

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 20TH MAY 2020
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING UNDER THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (CORONAVIRUS)
(WALES) REGULATIONS 2020

Present: Cllrs. T. Owens (Mayor), F. Preece (Deputy Mayor), B. Baynham, R. Bamford, C. Kirkby MBE, D. Edwards, L. Veary, R. Bennett, D. Davies, P. Smith, C. Ruby, N. Rogers.

Apologies: Cllr. J. Wilding.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk, one member of the public for part of the meeting.

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 3748 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN 2020/21

Given the current crisis with the coronavirus it was agreed to defer the election of a new Chairman/Mayor. The Clerk would agenda for the next possible physical meeting when a decision would be made on whether to defer the election until May 2021.

MIN 3749 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR AND VICE-CHAIRMAN 2020/21

Deferred as above for the election of Chairman.

MIN 3750 REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

STAFFING COMMITTEE

Cllrs. Baynham, Davies, Kirkby, Edwards and Ruby.

SITES AND BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Cllrs. Kirkby, Bamford, Davies, Rogers and Linnett.

Outside Representative for Meadow Matters: Richard Rimmington.

Outside Representative for Meadow Matters: Gareth Graham.

Outside Representative for Allotments: David Harvey. Clerk to confirm.

LIBRARY SERVICES/ASSEMBLY ROOMS WORKING GROUP

Cllrs. Bennett, Bamford, Wilding, Baynham, Kirkby and Ruby. Plus Cllr. Baynham as County Councillor.

CLIMATE CRISIS WORKING GROUP

Cllrs. Bamford, Veary, Kirkby and Smith

DARK SKIES WORKING GROUP

Cllrs. Veary and Smith, Mr. L. Harling Bowen.

ALLOTMENT LIAISON MEMBER: Cllr. Bennett.

YOUTH REPRESENTATION MEMBER(S): Cllrs. Veary, Bennett and Rogers.

MIN 3751 REVIEW OF APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Presteigne Primary School	Cllr. Preece.
One Voice Wales	Cllrs. Owens and Preece.
Plastic Free Presteigne	Cllr. Bamford.
East Radnorshire Day Care Centre	Cllrs. Edwards & Owens.
Presteigne Trust	Directors now all Town Councillors.
Presteigne Area Community Development Group	Cllr. Ruby.
Warden Guardian Foundation	Cllr. Kirkby.

Meeting papers for One Voice Wales to be circulated in case any other Member wished to attend.

MIN 3752 REVIEW AND CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

(1) Standing Orders: Confirmed unchanged and serving of summons to meetings via email confirmed. Printed copies would continue to be supplied on request.

(2) Financial Regulations: Confirmed unchanged. Members considered the future use of internet banking for the making of payments and agreed that this should be set up subject to the following:

- Confirmation Slips for each payment to be signed by the Chairman at meetings.
- Access to view the accounts to be arranged for the Chairman to enable random checks to be made.
- Daily payment limit of £5000.
- Monthly statements for current accounts to be signed by the Chairman at meetings.

The Clerk would draft details for a formal internet banking policy to supplement the financial regulations.

(3) Council Complaints Procedure: Confirmed unchanged.

(4) Freedom of Information Documents: Confirmed unchanged.

Social Media Policy: Confirmed unchanged.

(5) Continued adoption of the revised Code of Conduct (under Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016): Confirmed.

(6) Remuneration payments to Town Councillors: The following payments would be available in the municipal year May 2020 to April 2021:

- An annual sum of £150 per year per Member, paid in arrears. Any Member not wishing to accept the allowance should notify the Clerk as soon as possible and, in any event, not later than the end of September in each year otherwise the payment would be made. Members to note that this payment must be paid through the Council payroll system and would be subject to income tax (statutory)
- To continue to reimburse the cost of travel expenses incurred for travel on Council business outside the Community Council area.
- To refund the cost of care expenses up to the stated cost of £403 per month (statutory)
- The payment of the Mayor/Chairman's Allowance. Again, this should be paid through the Council payroll.

(7) Data Protection Documents: Confirmed unchanged.

(8) Grant Awarding Policy/Procedure: Confirmed unchanged.

MIN 3753 MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Member attendance records for 2019/20 were duly noted.

The Annual Meeting closed at 7.40 pm.

The Annual Meeting was followed by the ordinary business meeting.

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON 20TH MAY 2020
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING UNDER THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (CORONAVIRUS)
(WALES) REGULATIONS 2020**

Present: Cllrs. T. Owens (Mayor), F. Preece (Deputy Mayor), B. Baynham, R. Bamford, C. Kirkby MBE, D. Edwards, L. Veary, R. Bennett, D. Davies, P. Smith, C. Ruby, N. Rogers.

Apologies: Cllr. J. Wilding.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk, one member of the public for part of the meeting.

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: Cllr. C. Kirkby, friend of applicant, re. planning application 20/0723/TRE.

MIN 3754 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th March, 2020 were approved without amendment. The Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 3755 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

(1) Website Advertising: Cllr. Kirkby reported that due to the coronavirus crisis he had been unable to deliver the letters prepared by the Clerk but would do so at a later date

MIN 3756 FINANCE

(1) Donations: None this month. The letters of thanks from East Radnorshire Day Centre, Presteigne and Norton Community Support, Mid Border Arts, Presteigne Memorial Hall, Wales Air Ambulance, Presteigne Colts and the Warden Guardian Foundation.

Members noted with sadness the recent death of Heather Lewis who worked so hard looking after the Warden and also volunteered on Went's Meadow and Eddie's Meadow.

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved –

NEST (pension payments) Direct Debit	£122.99	
Mrs T.A. Price	£1318.92	
HM Revenue & Customs	£509.25	
Lyreco Uk Ltd (office supplies)	£18.60	
Office Solutions Wales (hand gel)	£82.80	
SLCC Enterprises Ltd (accessible documents course)		£36.00
L. Stephens (internal audit)	£121.00	
Wallgate Ltd (soap for toilets)	£73.73	
Highground Maintenance Ltd (weed killing)	£132.32	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance Ltd (grass cutting)	£319.57	MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£21.00	
N. Close	£77.00	MEADOW ACCOUNT
T. Lloyd-John	£564.00	
JRB Enterprises Ltd (dog bags)	£119.46	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Information Commissioner (annual registration)	£35.00	Direct Debit
EDF Energy (Wilson Terrace Toilets)	£30.00	Direct Debit
EDF Energy (Meadow barn)	£47.00	MEADOW ACCOUNT Direct Debit

The re-issue of the cheques for £1250 to Mid Border Community Arts Ltd and £28.03 to Viking Direct was approved.

(3) Receipts: The following receipts were noted -

Powys County Council 1 st Precept Payment	£23617.00
Allotment Rent (from 1 st April to date)	£308.00

(4) Annual Accounts: The annual accounts were approved. The completion of the annual VAT return and end of year HMRC information were noted.

(5) Internal Audit Report: The report of the internal auditor for 2019-20 was noted. No issues had been raised.

(6) External Audit/Annual Return and Governance Statement: Members approved the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement for submission to the External Auditors together with associated papers. The Annual Return was duly signed by the Clerk and Cllr. Owens.

(7) Bank Transfers: The transfer of the precepted amount for 2020/21 of £9750.00 from the Treasurer Account to the Meadow Account was approved.

(8) Bank Balances: The following balances as at 30th April 2020 were noted -

Treasurer	£52,326.50	Money Manager	£28763.78
Meadow	£17,214.92	Allotments	£2412.37
Warden Reserve	£2966.88	Capital Reserve	£36,056.35

(9) Review of signatories on Bank Mandate Form: It was agreed to remove Cllr. Edwards and to add Cllrs. Owens and Preece. The Clerk would do this as soon as possible.

(10) Project Balances and end of year Budget Update: Noted.

(11) Payments made by the Clerk under delegated powers since the March Meeting: The following payments were noted and confirmed -

Mid Border Arts	£1250.00
(precepted, inc £500 twds building works)	
Presteigne Little Peoples Playgroup	£500.00 (precepted)
The Judge's Lodging Trust Ltd	£1750.00 (precepted)
Presteigne & Norton Community Support	£250.00 (precepted)
Presteigne Area Community Development Group	£250.00 (precepted)
East Radnorshire Day Centre	£1750.00 (precepted)
Presteigne Colts Central Fund	£250.00 (precepted)
Warden Guardian Foundation	£250.00 (precepted)
Wales Air Ambulance	£250.00 (precepted)
Presteigne Memorial Hall	£750.00 (precepted)
Powys CAB	£100 (precepted)
Society of Local Council Clerks (annual membership)	£227.00 (precepted)
Viking Direct (floor & wall cleaner for toilets)	£28.03
One Voice Wales (annual membership)	£461.00 (precepted)
Artisan Print (support leaflets – Covid-19)	£84.67
Mrs T.A. Price (April Salary)	£1319.12
HM Revenue & Customs (tax on above)	£509.05
NEST (monthly payment contribution)	£122.99
EDF Energy (Hereford Street Toilets)	£133.56
JRB Enterprise Ltd	£119.46 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£297.07 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Presteigne Building Supplies	£13.30 MEADOW ACCOUNT
N. Close	£53.98
N. Close	£127.87 MEADOW ACCOUNT
T. Lloyd-John	£417.20

MIN 3757 PLANNING

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

20/0609/FUL Grid Reference: E:332402 N: 263964 Proposal: Proposed change of use from combined retail, store & distribution (A1 and B8) to combined production, storage and distribution (B1 and B8). Site Address: Presteigne Mill, Presteigne, Powys, LD8 2HN. Resolved to make the following comments - Members were concerned at the proposed change of use without more detail and supporting information being provided. Members also asked for clarification on the proposed operating hours which are currently stated as 0.00 to 0.00, 24 hour working and include weekdays and weekends. There was no assessment of the potential environmental impact.

Cllr. Kirkby was removed to the zoom waiting room for the meeting for the duration of the following item.

20/0723/TRE Grid Ref: E: 331324 N: 264458 Proposal: Works to trees in a Conservation Area - Tree numbers as per plan ref. S86- J1-P Location: The Studio Castle Barn, 40A High Street, Presteigne Powys LD8 2BE. Resolved to object to the application as no reasons given for the removal of the trees. Clerk to seek further information.
Cllr. Kirkby returned to the meeting.

20/0462/HH Grid Reference: E:331147 N: 264636 Proposal: Erection of storage shed. Site Address: 4 Castle Dyche, Scotleton Street, Presteigne, LD8 2BL. Resolved no objections be made.

(2) Planning Decisions: To note the following decisions –

20/0122/FUL Plot B, Artisan Row, Presteigne: Approval 8th April.

20/0027/FUL 40A High Street, Presteigne: Consent 16th April.

20/0666/NMA Land at Jack's View, Norton: Refused 6th May.

(3) Planning Application Comments submitted by the Clerk under delegated powers since the March meeting: The following comments were noted -

20/0458/FUL. Grid Reference: E:331556 N: 264410. Erection of artist's studio. Site Address: 9 Harper's Lane, Presteigne, LD8 2AN : No objections to the application providing the neighbours have been consulted and that any highways requirements are met.

20/0558/FUL Grid Reference: E:331443 N: 264395 Proposal: Demolition of rear single storey outbuildings, construction of new rear extension with roof terrace. Loss of 2 No. 1 bed flats and creation of 1 No. 2 bed dwelling. Site Address: 1 London House, Broad Street, Presteigne, LD8 2AD. No objections to the application but asks that the development meet the highest possible environmental standards.

20/0559/LBC Grid Reference: E:331443 N: 264395 Proposal: Demolition of rear single storey outbuildings, construction of new rear extension with roof terrace. Loss of 2 No. 1 bed flats and creation of 1 No. 2 bed dwelling. Site Address: 1 London House, Broad Street, Presteigne, LD8 2AD. No objections to the application but asks that the development meet the highest possible environmental standards.

20/0537/FUL Grid Reference: E:329882 N: 266231 Proposal: Installation of a biomass boiler (retrospective) Site Address: Unit 2, Home Farm, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2EF. No objections to the application.

20/0538/FUL Grid Reference: E:329882 N: 266231 Proposal: Installation of biomass boiler (retrospective) Site Address: Unit 1, Home Farm, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2EF. No objections to the application.

MIN 3758 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) Highway items for repair: Just one item – the fly tipping in Stocking Lane (Herefordshire) had still not been removed. The Clerk would chase.

(2) PACDG Update: Members had all received the written report. Cllr. Bamford asked that it be noted that the community newsletter had been invaluable in recent weeks and the Clerk was asked to write to the editor and thank him for all his hard work.

(3) Dark Skies Project: Nothing to report this month.

(4) Progress re. Presteigne Cemetery: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the legal process with the County Council was still ongoing despite the necessary planning permission having been received and there being nothing to prevent matters being concluded. Members agreed that matters should have been concluded long before now and it was agreed that the Clerk write to the head of legal services to make a formal complaint. Cllr. Owens noted that the cemetery was looking very tidy at present.

(5) Active Travel Route to Norton: Cllrs. Owens, Kirkby and Wilding reported on the site meeting that took place towards the end of March, just before the lockdown. The County Council Officers were positive on the benefits of combining the scheme with the Welsh Water works currently being developed. The Officers had since been redeployed due to the coronavirus crisis but it was felt that an email following up on the matters discussed, including the Officer from ARUP (Welsh Water contractors) and restating the need to take

advantage of the opportunity for both sides to save money on the separate schemes by combining the projects.

(6) Reply from Pryor & Rickett Silviculture re local woods and certification scheme: The information was noted.

(7) Fold Farm Footpath: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the Officer had been unable to progress this due to the coronavirus crisis. He added that two people had recently been turned back and prevented from using the path.

MIN 3759 NORTON

(1) Norton Kiosk Defibrillator: Members agreed that it was sensible to agree to take over the ownership of the unit. The Clerk would confirm with Norton Sports Committee.

(2) Grass Verges: Members noted the comments of several residents. Members completely agreed that Norton verges should be looked after in the same way as the Presteigne ones. The County Council had generally been very careful to avoid wildflowers/daffodils and Members wondered if it had been the County Council that had used weed killer on uncut verges. The Clerk was asked to check with the County Council re weed killer use and also to see if there were more verge areas in Norton that could be left uncut. The Clerk reported that the CFGA group had started work on the Presteigne roundabouts.

MIN 3760 SITES AND BUILDINGS

(1) Public Conveniences:

- No date for re-opening of public toilets – the situation would be reviewed as official guidance was updated.
- Moving of Car Park Ticket Machine: The Clerk reported that with the installation of the new electric vehicle charging points the County Council would like to move the machine to the front of the building where it would be more visible. Members agreed that they had no objection.

(2) Allotments: All rent now paid and the untidy plot was being cleared.

(3) Meadows:

- MUGA, Tennis Court and Outdoor Gym remain closed.
- Cllr. Owens had received a request to hold a drive through barbecue on the Meadow in June to raise money for the NHS. Members felt that although very well intentioned this would be in breach of government guidelines and that it might encourage people to linger on site. Members had previously agreed that there should be no events on the Meadow for the foreseeable future and, when events such as the Carnival and Sheep Music had been cancelled it was felt that the request should be refused. Cllr. Owens would contact the resident to explain.

MIN 3761 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

The various items actioned by the Clerk under delegated powers since the March meeting were noted for the record as follows –

Powys County Council Education Review: Response sent reminding the Portfolio Holder of the request made in January for a meeting to discuss education provision in Presteigne.

Legislation on Remote Meetings: A written statement was issued by the Minister for Housing and Local Government about the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020, which came into force on Wednesday 22nd April. <https://gov.wales/written-statement-local-authorities-coronavirus-meetings-wales-regulations-2020> Agreed it would be better to delay a change of Chair until this can be done in the courtroom properly – either later this year or deferred until May 2021. This would allow the new Mayor to be chosen formally and for the usual speeches and due ceremony. Guidance on procedure has also been issued by One Voice Wales and supplied to all Members.

Active Travel Route, Hereford Street: Update to say that the traffic order for the one way trial had been put back for nine weeks pending consultation with the bus companies.

Active Travel Route, Presteigne to Norton: On Monday 16th March Cllrs. Kirkby, Owens and Wilding together with the Clerk met the active travel officers to walk possible options for the route.

Both PCC Officers have been working with Welsh Water to try to get a combined scheme going which will mean the route will get done much quicker than otherwise. Given the current situation this may not now be possible of course, we will have to see what happens. The two Officers at PCC expect to be redeployed before they could take any further action.

Idling Car Engines Outside School Premises: As requested the Clerk had written to both schools. The Secondary School responded positively and agreed to monitor the situation. The Primary School it seemed had already been sending reminders to parents and pointed out that they have no authority to enforce any control. They also raised concerns about the new active travel route outside the school which they say has not made any improvements. The Clerk had asked PCC for comment and these are below. Generally the only comments I have had have been positive. Reply from County Council Officer was -

With regards to the primary school, I have been in contact with the headteacher over the last year regarding the new paths and the scheme, and the only requests/comments being made were for the flashing lights to be installed and the raised table crossing to have some colouration to define it as a crossing. We have been trying to source funding for the crossing colouration but so far have been unsuccessful

Council March Surgery: Several queries made –

Suggestion - a street light or some kind of lighting would be useful at the bus stop as it is very dark in the winter for college and school bus pick up and drop off and the children tend to congregate near the road rather than the stop which she feels is unsafe an additional bench at the bus stop may also help? The Active Travel Officer has looked and there is a light on which reaches (just) to the shelter. Cllr. Baynham and the Clerk felt that the students will most likely wait where it is usual for them regardless of any lights or bench. Reply to resident sent.

Concerns about the new development opposite King's Court that has been brought to the Council's attention in a letter. Resident accepts the development will most likely go ahead and his main concern is that the road be reduced to a 30 mile and hour limit for safety of residents crossing. The resident lives on the road and feel there is currently a problem with speeding.: Comments already received prior to consideration of planning application. Noted.

Potholes in School Lane Norton and an issue with visibility on the exit of school Lane due to over grown hedge: Reported to County Council.

Complaint re surface of Caenbrook Meadow, Slough Road/flooding by speed bump, lack of travel route to Caenbrook Meadow: Road surface reported some time ago and being considered for works; flooding – gully emptier has attended as system runs to a soakaway that was not coping with all the rain; pavement to Caenbrook Meadow – felt adequate for pedestrians and it was not possible to do everywhere. Reply sent to resident.

Events on Meadow: All cancelled for the time being. This includes the Carnival and therefore their request to site advertising boards at Went's Meadow/Eddie's Meadow.

Gannett Foundation Grant for Withy Beds Works: Finally confirmed as unsuccessful following contact with the County Times.

Update from Norton Community Trust: The end of the conventional financial year in early April seems an appropriate time to give you an update on the use of the Town Council 2019/2020 grant to The Norton Community Trust. The grant was paid in two instalments, £2000 (July 2019) and £3000 (December 2019). Irrespective of the impact of the current pandemic, progress with the St Andrews Adaption project has been slower than anticipated largely due to delays in the planning process, and the official declaration of church redundancy. However, these delays have meant that expected costs such as professional fees and utilities installation (estimated at c.£2500) have so far been avoided.

In summary, £1117.25 of the Council grant has been spent to date, as follows:

Planning Applications - £805.20 (Both Listed Building and Full Planning Applications, including an independent Bat Survey)

Printing & Stationery - £257.05

Hall Hire - £35.00

Subscription Fee - £20.00 (Annual fee to Community Matters)

A copy of the Trust's audited accounts will be supplied in due course. Feedback from Powys CC on the planning applications should be received in the near future.

Roundabouts and Wildflower Project: CFGA have confirmed that they are able to go ahead and Powys County Council is happy for them to do so.

Disposal of Old Council Papers: Old papers incinerated. No Member requests for retention of any particular project or event papers. Minutes are periodically lodged with County Archives. Annual Accounts are kept in storage by the Clerk. Both must be kept.

Knighton to Hay via Kington Bus Route: An email was received from a Kington Councillor re. the re-introduction of this bus route and included on the 17th April briefing. Members generally in support of this and more information has been sought from the Kington Town Councillor.

Welsh Water Sewage System Upgrade: Regarding the Norton and Presteigne scheme Welsh Water wish to undertake a non-intrusive environmental survey of land in the Council's ownership. It is envisaged that the survey would be undertaken towards the end of week commencing 20 April 2020. The environmental surveys will need to cover land adjacent to the proposed route as there could be a risk of disturbance to wildlife even though we aren't going through the land. The testing on the one allotment plot has been completed and I have advised the plot holder that all is done. The work was done by hand in the end so minimal disruption.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points: PCC advise that Western Power will only be carrying out emergency work for the time being and the installation has been put back for around four months.

Trial One Way in Hereford Street: The wording on the initial draft order *A one-way system is to be trialled on Hereford Street, Presteigne, from Lugg View to the Hereford Street Police Station car park, running in the direction towards the town centre. The one way system, **which has been requested by the community**, will complete recent highways improvements to better accommodate active travel in the town and improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.* was queried by one or two Members and the Clerk had contacted PCC as follows –

The traffic engineer had replied to say the wording would be looked at before they re-advertise.

Speed Limit, Coombe: I have finally got contact details for the Herefordshire Officer and have passed these to Jo Lancey at PCC. I also emailed Herefordshire and the Officer has already been back in touch to say he will progress things with Jo at PCC.

Planning Application Decisions:

20/0197/HH 4 Craftsman's Mews, Broad Street, Presteigne : Consent 23rd March 2020.

20/0342/DIS Well Cottage, Cannon's Lane, Presteigne : Approval 23rd March 2020.

20/0368/TRE Yew Tree House, High Street, Presteigne : Approval 24th March 2020.

19/1982/RES Hill Farm Road, Evenjobb : Consent 25th March 2020.

20/0218/FUL Workshops etc, Wherby Lane, Presteigne: Consent 25th March 2020.

Adjustments to Aerial Runway (zip wire): These are on hold now for the time being. PCC have agreed to consider funding the alteration of the top end of the runway subject to cost and this will be investigated once we are able to meet back on site.

Removal of Business Rates on Library Buildings etc: One Voice Wales will be pursuing this with Welsh Government but again obviously on hold for the moment.

Allotments – Request for Second Plot: Agreed to continue with one plot per person and review as necessary if plots were vacant and unfilled. **Rent:** Rent for one plot remains unpaid.

(2) Update re. through schools and PCC Education Ten Year Plan: Cllr. Baynham reported that the County Council had agreed a ten year plan with the ultimate aim of achieving eleven through schools in the County. She agreed to circulate the relevant paper. Cllr. Kirkby commented that given the Town Council had been working towards achieving this for Presteigne and Norton for some time then it would seem fair for the town to be considered early on in the process. The Clerk would contact the Portfolio Holder and press for a meeting as soon as possible.

(3) Update on Affordable Houses: Cllr. Kirkby asked if under the recently announced 'New Homes for Powys 2 Programme' if any of the 380 affordable homes would be built in Presteigne. Cllr. Baynham agreed to check. She also informed Members that she did keep in touch with Mid Wales Housing Association re. progress on the expected additional affordable homes at Walker's Meadow.

(4) Library Service Update: Cllr. Kirkby raised concerns over the future of the smaller branch libraries given a recent article in the Mid Wales Journal. Cllr. Baynham agreed to find out the current position.

(5) Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine: Noted. Clerk to post to Cllr. Wilding.

(6) Covid-19 Review of Council Action: Members note the £500 Tesco Grant Award received. Cllr. Bennett commented that the covid-19 support page seemed to be successful and well used. It was agreed that no events would be agreed for the Meadow for the time being. No other action was required for the time being. Cllr. Baynham asked if Members wished to continue receiving email updates from her forwarded on from Welsh Government, the Health Board and the County Council. Members agreed they did but they would notify Cllr. Baynham if they no longer wished to do so.

(7) One Voice Wales Annual Awards: Members noted that commended awards had been received for both the Website and new Community Barn. The Mayor thanked those involved for their efforts.

MIN 3762 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

No surgeries currently being held.

MIN 3763 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Baynham reported the following –

- Gold Command in operation at County Council to deal with the Covid-19 crisis.
- All staff able to be redeployed to the covid-19 work had been.
- Regular calls were being made to vulnerable persons.
- Cabinet meetings were still being webcast.
- Household Waste & Recycling Centres due to re-open soon.
- Opening of Libraries being looked into.
- Temporary Mortuary had not so far been needed.
- Number of people in Powys with coronavirus was still increasing and there was still very much a need to be vigilant.

MIN 3764 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) Break-in at Sixth Form Storage: Cllr. Preece reported that there had been a break-in recently although nothing had been stolen. HOWPS had replaced the lock and she was awaiting a key.

(2) Groups meeting on Went's Meadow: Cllr. Veary asked if a facebook post could be made reminding people not to gather in groups on the Meadow.

(3) New High Sheriff for Powys: The Clerk was asked to write a letter of congratulations to Rhian Duggan.

(4) Chair of County Council: Cllr. Baynham reported that she remained as Chair for the time being.

(5) Carnival Competitions: Cllr. Davies reminded Members of the competitions currently being run by the Carnival Committee.

(6) Radnorshire Arms: Members were pleased that the hotel had now been sold and that the new owners were already working on the property. The Clerk was asked to write to the new owners thanking them for their investment in the town, saying that the Town Council would be interested to learn of their plans and when they hoped to open.

(7) Weekly Briefings for Members: Cllr. Kirkby asked that the Clerk to thanked for keeping Members informed while the Council had been unable to meet.

(8) Viability of Small Businesses such as Cafes: Cllr. Kirkby reported that he had been approached by a café owner who was concerned that probable distancing measures would restrict custom and suggesting that pedestrianising High Street should be considered. Noted only at this point but Cllr. Kirkby asked that this be included on the July agenda.

(9) Re-Opening of Farmer's Market: Cllr. Kirkby reported that he had been approached by the organiser of the market asking for Council support for the re-opening of the market subject to social distancing measures. Members agreed to support this subject to compliance with government restrictions. The use of the gazebos to enable the market to take place outdoors was also agreed.

The meeting closed at 9.11 pm