

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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15th June, 2023

Dear Councillor

There will be a meeting of Presteigne and Norton Town Council on **WEDNESDAY 21st June, 2023 at 7.00 p.m.** at the Assembly Rooms, Broad Street, Presteigne and via video conferencing and you are hereby summoned to attend.

The public and press are cordially invited to attend.

PLEASE NOTE EARLIER START TIME DUE TO GUEST SPEAKER(S) FROM EAST RADNOR LEISURE CENTRE

Join Zoom Meeting:-

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84901938185?pwd=a1JONzBoMWJaTFBiUzM3d052Qkxwdz09>

Meeting ID: 849 0193 8185 Passcode: 698966.

Dial by your location - 0330 088 5830 United Kingdom.

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kZjybnZ6k>

Members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda SUBJECT TO PRIOR NOTIFICATION TO THE CLERK AND THE CONSENT OF THE CHAIRMAN.

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 annual and ordinary meetings held on 17th May 2023 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 Meeting of 17th May. Also to receive the Clerk's Report for June.

5. FINANCE

a) Donations: To note the letter of thanks from East Radnorshire Care.

b) Payments: to approve the following payments –

Mrs T.A. Price	£1495.00
HM Revenue & Customs	£586.51
NEST Pensions (direct debit)	£139.37
Mrs T.A Price (expenses)	£67.85
T. Lloyd-John	£667.23
N. Close	£96.00
N. Close	£252.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£345.89
HSBC (Bank Charges) – Treasurer Acc)	£8.00
HSBC (Bank charges) – Meadow Acc)	£8.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT

Nature Reserve Payments –

J. Stephens	£125.00
Ultimate One Ltd	£370.80 (Debit Card)
O. Rimington	£317.57
O. Rimington	£742.58
O. Rimington (refund Arrow Plant)	£105.60
R. Bamford (refund locks/cakes)	£155.93
Cultivating Learning & Nature CIC	£600.35
Artisan Print	£30.80
Weobley Ash Orchards	£26.40
Double Take	£930.00
Presteigne Building Supplies (inc £5.90 misc spend)	£514.10
Meta Translations	£50.32
Purrfect Cat Hire	£300.00
Presteigne Gates Ltd	£84.00
Julian Jones Ecology Services	£1975.00

c) To note the following receipts:-

Tree Hub Hosting (2 nd Group of Sessions)	£500.00
Powys County Council (use of electric – Hfd Street)	£170.58
Heritage Lottery Grant Refund	£22,716.39
Heritage Lottery Grant Refund	£5,924.16

d) To note that the notice of elector's rights has now been received and been posted on noticeboards and on the website.

6. **PLANNING**

(a) To consider applications received:

23/0790/FUL Grid Reference: E:331309 N: 264092 Proposal: Erection of 2.4m high perimeter fencing with 2 gates together with installation of roof top anti-climb roller spikes to part of west facing area of building Site Address: Unit 5 & 6, Presteigne Industrial Estate, Presteigne.

23/0789/FUL Grid Reference: E:331524 N: 263988 Proposal: Erection of 2.4m high perimeter fencing with 2 gates and erection of 2.4 m high new compound fencing together with installation of roof top anti-climb roller spikes to part north facing and to part west facing areas of building Site Address: Unit 1, Broadaxe Business Park, 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 –

20/0116/OUT Land at Broadaxe Farm, Presteigne: Consent with Section 106.

(c) RE: Environment Act 1995: Periodic Review of Mining Sites Application for Postponement of the Periodic Review for Gore Quarry, Walton, Presteigne, LD8 2PL: To consider any comments.

(d) Bute Energy/GreenGen Project: To receive any update.

7. **HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT**

a) Dark Skies/Lighting Update.

b) Climate Crisis Update including –

- Nature Reserve Project
- Report on Climate Conference, Llandrindod Wells
- Any items for next Climate Crisis Committee Agenda.

c) 20 MPH Limit: Update. Also information emailed 8th June. See Clerk's Report 4a.

d) Fold Farm DMMO Application: See Clerk's Report 4b.

e) Stakeholder Consultation - Forest Management carried out by Pryor & Rickett Silviculture Ltd (SA-FM/COC-001446). As emailed.

f) To note the thank you letter from Welsh Government re. the Presteigne Tree Hub. Emailed 8th June.

g) Consultation on the Local Housing Market Assessment for Powys (as emailed 14th June).

8. **NORTON**

a) Norton Community Trust Update.

9. **SITES AND BUILDINGS MATTERS**

a) Public Conveniences:

b) Allotments: Break in/stolen produce (Clerk's Report 3b).

c) Meadows: To include –

Use by Presteigne Pop Choir – 27th July 2023.
Littering and Vandalism.

- d) Boultonbrook Weir: Update and to consider any further action. (Clerk's Report 3a).
- e) Community Storage Update.
- f) Disabled Provision and Access, Wilson Terrace Play Area. (Cllr. Van Huls)

10. CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

- a) Community Broadband Scheme Update. Clerk's Report 5b.
- b) Co-Responders Query: To consider the response from the Welsh Ambulance Service.
- c) Review of Leisure Centres: To consider discussions with South Powys Area Manager and actions in regard to securing the future of the East Radnor Centre. To note information included in Clerk's Report, 5a.
- d) Revitalising Mid Wales Project: To note the information emailed and confirm the support of the Town Council. Clerk's Report 5c.
- e) Nomination Form, Community Sub Committee of PCC Standards Committee.

11. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

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

Enc. Clerk's Report June. Minutes of May Meetings. Various Background papers.

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 17TH MAY 2023
HELD AT THE JUDGE'S LODGINGS (MAYOR MAKING) AND THEN THE ASSEMBLY
ROOMS, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE AND ALSO VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

Present: Cllrs. B. Baynham (Mayor), R. Bamford (Deputy Mayor), D. Edwards, L. Firth, F. Preece, T. Owens, L. Abecasis, M. Price, J. Poster, A. Van Huls, M. Williams, J. Wilding.

Apologies: Cllr. J. Gray

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk.

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.

The first part of the meeting was held in the Courtroom at the Judge's Lodgings.

MIN 4190 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN 2023/24

Cllr. Edwards opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. She then spoke for a short while on the highlights from her year in office with the return of much-loved events following the pandemic and with national events including the Platinum Jubilee, the death HM Queen Elizabeth II and the Coronation of King Charles III. She thanked Members for their work over the year. Projects completed during the year included the turning on of the Town Wifi, the upgrading of the street lighting thanks to Powys County Council and the new Town Investment Plan. In addition, the land for the new nature reserve had now been purchased and the project was well underway. She thanked Cllr. Baynham for her work as County Councillor throughout the year.

Cllr. Edwards concluded by wishing her successor good luck for their term in office and invited nominations for Mayor/Chairman for 2023/24.

Cllr. Baynham was proposed by Cllr. Preece. This was seconded by Cllr. Wilding. There were no other nominations and Cllr. Baynham was elected unanimously.

Cllr. Baynham would complete her formal acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk. She thanked Members for her election and Cllr. Edwards for her work during her term as Mayor. She indicated that one of her charities for her year of office would be the Sleeping Dragon Fund.

MIN 4191 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR AND VICE-CHAIRMAN 2023/24

Cllr. Baynham then invited nominations for Deputy Mayor. Cllr. Bamford was proposed by Cllr. Wilding and seconded by Cllr. Owens. There were no other nominations and Cllr. Bamford was elected unanimously.

Members then removed to the Assembly Rooms to continue business.

Cllr. Baynham reminded Members of the need to submit apologies to the Clerk if they were unable to attend meetings and also asked that they reply to all emails promptly where replies were needed.

MIN 4192 REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

The following Memberships were agreed –

SITES AND BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Cllrs. Bamford, Preece, Firth, Gray and Price.

Outside Representatives for Meadow Matters: Richard Rimington, Gareth Graham, Colin Kirkby.

Outside Representative for Allotments: Karen Lewis.

Outside representatives all confirmed willingness to serve on the Committee.

STAFFING COMMITTEE

Cllrs. Baynham, Edwards, Wilding, Vanhuls and Owens.

CLIMATE CRISIS COMMITTEE

Cllrs Poster, Gray, Bamford and Firth.

Plus two outside representatives – Jenny Mottershead, Kate Van Den Ende

Ms Mottershead had still to indicate her willingness to continue to serve on the Committee. The Clerk would confirm.

LIBRARY SERVICE/ASSEMBLY ROOMS WORKING GROUP

Cllrs. Williams, Abecasis, Bamford, Baynham.

LDP WORKING GROUP: Cllrs. Baynham, Firth, Edwards, Abecasis.

BROADBAND WORKING GROUP: Cllrs. Owens and Edwards.

LEISURE CENTRE WORKING GROUP: Cllrs. Baynham, Edwards, Preece, Firth, Gray.

Outside Representatives: Mr. C. Kirkby, Mr. P. Wright, Mr. R. Rimington.

GRANT AWARDING POLICY WORKING GROUP: Cllrs. Baynham, Wilding, Williams, Price.

DARK SKIES/INTELLIGENT LIGHTING WORKING GROUP

Cllrs. Baynham, Williams. Outside Representative: Leigh Harling-Bowen.

ALLOTMENT LIAISON MEMBER: Cllr. Preece.

YOUTH REPRESENTATION MEMBER(S): Cllrs. Bamford and Abecasis.

MIN 4193 REVIEW OF APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The following representatives were agreed -

Presteigne Primary School

Cllr. Preece.

One Voice Wales

Cllrs. Baynham and Bamford

East Radnorshire Care

Cllrs. Edwards and Van Huls.

Presteigne and Norton Community Trust - Cllrs. Edwards, Bamford, Van Huls and Wilding.

Warden Guardian Foundation

Cllr. Bamford.

MIN 4194 REVIEW AND CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

(1) Standing Orders: Confirmed unchanged. New model standing orders expected from One Voice Wales in due course. The serving of the summons to attend meetings was re-confirmed.

(2) Financial Regulations (including direct debit and internet banking policy): Confirmed unchanged.

(3) Other Policy Documents: Council Complaints Procedure, Data Protection, Freedom of Information Documents, social media Policy and Staffing related policies: All confirmed unchanged.

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

(5) Remuneration payments to Town Councillors: The following payments would be available in the municipal year May 2023 to April 2024:

- An annual sum of £156 per year per Member, paid in arrears (mandatory).
- An annual sum of £52 per Member for expenses, paid in arrears (mandatory).
- 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 current stated approved cost per month (mandatory)
- The payment of the Mayor/Chairman's Allowance as per the budget allocated plus a separate budget for expenses.

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

(7) Annual Report 2022/23: Agreed that publication be via a copy in the library and on the Council website. The Clerk confirmed that she was in the process of drafting the report.

MIN 4195 MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Member attendance records for 2022/23 were duly noted. Cllr. Baynham congratulated Cllrs. Edwards, Owens, Poster and Williams for their 100% attendance.

MIN 4196 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Members noted that the general power of competence was now available to eligible Councils subject to this being declared at the annual meeting. Unfortunately, although two of the three conditions had been met, as less than two thirds of the Council had been formally elected it was not possible to use the power at present.

The Annual Meeting closed at 7.34pm.

The Annual Meeting was followed immediately by the ordinary business meeting.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON 17TH MAY 2023 HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

Present: Cllrs. B. Baynham (Mayor), R. Bamford (Deputy Mayor), D. Edwards, L. Firth, F. Preece, T. Owens, L. Abecasis, M. Price, J. Poster, A. Van Huls, M. Williams, J. Wilding.

Apologies: Cllr. J. Gray

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 4197 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th April, 2023 were approved without amendment. The Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 4198 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

(1) Leisure Centre Representatives: Attending June meeting.

(2) Police: Attending July meeting.

(3) Donation to Sleeping Dragon Fund: Pete Smith notified of the amount allocated and he will let the Clerk know when he needs the money transferred across.

(4) Maintenance of Grass Verges: Report received from volunteer noted – *Regarding cutting around the seat on Castle Road bank. Following on from your suggestion when we last met about the new PCC 'Its for Them' signage I strimmed a path to the bench this afternoon & a small area in front. I cannot remember exactly where the orchids were growing the year before last there, except it was in front of the bench & cut by the mowing round it last year. I have placed last year's simple sign there as an indicator to cutters. The path is at an angle between the daffodils purposely because this will avoid the orchid area and hopefully they will return this year if left unmown. Now the path has been cut once it will be easier to continue to keep this way. As I went about the verges I came across a lot of yellow rattle plants. The plugs we put in last April & extra seeding before the hard winter (which it likes) has paid off & they will start to really get working on the longer grasses this year.'*

(5) Working from Home Member Allowances: Members were advised that the SLCC has published the advice for claiming the allowance/tax relief generally and regarding payment towards expenses it would seem that only one amount can be claimed not one per employer so for any Members wishing to claim their £156 already getting a wfh payment or tax allowance they cannot do so again and so the £156 would still need to go through payroll. Members to check with the Clerk if they remain unsure about their specific situation.

(6) Stakeholder Consultation - Forest Management carried out by Natural Resources Wales (SA-FM/COC-007116 / SA-PEFC-FM-007116): The Clerk confirmed that the comments had been submitted.

(7) Clearance of Sites after Felling: Further to the question raised at the April meeting the following response had been received *'We generally leave brash on site because it contacts nutrients which are beneficial to the soil and future tree growth, as well as it storing carbon and protecting the soil post-clearfell'.*

MIN 4199 FINANCE

(1) Donations: No donations this month. The letters of thanks from Presteigne Festival and Warden View Methodist Church were noted.

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved –

Mrs T. Price (salary)

£1495.00

HMRC (Tax/Ni)	£586.51	
NEST (Pension)	£139.37	DIRECT DEBIT
T. Lloyd-John	£628.23	
N. Close	£60.00	
N. Close	£156.00	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance	£345.89	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Amazon (refund T. Price)(cctv signage)	£17.98	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Border Janitorial	£94.67	
EDF Energy (Wilson Terrace Toilets)	£3.03	
Information Commissioner (data registration)	£35.00	(direct debit)
Cartridge People (ink toner)	£132.90	
HSBC (bank charges)	£8.00	
HSBC (bank Charges)	£8.00	MEADOW ACCOUNT
Nature Reserve Payments –		
RM Group	£777.08	
Ron Smith & Co.	£9923.40	
Key Clamp Store (refund R. Rimington)	£134.35	
Presteigne Building Supplies	£933.53	
Presteigne Conv Store and Powys Environmental Ltd (refund O.Rimington)	£128.65	

(3) Receipts: The following receipt was noted:-

Powys County Council 1st Precept Payment - £24,312.60

(4) External Audit/Annual Return and Governance Statement: Member considered and approved the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement for submission to the External Auditors together with associated papers but subject to the posting of the necessary notice of elector's rights a copy of which was still awaited from the Welsh Audit Office.

(5) The following Bank Balances as at 2nd May 2023 were noted:

Treasurer	£9592.71	Money Manager	£33,433.37	Meadow	£38,852.63
Warden Reserve	£1021.08	Capital Reserve	£30,803.65		

Members noted that the latest lottery refund for project expenses was still awaited.

(6) Bank Signatories: Confirmed unchanged.

(7) Coronation Medals – Agreed payment of £679.99.

Budget allocation as follows - £500 as per Coronation Budget, £66.66 Mayor's Allowance, £113.33 VAT.

(8) Amended payment amount for SLCC Membership Note as £236.00 not £279.00 as expected.

(9) Bank Transfer: The transfer of £20,000 from the Money Manager account to the Treasurer account to cover the ongoing project payments for the new Nature Reserve was agreed.

MIN 4200 PLANNING

Cllr. Edwards left the room for the duration of the following item due to her position on the County Council planning committee.

(1) Planning applications: The following planning application was considered –

23/0575/HH Grid Reference: E:329198 N: 265672 Proposal: Formation of new access (retrospective) Site Address: Lower Ackhill, Presteigne, Powys, LD8 2ED. Resolved no objections be raised.

Cllr. Edwards returned to the room.

(2) Planning Decisions: None this month.

(3) Bute Energy Wind Farm Development: Cllrs. Baynham and Edwards reported on the meeting in Builth Wells which had largely centred on the pylon route rather than the turbines themselves. It was noted that the decision on both the turbine development and the pylons/grid connection would be made by Welsh Government with the County Council only a consultee. Cllr. Edwards would advise of any further updates as needed.

(4) Powys County Council - Information on Developments of National Significance: Noted. Members had received the link to the information.

MIN 4201 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) Dark Skies Project Update: The application was due to go off in the next week.

(2) Climate Crisis Update: Cllr. Bamford reported on progress of the Nature Reserve Project as follows-

- Proposed Information Board to include QR code with link to a dedicated page on the Council website.

- Four training sessions organised on plant, insect identification etc.
- Open Day on 3rd June from 2pm and Members asked to attend if possible. Parking would be in the Primary School playground.
- Bottom Pond draining more than expected. Contractor to review.
- Julian Jones appointed to carry out project evaluation.
- Gateway made and being painted. To be installed shortly.
- Grass Cutting Machine to arrive in the next week.
- Pond Water tested and was clear with no phosphates.

Thanks were noted to Cllr. Bamford and all her volunteer helpers.

(3) Oak Trees, Maes Corton: Noted that the contractor had confirmed the dead trees will be replaced.

(4) Welsh Water: Phosphate permit now granted. This should enable planning permissions to be obtained without conditions or restraint.

(5) Update re Roundabouts: Members noted the message from Caring for God's Acre and that a selective Spring scythe cut on the roundabout had been done and several bags of grass removed. All looked very good and they felt it was becoming a very nice meadow area with a lot of interesting plant species starting to proliferate.

MIN 4203 NORTON

(1) Community Trust Update: Work was progressing well and it was hoped to open in a few months.

(2) Grass Cutting: Cllr. Owens asked that an additional strip of grass be cut at the bottom of Hare's Green to improve visibility. Cllr. Edwards to report.

(3) Norton Show: To take place on 30th July.

MIN 4204 SITES AND BUILDINGS

(1) Public Conveniences: Nothing to report.

(2) Allotments: The Allotment Association had carried out further rabbit proofing.

(3) Meadows:

- Vandalism: Members noted the further vandalism which seemed to be abating slowly.
- Use of New Barn: Members noted that use had re-started with the better weather with a number of mornings/evenings now booked for regular classes. There had also been a small surge in enquiries following the temporary closure of the Memorial Hall
- Use for Transition Presteigne Event - 17th June: Noted.
- Reminder Sheep Music Event on 20th May.
- Toddler Swing at Wilson Terrace due to be installed very soon.
- Scout Hut Maintenance Day: Members congratulated Cllr. Preece and all the volunteers for their hard work in spring cleaning and painting the Scout Hut on the recent Bank Holiday Monday. The work day had been featured on BBC news.

(4) Community Storage Update: Draft plans had now been produced by Owen Rimington. Cllr. Wilding suggested that the size be increased (within the scope of that allowed without planning permission being needed) in order to maximise the space available once completed. The Clerk would circulate the plans and feedback the suggestion re the building size to Mr. Rimington.

(5) Sites and Buildings Recommendations:- Members considered the following recommendations:-

Allotments: None.

Meadows:

Work day to be arranged by Chairman for March 2024: Noted.

Offer to mow the back field from the Carnival Committee Contractor: Agreed - mowing to be carried out up to a fortnight before the event. Payment/expenses would be provided if required.

Sites and Buildings Committee to review the Meadow and produce a map of areas that could be used as wildflower meadow sites for Council review. Grant applications to be sought once a plan agreed by Full Council.

Tree works: Alan Jones Tree Surgeon to be appointed to carry out all the works listed as per the quote supplied. Mr. Jones to also be asked if he would chip the orchard prunings and include this within the cost.

Work in progress to produce a hedge management plan for Council review: Noted. Final report would come to Council in July.

New Management Plan for Eddie's Meadow: Agreed to commission a new plan from Mid Wales Ecology at the cost quoted of £175.20. Monies to come from the Climate Crisis Fund.

Progress of the design for a Community Storage area: Noted.

Grant Application: Clerk to investigate costings and grant applications for outdoor table tennis table(s) and report to Full Council in due course.

Community Payback Team be asked to repair and replace the steps from the footpath onto the meadow (subject to County Council approval if needed).

Toilets:

Clerk to seek quotes for the work to internally paint both sites.

MIN 4205 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Town Wifi Update: The Clerk reported that the units were still not in place at the Assembly Rooms and that the Officer at Powys had said he was still waiting for a 4g router for the install. Cllr. Wilding had met with the Officer and the company doing the work to discuss installing a unit at the Memorial Hall and it seemed this was likely to go ahead, again using a 4g router. The Clerk had spoken to the company and it was waiting for more information from the County Council. A further site meeting was planned in Presteigne for the following week.

(2) Community Broadband Scheme Update: Members were disappointed to learn that changes to the funding from UK Government had led to the project being halted while Broadway Partners had discussions with the relevant Government Department. All those registered had been emailed with an update.

(3) Presteigne Memorial Hall: Cllr. Wilding reported that he and other members of the Committee had met with the Fire Officer to discuss the essential works needed before the building could re-open. However further issues had been raised and PAVO was now assisting the Committee in its discussions with the County Council. Cllr. Wilding confirmed he was no longer serving on the Committee. Members wished the Hall Committee success in its negotiations and hoped the building would be able to re-open soon.

(4) Ambulance Service –

- EMERTS Consultation (Air Ambulance Base Review): Consultation events continued.
- First and Co-Responders: The Clerk had asked that the Council's concerns be relayed upward to Senior Management and had been chasing for a reply but nothing had been received as yet.

(5) East Radnor Leisure Centre: The South Powys General Manager, Richard Gealy would attend the June meeting. Members agreed to consider any questions they might have and to submit one to the Clerk by the end of Wednesday 24th May. One question confirmed was the reason for the recent reduction in opening hours. Members then considered the possible installation of solar panels and the benefit to the centre in greatly reduced energy costs. Cllr. Firth would liaise with Cllr. Baynham to try to get more detailed information on the building and current systems in order to enable a more accurate quote to be obtained. Members felt that if the County Council and Freedom Leisure worked together to make the building more energy efficient – installing new double glazing, more insulation and solar panels the building thus improving thermal efficiency - it could be at the forefront for change and an example of an eco friendly centre for others to copy.

(6) One Voice Wales - Request for motions to put to AGM: None put forward. Cllr. Wilding pointed out that a motion from the Town Council relating to business rates had still not made any progress. The Clerk confirmed she did chase this periodically but would do so again.

(7) Powys Local NHS Heroes Scheme - Offer for Council to award to an individual or team that benefits the local community: Noted. Not applicable for the Council area.

(8) Message from High Sheriff Noted. Noted. To be invited to opening of new Nature Reserve.

MIN 4206 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr. Baynham thanked Cllr. Edwards for organising the Coronation Picnic.

Cllr. Edwards reported the following –

- County Council AGM 18th May.
- Critical Planning Services Report from Audit Wales.
- A number of comments received on the grass cutting which she was following up.

MIN 4207 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) Nature Reserve: CPRW had attended to finish the tree mulching.

(2) Agenda Items: Members were reminded to notify the Clerk in good time if they required an item on the agenda.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

DRAFT

PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT

JUNE 2023

1. INFORMATION –

- a) New Defibrillator: Presteigne Youth Project now has a unit on the outside of its building. It will be maintained and checked by PYP.
- b) Climate Crisis Committee: Jenny Mottershead has agreed to remain on the Committee as an outside representative.

2. FINANCE –

- a) Please note that the notice of elector's rights has now been received from Welsh Audit Office and has been placed on notice boards and on the website.

3. SITES AND BUILDINGS –

- a) Weir Works: I have had the following report from the Wye Usk Foundation: *'I went to see the site this morning and expected to see a wall of willow like our other sites.....I was disappointed! It hasn't moved and is growing but I expected so much more as per normal. My only explanation is the amount of silt and debris that has been trapped and caught in the revetment has covered it and shaded out the willow below, I've never seen this before. The Lugg has so much soil in it nowadays this may be the norm. There is growth and it will come through I'm sure, the outer edge is what I expected the whole thing to look like, this obviously isn't shaded with silt. I'll keep an eye on it over the summer. If any volunteers wanted to help they could push some fresh willow branches through the tail end without squashing the structure any more than it is. At least fresh branches would be in the water and above the silt to get a good start.'*
- b) Allotments: One of the tenants has reported that her shed has been broken into and she believes that produce is being stolen from the site. I have advised her to report this to the police but she has asked about additional Council security such as CCTV.

4. HHE –

- a) 20 MPH Speed Limit Change: Received from PCC via Cllr. Baynham - *We are seeking to exempt the bypass from the 20 so it will remain 30mph in September. The changes in legislation will mean that we will have to add repeater signs within lit 30s – at the moment we are not able to install repeaters within 30 lit limits as the current legislation prevents us. We will be installing the repeater signs so this should help remind people they can drive up to 30. What we won't be able to do is install repeaters within the lit 20 limits and will have to manage the complaints about speeding on all the other roads after the change.*
- b) Fold Farm DMMO Application: Update received by James Evans MS *'Thank you for your email. In reply, although officers have not yet reached the point of contacting Presteigne Town Council about this case, the team has recently been able to progress other Definitive Map and Commons Register casework that originated at around the same time as this Definitive Map Modification Order application at Fold Farm. A statutory evidential Commons Registration case was determined by Committee earlier this week and officers are also moving forward determination of a Village Green case. Over the last three months, due to a vacancy within the team, the Professional Lead has needed to ensure that end of financial year grant funding requirements are met. However, with the recruitment of a new officer to lead on grant funding for the team from June, this will release time to allow for other statutory work including this case.'*

5. CORRESPONDENCE –

- a) Leisure Centre: With regard to the reduced opening times I have had the following information:- With regards to changing the pool times, we have only altered four evenings by 30 mins from 9pm finish to a 8.30pm finish, this was done because the pool was mainly unused at those times. We have reinvested the staff hours into kids holiday clubs and our very busy learn to swim programme. We felt

these two areas benefited far more people. We have a large amount of public swim availability throughout the week. We constantly review our programmes at all sites to ensure we run and provide the best possible and effective programme for all. I am very pleased with East Radnor's performance so far this year.

With regard to a meeting with the Portfolio Holder I have had the following reply: 'Thank you for your email with regards to the leisure review. An engagement exercise is planned with stakeholders and interested parties within coming weeks and will be announced shortly. We are currently working with our corporate colleagues as the leisure review has to align with the wider review of Council services.

Once we have agreed timescales and details of the process, we will make people aware of these. Until that time, we are unable to offer separate meetings in specific areas as we need to ensure consistency of messaging.'

b) Community Broadband: Members will all have received the latest information re. Broadway Partners and the collapse of the current project to bring full fibre broadband to all properties in Presteigne and Norton. All those who registered via the Town Council have received an email updating them on the current situation.

c) Request for Support - Revitalizing Mid Wales Project: We are writing to you from Mid Wales Tourism (MWT Cymru) to seek your support for an exciting and transformative project that we are proposing. This project aims to boost local tourism by creating a virtual platform that brings together businesses, tourists, and residents of our area.

At its core, the initiative is about fostering sustainable tourism through digital innovation. With the support of cutting-edge technology, we aim to create a rewards and loyalty digital wallet utilising blockchain technology where local businesses can create their own rewards and loyalty schemes whilst also creating cooperation with other independent businesses, working together to help create opportunities for job creation and economic development.

However, to make this project a success, we need the support and cooperation of our community. We believe that your endorsement of this project can greatly enhance our chances of securing the necessary funding and make a significant difference to our community's economic future.

By supporting this initiative, you are contributing to the revitalisation of our local economy, the empowerment of our local businesses, and the promotion of Mid Wales as a prime tourist destination. Furthermore, your support sends a strong message that our community is forward-thinking and ready to embrace the potential of digital technology in driving sustainable tourism and local development. If you are willing to provide a letter of support, we would be deeply grateful.



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Ymddiriedolaeth GIG
Gwasanaethau Ambiwylans Cymru
Welsh Ambulance Services
NHS Trust

Cadeirydd
Chair: Colin Dennis

Prif Weithredwr
Chief Executive: Jason Killens

Swyddfa'r Cyfarwyddwr Gweithredol Gweithrediadau

Executive Director of Operations' Office

Tracey Price
Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Presteigne and Norton Town Council
By email: presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com

Date: 9th June 2023
Our Ref: JW/PNTC

Dear Tracey,

Thank you for raising your concerns around the Alternative Responder arrangements between Mid & West Wales Fire Service (MWWFRS) and The Welsh Ambulance Services Trust (WAST). I understand the local concern following the two patients you refer to who recently sadly passed away.

WAST allocates incidents to the closest available resource who are trained to respond to the patient's presenting need. MWWFRS colleagues have been trained to respond to incidents where the patient's presenting need is a fall or a cardiac arrest. Our sophisticated system triages throughout the 999 call and beyond, determining the presenting need and generating a list of suitable responders. Should the patient's presenting need be a fall or a cardiac arrest and MWWFRS colleagues are the closest available resource, they will be allocated to the incident.

This agreement has been in place since 2021 and there are currently 33 MWWFRS teams trained to respond to falls and cardiac arrest. Prior to 2021, MWWFRS responded to a wider set of incident codes but only across 10 teams. Given the need to ensure we were using the skills of fire service colleagues appropriately, coupled with a desire to extend the reach of the co-responding service provided by MWWFRS colleagues, the code set to which fire service colleagues respond has been more clearly defined, but the reach extended across a wider geographical area.

Our Volunteer & Community Resilience team is currently reviewing our partnership arrangements across Wales, particularly focusing on improving response times in rural areas. We are also targeting our Volunteer Community First Responder (CFR) recruitment programme in rural areas and areas where our response times can be improved. We have recently received three CFR applications within the Presteigne area and will be contacting these applicants in the coming weeks to arrange placements on local training courses.

Mae'r Ymddiriedolaeth yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg, ac na fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi
The Trust welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English, and that corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay

www.ambulance.wales.nhs.uk

Pencadlys Rhanbarthol
Ambiwylans a Chanolfan
Cyfathrebu Clinigol

Regional Ambulance
Headquarters and
Clinical Contact Centre

Tŷ Vantage Point
Vantage Point House
Tŷ Coch Way
Cwmbran NP44 7HF
Ffôn/Tel
01633 626262

Please accept my apologies that you have not received a response following the meeting on 19th April. Any formal concerns about individual incidents should be directed to our Putting Things Right team, details of which are available on our website.

I hope that you find this response helpful but, should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Jenny Wilson.

Jenny Wilson
National Volunteer manager