

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

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Mrs Tracey Price (Clerk)
Garn Farm
Chapel Lawn
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9th September, 2021

Dear Councillor

There will be a meeting of Presteigne and Norton Town Council on **WEDNESDAY 15th September, 2021 at 7.30 p.m.** at the Assembly Rooms, Broad Street, Presteigne and also via video conferencing and you are hereby summoned to attend.

The public and press are cordially invited to attend.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88102464244?pwd=MnhVdkhKZTVuNDVSK0xzNXVGc1BRQT09>

Meeting ID: 881 0246 4244 Passcode: 370072

Or Dial by your location - 0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88102464244?pwd=MnhVdkhKZTVuNDVSK0xzNXVGc1BRQT09>

Yours sincerely

Tracey Price

TOWN CLERK

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are 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 and the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

To approve that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th August, 2021 and Town Walk of 18th August are a true and accurate record and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes as such.

4. UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS AND CLERKS REPORT

From the Meetings of 21st July and 17/18th August. Also to receive the Clerk's Report.

5. FINANCE

a) Donations: To consider the following donations –

Norton Sports Committee	£250.00 (precepted)
Sheep Music (Presteigne Fireworks)	£500.00 (precepted)
Radnorshire Wildlife Trust	£250.00 (precepted)
Royal British Legion (wreaths)	£60.00 (precepted) (by cheque)

Also to note the letter of thanks from Presteigne Memorial Hall.

b) Payments: to approve the following payments –

Mrs T.A. Price	£1383.56
HM Revenue & Customs	£554.82
NEST Pensions (direct debit)	£130.06
T. Lloyd-John	£606.23
Watco (bitumen for MUGA- via refund to T. Price)	£100.02 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Pitchcare (via refund to T. Price)	£36.12 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£319.57 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Presteigne Building Supplies Ltd	£185.81 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Border Janitorial Supplies	£74.40
Beaumonts Electrical Services	£1284.00
F. Preece (refund of Mayor's expenses)	£137.25
C. Hazel Haulage (work to benches)	£618.00
Barrington Print (information boards)	£270.00
N. Close	£ TO COME
N. Close	£ - TO COME - MEADOW ACCOUNT

Also to note that bunting licence was paid for by Highline Electrical and so was reimbursed to the firm at a cost of £111.00. (Original intended direct Payment was on August Agenda)

c) Receipts: To note the following receipts –

Powys County Council (second instalment of precept)	£23,171.00
J. Kendall (donation for bench refurbishments)	£515.00
Norton Community Trust (donation for use of Meadow)	£50.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT

d) Application for allocation of Climate Change Grant Monies for Tree Event - £450 requested. (Cllr. Bamford).

e) Council Banking: Changes to HSBC banking arrangements and introduction of bank charges.

f) To approve the transfer of £225 (net amount) from Warden Reserve Account to Treasurer Account (information boards).

6. PLANNING

(a) To consider applications received:

21/1116/FUL Grid Reference: E:331463 N: 263902 Proposal: Erection of an extension to existing unit Site Address: Unit 4, Broadaxe Business Park, Presteigne.

21/1523/FUL Grid Reference: E:331399 N: 267686 Proposal: Change of use of holiday let to residential dwelling Site Address: Faraway, Stonewall Hill, Presteigne.

21/1487/LBC Grid Reference: E:331377 N: 264546 Proposal: Re pointing of listed wall (beginning to take place on the side facing Saint David's Street) Site Address: Court Cottage, 1 St David's Street, Presteigne.

PLEASE NOTE THAT PLANNING APPLICATIONS MAY BE RECEIVED AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE AGENDA AND MAY BE ADDED DUE TO THE TIGHT TIMESCALE FOR SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS.
SEE THE TOWN COUNCIL FACEBOOK PAGE OR THE PLANNING PAGE ON THE COUNCIL SECTION OF THE TOWN WEBSITE FOR LATEST APPLICATIONS.

(b) Planning Decisions: To note the following decisions – none this month.

7. HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

- a) Active Travel Routes - Consultation on new routes (as previously circulated)
Update on One Way Trial Hereford Street.
- b) Dark Skies/Lighting: Update on ordering of new light fittings.
- c) Climate Crisis: Update including report on Local Places for Nature Webinar.
- d) High Street Grant Update.
- e) Welsh Water Sewage System Upgrade Update.
- f) Fly Tipping, Slough: To receive email from resident and consider a response/further action.
- g) Parking Outside Lloyds Cashpoint: To review position/note enforcement reply from County Council.
- h) Fold Farm Footpath Update.
- i) Reply from PCC re. Presteigne Cemetery Fees.
- j) Presteigne Woods Forest Resource Plan Consultation.
- k) Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill: To consider the email request for support (as previously circulated) and to consider a declaration of an ecological emergency.
- l) Grass Cutting: Email on Cutting of Verges.
- m) Large Vehicles using Broad Street (Cllr. Kirkby).

8. NORTON

- a) Community Speedwatch Update.
- b) Norton Community Trust Update.

9. SITES AND BUILDINGS MATTERS

- a) Public Conveniences: Recent Vandalism.
- b) Allotments: Update on fence works (Cllr. Wilding).
- c) Meadows: To include –
request to plant tree and plaque on Went's Meadow.
Meadow use request – new barn for overnight camp – 11th December Radnor Scouts Explorers.
- d) Former Reservoir Ground Information Boards (Waterworks Museum): Update Cllr. Kirkby.
- e) Adopt A Bench: To consider a possible scheme for the newly refurbished benches. (Cllr. Kirkby)
- f) Boultonbrook Weir: Reply from NRW and to consider next steps.

10. CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

- a) Christmas Lights Update: To note bunting licence issued.
- b) Mayor's Chain Update and decision on next steps.
- c) Community Broadband: To further consider the opportunity available and whether to proceed with such a project and if so to consider forming a working group to take the next steps.

- d) Town Wifi Scheme SMART towns: To receive an update from Cllr. Ruby.
- e) To receive the notes from the County Council Briefing meeting.
- f) To consider the formation of a Working Group to commence planning for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- g) Response from Fire Service re. removal of landrover (as previously circulated).
- h) Review of County Council Wards: Decision of Welsh Government.
- i) Draft local elections (principal areas) (Wales) rules 2021 and draft local elections (communities) (Wales) rules 2021: Consultation (closes 24th September).
- j) Text for Tourist Information Boards: To consider and agree text as supplied by PACDG.
- k) Welsh Government Consultation on local taxes for second homes and self-catering accommodation.
- l) Update Guidance from Ombudsman for Wales (Code of Conduct). Previously circulated via email): Information Only.
- m) Email and letter re. sale of former Works Depot Site (as previously circulated).
- n) Mid Border Arts Emergency Meeting Report.
- o) Future of Education in Presteigne Update.
- p) Review of Parliamentary Constituencies – Initial Proposals Consultation (closes 3rd November).
- q) Request for Additional Town Notice Boards.

11. TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

To consider the recommencement of Council Surgeries.

12. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

13. CASUAL VACANCY UPDATE

To note that no formal election has been called and to agree timescales for co-option.

14. ANY URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION (at discretion of Chair)

15. FUTURE MEETINGS AND VIDEO CONFERENCING/AUDIO ARRANGEMENTS

To review the success of the new arrangements and consider any further action needed.

Enc. *Clerk's Report Sept. Minutes of August Meeting. Various Background papers.*

Reminder: July Minutes needed for reference (See August meeting papers).

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH AUGUST 2021
HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

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

Apologies: Cllr. J. Wilding

Absent: Cllrs P. Smith, N. Rogers.

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: None.

Personal and Prejudicial: None.

MIN 3935 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st July, 2021 were approved without amendment. The Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 3936 FINANCE

(1) Payments: The following payments were approved –

PHS Group	£112.48
PHS Group	£41.68
Mrs T.A. Price (expenses inc paint)	£116.68
NEST (pension conts.)	£130.06
Mrs T.A. Price	£1383.56
HM Revenue & Customs	£554.82
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£319.57 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Powys County Council (bunting licence for Christmas lights)	£111.00
Presteigne Building Supplies	£19.24
Presteigne Building Supplies	£10.36 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Wallgate (liquid soap)	£83.77
Ms T. Lloyd-John	£618.23
Mr. N. Close	£129.50
Mr. N. Close	£325.50 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Play Inspection Company	£204.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT

(2) Renewal of Annual Insurance: Members noted that the Town Council was currently in a three-year agreement and that the small increase in premium related to the index linking of building values. Noted that the two barns are not insured for 'wet' perils. Agreed that the renewal payment be made.

Came & Company £1119.25

(3) Budget for Land Valuation: Cllr. Kirkby explained the need for an independent valuation in order to proceed and submit a grant application for a land purchase and that the District Valuer was unable to take on additional work at the present time. Alternative qualified land agents were being investigated and Members agreed a budget of up to £500 for a valuation report.

MIN 3937 PLANNING

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

21/1400/TRE Grid Ref: E: 331586 N: 264473 Proposal: Works to Trees in a conservation area - felling of 10 leylandii Location: Garden Cottage, Broad Street, Presteigne. Resolved no objections be raised.

21/1334/FUL Grid Reference: E:331355 N: 264260 Proposal: Demolition of existing buildings and erection of two residential units with ancillary garages, car parking and garden space Site Address: W A P McColville Ltd, Presteigne. Cllr. Baynham reminded Members of the proximity of the site to existing industrial units but it was noted that domestic properties were already close to the site. Resolved no objections be raised.

21/1453/CAC Grid Reference: E:331637 N: 264197 Proposal: Change of use of shop to residential, partial removal of single storey extension and parking improvements. Site Address: Townsend House, 24 Hereford Street, Presteigne. Resolved no objections be raised.

21/1442/FUL Grid Reference: E:329734 N: 265472 Proposal: Re-siting of two existing residential units to be nearer existing residential sites forming part of existing touring caravan park area, and replacing with two tourer units and all associated works Site Address: Rockbridge Park, Discoed, Presteigne. Resolved no objections be raised.

(2) Planning Decisions: The following decisions were noted –
21/0945/HH Roseland, Broad Street, Presteigne: Consent 19th July.
21/0908/LBC 1 Church View, Broad Street, Presteigne: Refused 22nd July.
21/0907/HH 1 Church View, Broad Street, Presteigne: Refused 22nd July.
21/1217/TRE The Rectory, St. David's Street, Presteigne: Approval 28th July.
21/0557/LBC 14 High Street, Presteigne: Consent 4th August.
21/0556/FUL 14 High Street, Presteigne: Consent 4th August.
21/0558/LBC 3 Warden Close, Presteigne: Consent 4th August.

MIN 3938 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Street Lighting Update re. PIR sensors: Cllr. Baynham reported that the County Council was not willing to install sensors other than in the one car park. It was however proceeding to order the new light fittings for installation throughout the town. Members noted this with some disappointment but were pleased that overall the project was progressing. No further action required for the street lighting.

(2) Review of the Remuneration Framework for Community and Town Councils: Members noted the draft report and the change in the way categories were set. The Town Council would now be in Band 4 and that the following provisions for remuneration were proposed –

- Basic Payment – Mandatory.
- Senior Role Payment – Optional for up to three members.
- Attendance Allowance (new) – Optional.
- Loss of Earnings – Mandatory.
- Travel & Subsistence – Optional.
- Costs of Care – Mandatory.

Cllr. Kirkby drew Member's attention to the section on the taxation of payments, particularly the £150 basic payment and the fact that Welsh Government was in discussions with HM Revenue and Customs on the matter. Resolved no comment be made.

(3) Town Wifi: Members considered the notes from the meeting held between Cllr. Ruby, the Clerk and the County Council Community Broadband Officer and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of such a scheme. Overall it was felt that the project should proceed and that the Clerk should notify the County Council that the Town Council wished to proceed.

MIN 3939 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERY

Members considered resuming surgeries from September but some Members had concerns and it was agreed not to resume surgeries at present but to review the situation each month.

MIN 3940 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) Informal Meeting with new Chief Executive of Radnorshire Wildlife Trust 5pm on 26th August at the allotment car park.

(2) Resurfacing of Stocken Road, Stonewall Hill 3rd to 8th September.

(3) Cemetery Dedication 5.30pm 18th August followed by Town Walk at 6pm.

(4) Press Photograph at 5pm 18th August re. refurbishment of benches in the town.

(5) Litter Pickers and Guerrilla Gardeners: Cllr. Ruby asked if the Clerk could email the leader of each group to thank them for their work in and around the town. This was agreed.

MIN 3941 TOWN WALK

To take place on 18th August and to be reported at the September Meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm.

DRAFT

PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2021

1. Council Banking: HSBC are changing their charging structure from November and this will mean that the Council will be charged for its banking from then. There are small charges for the savings accounts (a few pence per transfer) but the main difference will be for the current accounts which will be charged at £8 per month per account plus £1 charge per cheque issued. Electronic payments will remain free. Obviously the Council has three current accounts at present.

2. Hereford Street One Way Trial: As Members are aware work has started on Hereford Street for the one-way system! PCC are confident all work should be completed relatively quickly, although there are a couple of minor issues with signage lighting which need resolving before the one-way system goes live.

3. Dark Skies and Street Lighting Information: Dark skies lighting uses about half the energy of normal LED lighting, replacing the street-lights will therefore save about 15,000 kWh of energy per year and reduce Presteigne's carbon footprint by about 3.5 tonne CO₂e/year.

Some letters of support have been received and have been forwarded to Mr. Harling-Bowen to use with the application.

4. Ramblers Cymru Project: I had a call from an Officer at Ramblers Cymru, Kate Blair for more information on Presteigne and Norton in relation to this project. She was able to tell me that 17 places had applied to be part of the project with just three to be selected. The final decision will be made by Welsh Government in October/November but they would be looking to spend the money and carry out the project by the end of the financial year.

5. Fly Tipping, Slough, Presteigne: Members have all received a copy of this email and my initial response. This is on the agenda for comment.

6. Vandalism at Wilson Terrace Toilets: This occurred overnight on the 5th/6th September and was very quickly cleared up by Cllrs. Bennett and Edwards (Mr. Close was away). Fortunately it seems that there is no ongoing issue with the urinal and wash basin drains as there was quite a quantity in there. The cleaner reports increasing amounts of minor issues over the Summer and thanks are due to both her and to our handyman, Nick Close, for all the work they do to keep the facilities running and solving these issues quickly.

7. Norton Community Speedwatch: Our PCSO was hoping to have some training dates by the end of August and has also had an offer from the Whitton group to carry out some enforcement in Norton.

8. County Council Briefing for Clerks and Chairmen of County Council: This was held on 19th July and the matters discussed were –

- Update from Cllr. Rosemarie on various grant funding opportunities for PCC, the community and Town & Community Councils.
- PCC encouraging managers to put departments and staff forward for external awards.
- Covid Update from PTHB: Powys currently has the second highest rate in Wales but it was noted that given the low population that % changes would be high even for relatively few actual cases.
- Report on PSB Workshop on Poverty: Universal credit claimants in Powys more than doubled over 12 months.

- Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations: Town and Community Councils encouraged to be thinking of events etc and to form community groups to organise street parties etc in 2022 (covid permitting). PCC will be offering free road closure applications.
- Covid Recovery Funding Opportunities for Town and Community Councils – covered under (1) but full note to be circulated.
- UK Community Renewal Fund: PCC has been concentrating on submitting the bids but will be issuing press releases.
- 20mph zones for Wales: PCC does not have any of the trial areas but all 30mph areas will become 20mph in due course.
- Shared Space Carriageways in Town Centres: Phase one of consultation out for the larger towns that have shared space. Phase 2 for the smaller towns to follow probably late Summer.
- Roadside Verge Cutting: Urban verges have three cuts. PCC have over 100 roadside nature reserves. Full details to be circulated.
- Roadside Advertising: To be dealt with privately as was a specific issue.
- Planning Issues: Vale of Montgomery Cluster to meet Peter Morris, Planning Officer.
- Dolau School Consultation: Currently responses being collated. If closure plans confirmed then this would not take place until Sept 2022 year.
- Ash Die Back Project Officer appointed to review trees adjacent to County Roads.

9. Annual Firework Events: These are currently going ahead as follows –

30th October - Norton Bonfire and Firework Display

6th November - Presteigne Fireworks (organised by Sheep Music)

More details will be provided by the Organisations nearer the time. The annual donations are included on the agenda for payment.

10. Christmas Lights: The licence process went very smoothly with our new contractor supplying the necessary paperwork within a few hours and the licence has now been issued for 2021/22. The remedial work to the catenary wire fixings has not yet been carried out but is on the work schedule.

NOTES FROM TOWN WALK – 18TH AUGUST 2021

Present: Cllrs. Davies, Edwards, Kirkby, Baynham, Wilding, Bennett, Bamford, Ruby, Preece, Owens and the Clerk.

Apologies: None. Absent: Cllrs. Smith and Rogers.

1. Cemetery Dedication: This took place at the cemetery and was attended by Members. Church representatives and the public.

2. Cemetery Works:

Fence inside new hedge: Cllr. Baynham to speak to the Officer. Possibility of using an electric fence to allow grazing to be considered as a final resort.

Chapels: No key available. Cllr. Baynham reported that the buildings had now been handed over to the property section of the County Council.

Need for additional mowing: both the new burial site and the verges around the car park had been left. Cllr. Baynham to ask if these areas could be included in future.

Need for Further Planting: Small section not planted but not an immediate concern.

Maintenance of new fenced off area: Cllr. Baynham to ensure previous landowner is notified of permission to graze land in the interim.

Entrance Gates: Agreed to not press for re-painting at present.

3. Sixth Form Building: On arrival this had been broken into. No visible damage or anything missing inside. Cllr. Preece to report to PCC to make secure and to police to notify of break in. Building very damp.

Note: Check if former Health Centre has been boarded up as planned.

4. Request for Additional Notice Boards at Eastern End of Town: Members felt that there were few suitable sites and also that there were sufficient boards around the town centre, an area visited by the majority of residents. To be formally considered at the September meeting.

5. Meadows:

Use of stage in new barn by skateboarders: No visible damage and agreed not much that could be done to stop this.

Visibility at allotment car park Exit: Agreed that this could be improved. Cllr. Baynham to speak to County Highways to discuss possible road markings or signage to warn of exit.

Picnic Bench in Skateboard Park: Moved to the side of the bike track.

Weeds around MUGA/Car Park: Agreed the Clerk arrange a minimal weedkill of ground penetrating weeds around the edges.

Stone around from edge of new Community Barn: Cllr. Bennett to order some stone and top up the gravel.