clerk confirmed that the repairs should be completed before the Carnival.

(4) Bike Track: Cllr. Ms. Baynham reported that as the track had become very overgrown and some parents had strimmed the area. The Clerk confirmed that she had reminded the County Council that the first cut was very overdue and asked that it be carried out earlier in the year in future. A letter of thanks would be sent to the parent who had organised the tidy-up.

MIN 3006 YOUTH MATTERS

The AGM was taking place on 15th July. Taster sessions were also taking place.

MIN 3007 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) One Voice Wales Meeting 3rd July/Annual Conference: Noted.

(2) Hebdo Incident, reply from Chief Constable and Crime Commissioner: Members were dissatisfied with the written response from the Chief Constable as was Mrs Merrett. Cllr Kirkby agreed to discuss this further to see if she considered a further response was required and if not it was agreed that no further action should be taken.

(3) Reply re Stroke Services: It was noted that local residents would continue to access services in Herefordshire.

(4) Invitation to RWAS Reception Powys County Council: Cllrs. Ms Preece and Ms. Baynham would try to attend.

(5) Wales Efficiency Strategy Consultation: Noted. No comment.

(6) Call for Honours Nominations: Deferred to closed session.

(7) Presteigne and Norton Community Support AGM: The date was noted.

MIN 3008 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

Matters reported at the July surgery were:

Norton Manor Park: Concerns had been raised about the need for screening. Cllr Smith had explained that this was usual for larger developments and had not been intended to be offensive. There had also been concern that the Park had been referred to as a 'Caravan Park'. This had been as described in the planning application by the applicant. Members confirmed however that should the residents wish to apply to have the name changed the Town Council would consider supporting such a change providing the new name was suitable.

General Untidiness of the Town: Noted. This was due to County Council cuts.

Warden Road: Debris on road surface etc. The Clerk had asked for this to be attended to.

Extension to Cemetery: A nearby resident had expressed concern. Cllr. Kirkby was dealing with this.

August Surgery: Cllr. Smith agreed to attend the August Surgery

MIN 3009 INFORMATION

The following items for information were noted:

Ombudsman's Report 2014/15, Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine, TB Dashboard Sessions at RWAS, Tax Collection and Management (Wales) Bill Advice Note.

MIN 3010 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN NORTON

Cllrs. Kirkby, Ms. Baynham and Wilding left the room for the duration of this item.

Cllr. Robinson took the Chair for this item. Following discussion on the designation of Norton as a small village it was agreed that the following comment be submitted - *The Town Council feels that Norton Manor Park is part of the settlement and that its population should be included in the calculation of the village designation (small/large village).*

MIN 3011 URGENT_BUSINESS/INFORMATION

Resolved: Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the following items.

Call for Honours Nominations: Members considered two possible persons for nomination. It was agreed that Cllr. Ms. Baynham would prepare the first nomination for submission in 2015 and that Cllr. Wilding would prepare the second nomination for submission in 2016. Cllr. Kirkby would assist with both nominations.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.