

# Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2020 AT THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE

Present: Cllrs. T. Owens (Mayor), R. Bamford, R. Bennett, B. Baynham, J. Wilding, C. Ruby, P. Smith, N. Rogers. L. Veary.

Apologies: Cllrs. F. Preece (Deputy Mayor), C. Kirkby MBE, D. Edwards.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk. One member 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: None.*

*Personal and Prejudicial: None.*

### MIN 3718 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 and 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 were approved without amendment. The Chairman then duly signed each set of Minutes.

### MIN 3719 CLERK'S REPORT/UPDATE

(1) Income from Website: Members agreed it was not necessary to open an additional bank account for this.

(2) Aerial Runway (zip wire): A date for a meeting had yet to be arranged.

### MIN 3720 FINANCE

(1) Donations: Members noted the letters of thanks for the grant allocations in 2020-21 from Presteigne Colts and Presteigne Youth Project.

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved –

N. Close	£324.00	MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£64.09	
Arrow Plant (cherry picker)(direct debit)	£232.80	
Welsh Water (Wilson Terrace)(direct debit)	£37.00	
Welsh Water (Hereford Street)(direct debit)	£193.24	
Welsh Water (Meadow)	£30.25	MEADOW ACCOUNT

(3) Receipts: The following receipts were noted –

Website Advertising	£182.00	
Allotment Rent	£56.00	ALLOTMENT ACCOUNT

(4) Bank Transfer: The transfer of £28.00 from the Treasurer Account to the Allotment Account was approved (plot rental).

### MIN 3721 PLANNING

(1) Planning applications: The following planning applications were considered –

19/2126/FUL Grid Reference: E:330466 N: 265963 Proposal: Installation of biomass boiler unit with 5m high chimney (retrospective) Site Address: Norton Poultry Site, Presteigne, Powys, LD8 2EF. Resolved no objections be raised providing the emissions are closely monitored.

20/0028/LBC Grid Reference: E:331324 N: 264458 Proposal: Alterations to studio for conversion to dwelling, to include the partial demolition of boundary wall to allow for a wider access Site Address: 40A High Street, Presteigne, Powys, LD8 2BE. Resolved no objections be raised.

20/0027/FUL Grid Reference: E:331324 N: 264458 Proposal: Change of use from an artist studio into an open market dwelling Site Address: 40A, High Street, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2BE. Resolved no objections be raised.

(2) Planning Decisions: The following decisions were noted –

19/1919/TRE St. Andrews Church, Presteigne: Consent 19<sup>th</sup> December.

19/0777/OUT Land at Fold Farm, Presteigne: Consent 8<sup>th</sup> January.

(3) Welsh Government Consultation on Planning and Related Application Fees: The Clerk was asked to respond highlighting the need for fees to cover the cost of publishing third party correspondence online.

(4) Welsh Government Committee Report on Draft National Development Framework: Noted.

(5) Local Development Plan Supplementary Planning Guidance: Members noted the three latest policies. Cllr. Wilding would review these and report back to the February meeting.

## **MIN 3722 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT**

(1) Highway Items: The following items were discussed –

- Three street lights off in Norton. NT 05/06/07. Thought to be damaged by the power surge in December. The Clerk would report.
- Blocked drain, Industrial Estate. On the right hand side entering the site. The Clerk would report.
- Hereford Street – water still collecting: The Clerk would chase.
- Blocked drain near to cemetery leading to surface water and black ice: The Clerk would report.
- Slippery Pavements, Broad Street: The Clerk had received a complaint and had forwarded details to the County Council which had confirmed it would prioritise the work.
- Pine Needles affecting gutter, Clatterbrune: No action. Private issue.
- Clearing of Pavements near Clatterbrune: Cllr. Owens reported that the resident had emailed to thank the Council.

(2) PACDG Update: The following items were noted –

- Attended Town Council Climate Crisis meeting and reviewing possible related PAC projects for 2020
- Will register and administer Refill Presteigne as part of the Refill Wales scheme
- Updating Town Walks leaflets in conjunction with Chatterbrook WI (2020 project)
- Assisting Knighton Community Officer with developing Registers of local organisations and venues, possibly also a Community News.

(3) Active Travel Route: The intention to trial a one way system had now been advertised in the press. Members noted that the signage was still not in place and the Clerk would again chase this.

(4) Dark Skies/Lighting Update: The Clerk reported that the first transfer of funds from the gofundme site to the Presteigne Trust should take place shortly. Members agreed that the Clerk promote the project via facebook and the website to encourage donations however small.

(5) Grass Cutting/Wildflower Verges Update and email re Presteigne Roundabouts: Cllr. Baynham reported on the maps supplied by the County Council and the areas of verge to be left uncut until the Autumn. Members agreed with the areas shown with one amendment – the area of the former site of the dragon only to be cut around the edge for visibility, not the whole area. In addition Cllr. Baynham would report on the project put forward by Caring for God's Acre for the roundabouts at the February meeting.

(6) Climate Crisis: Cllr. Bamford reported on the meeting held in early January and on the various projects underway. These included –

- Communication: Developing channels of communication to ensure the wider public are aware of projects that are going on and areas where they can get involved if they want to - including actions they can personally take to help. Presteigne Climate Action Facebook page created.
- Education and liaising with schools: Cllr. Veary to form a group to plan a day in schools on the 4th March centred around the environment.
- Community Composting: Proposal being looked into and supported by Presteigne Plenty and PACDG.
- Tree planting: Cllr. Bamford looking for land to make a tree nursery as a starting point and talking to local land owners about land available for tree and hedgerow planting. She will invite anyone interested to a planning meeting in the next few weeks.
- Hedgerows and verges: Town and County Council working with residents on aspects of this.

- Community energy production: Cllrs. Kirkby and Smith exploring the possibility of creating a town solar farm supplying energy for the town and raising revenue for further environmental projects.
- Dark Skies: Working to make Presteigne the first Dark Skies Community in Wales.
- Transport: To be further investigated.

Next meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February.

(7) Fold Farm Footpath Update: The Clerk reported that the formal interviews were scheduled to take place on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January.

### **MIN 3723      NORTON**

(1) Norton Community Trust Update: Bat survey now complete. Trust awaiting decision of CADW on changes to category of listed building status.

(2) Norton Members reported on a power cut/power surge in December which had caused damage to appliances and had affected thirty-two properties.

### **MIN 3724      SITES AND BUILDINGS**

(1) Public Conveniences: Nothing to report.

(2) Allotments: Members were asked to encourage applications to go on the waiting list. Cllr. Wilding asked if the funds in the allotment account could be used to carry out regular fortnightly cuts to the beach area in order to control the vole population which was affecting some plots. This was agreed in principle and the Clerk was asked to get a price for this additional work from the contractor and to report back to a future meeting.

(3) Meadows:

- Tree Guards for Orchard Trees: These were in the process of being installed due to a problem with damage by rabbits.
- Ligne Garden Winter Tidy now complete.
- Strimming around Orchard Trees (both fields): Members noted the offer from Presteigne Plenty to cover 50% of the cost of strimming around the trees once per year at a total cost of £60-80. Members agreed to fund the remaining 50%.

(4) Silia Wood: Members noted the Draft Management Plan and the contact details for seat donations. It was agreed to remove the item from the agenda for the time being.

(5) Community Storage: Another issue had arisen with access being needed and the key holder being unavailable. It was agreed that in the absence of Cllr. Preece on holidays etc then the key would be left with Cllr. Bennett.

(6) Assembly Rooms Building: Nothing to report. Agreed to remove from Agenda.

(7) Withy Beds Grants Update: The Clerk reported that she had heard nothing from the Gannett Foundation and it therefore had to be assumed that the application had been unsuccessful. The Radnorshire Wildlife Trust was aware of a new fund becoming available shortly and which might be suitable for a new boardwalk. As she had obtained quotes over the Summer an application could be put together at relatively short notice.

### **MIN 3725      CO-OPTION**

Members agreed unanimously that voting should be by ballot. Following a vote Deborah Davies was duly co-opted.

Cllr. Rogers left the meeting at this point.

### **MIN 3726      CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS**

(1) Liaison with Schools: Cllr. Veary reported on work with the Secondary School and on the groups/people willing to go into school following on from the Climate Action meeting. Nothing new to report from the Primary School although Cllr. Bamford was to consider asking if some school land might be available for a tree nursery and which the students could become involved with.

(2) Future Education Provision in Presteigne: A meeting with the Portfolio Holder at the County Council had been requested.

(3) Town Trust: The new directors were now appointed. Cllr. Veary was in the process of updating the bank mandate.

(4) VE Day Event: Nothing to report as yet.

(5) Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine: Noted.

(6) Correspondence from the Committee on Assembly Electoral Reform: The Clerk was asked to respond indicating that the size of the Assembly should not be increased.

(7) One Voice Wales Innovative Practice Awards: Members agreed that the website and new community barn be put forward.

**MIN 3727 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY**

No January surgery. Arrangements for February Surgery: Cllrs. Baynham and Bennett to attend.

**MIN 3728 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr. Baynham reported the following:

- Closing Ceremony – Knife Angel, Newtown on 25<sup>th</sup> January.
- Meeting with Broadheath residents re footpaths.
- Mini sweeper cleaned core areas in town.
- Multi Agency Meeting with Norton residents to discuss complaints and issues of concern.
- Reported uneven slabs outside the Assembly Rooms and contractor had been asked to rectify.
- Chased provision of electric charging points in Hereford Street Car Park.
- Work on Underpass (barriers/signage) to be done soon.
- Recycling Bin for Meadow now arrived and would be emptied by the County Council.
- Budget Setting Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> February.
- Council Tax Setting Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> March.

**MIN 3729 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION**

(1) Request for Residents only Parking in Church Street: No action to be taken.

**MIN 3730 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

*Resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following business because of the confidential nature of the item.*

**MIN 3731 FUTURE OF LIBRARY SERVICE/ASSEMBLY ROOMS BUILDING IN PRESTEIGNE**

Nothing further to report until after the County Council budget was confirmed. Clerk to forward grant information to library volunteers.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm