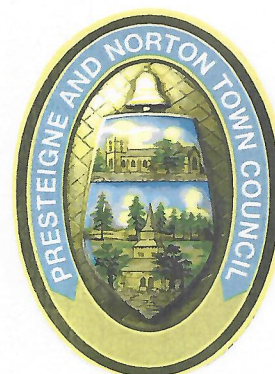


Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk, Mrs Tracey Price
Garn Farm
Chapel Lawn
Bucknell
Shropshire
SY7 0BT

Email:
presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com
Telephone: 07866 815622



13th May, 2025

Dear Councillor,

There will be a meeting of Presteigne and Norton Town Council on **MONDAY 19th May 2025 at 7.00 p.m.** at the Judge's Lodgings, Broad Street, Presteigne and you are hereby summoned to attend. Following the election of Mayor/Chairman and Deputy Mayor/Vice-Chairman the meeting will adjourn and re-locate to the East Radnorshire Day Centre, Scottleton Street, Presteigne.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS (IF ANY) SHOULD BE VIEWED ONLINE BEFORE THE MEETING.

Zoom Joining Information –

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86189033031?pwd=WWxb5RRiF6sfSC67P6jpbazbbKJuEb.1>

Meeting ID: 861 8903 3031 · Passcode: 097824

Dial by your location - 0208 080 6591 United Kingdom

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86189033031?pwd=WWxb5RRiF6sfSC67P6jpbazbbKJuEb.1>

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.

The public and press are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

Yours sincerely

Tracey Price
TOWN CLERK

AGENDA

ANNUAL MEETING

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. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR/CHAIRMAN FOR 2025-26

And signing of declaration of acceptance of office.

4. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2025-26

5. REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS.

Sites and Buildings Committee (5) plus outside representatives for Meadow matters (2), Nature Reserve (1) and allotments (1).
The following are the current non Councillors – Gareth Graham. Richard Rimington, Rose Bamford, PNAA nominated rep – Current Chair.

Staffing Committee (5)

Climate Crisis Working Group

Library Services Working Group (5)

LDP Working Group (4)

Broadband Working Group (currently 2)

Leisure Centre Working Group (numbers flexible, currently all Council are Members)

Grant Awarding Policy Working Group (4)

Dark Skies/Street Lighting Working Group (2/3 - plus one non Council Member)

Allotment Liaison Member (1)

Youth Representation Member(s)(2)

6. REVIEW OF APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Presteigne Primary School (1)
One Voice Wales (2) (normally Mayor and Deputy Mayor)
Presteigne Area Community Development Group (1)
Presteigne & Norton Community Trust (4)
East Radnorshire Care (2)
Warden Guardian Foundation (1)

7. REVIEW AND CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

- (a) To review and approve Council's Standing Orders. Including to re-affirm the serving of the meeting summons and associated papers via email.
To consider whether printed copies should continue to be provided for meeting/posted.
- (b) To review and approve the updated Council financial regulations, the debit card policy and internet banking policy.
- (c) To review all other Council Policy Documents (e.g. Freedom of Information, Data Protection, Social Media, Complaints). Documents can be found at <https://presteigne.org.uk/town-council/council-regulations>

No changes proposed but financial regulations to be reviewed later in the year.

- (d) To confirm continued adoption of the revised Code of Conduct.
(under Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016)
- (e) To confirm remuneration payments that may be claimed by Councillors in 2025-26.
- (f) To confirm the grant awarding policy/procedure for both general and climate crisis grants.
- (g) To invite articles for the 2024-25 Annual Report.

8. MEMBER ATTENDANCE To note Member attendance records for 2024/25.

9. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

To note that the Council is unable to declare itself a 'competent' Council as it does not meet all three of the qualifying criteria which are -

- a) at least two-thirds of the total number of members of the council have been declared to be elected, whether at an ordinary election or at a by-election.
 - b) the clerk to the council holds such qualification or description of qualification as may be specified by the Welsh Ministers by regulations.
 - c) the council has received unqualified auditor's opinions from the Auditor General for Wales, for two consecutive financial years.
- (Qualifications b and c have been met but the first qualification has not.)

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

AGENDA
ORDINARY BUSINESS MEETING
(to follow immediately after Annual Meeting)

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.

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 14th April 2025 are a true and accurate record and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes as such.

4. CLERK'S REPORT AND UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

From the Meeting of 14th April. Also to receive the Clerk's Report.

5. FINANCE

a) Donations: To approve the following grants/donations – none this month. To note letters of thanks as per Clerk's Report, plus East Radnorshire Care, Wales Air Ambulance.

b) Payments: to approve the following payments –

PTP Ltd (refund N. Close)	£18.00
Doos4Security Ltd (storage building)	£1755.00 MEADOW ACC
Hornsey Steels (storage building)	£2203.30 MEADOW ACC
Hornsey Steels Storage building – refund (Order changed after invoice issued)	£33.99 MEADOW ACC
Presteigne Gates (posts)	£72.00 MEADOW ACC
Mrs T. Price (travel expenses – internal audit)	£38.70
Mrs T. Price (salary) (inc allotment hours for 2024-25)	£2089.31
HMRC (Tax/Ni)	£982.75
NEST (Pension)	£150.64 DIRECT DEBIT
L. Stephens (internal audit)	£100.00
Artisan Print (storage building plans)	£24.00 MEADOW ACC
Preserved Timber Products Ltd (storage building)	£4845.00 MEADOW ACC
T. Lloyd-John	£735.23
Presteigne Building Supplies	£886.93 MEADOW ACC
Presteigne Building Supplies	£20.89
EDF Energy (Meadow barn)	£20.29 MEADOW ACC
Cleanmy (toilet supplies)	£52.39

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| N. Close | £ |
| N. Close | £MEADOW ACC |
| Highground Maintenance | £469.96 MEADOW ACC |
| HSBC (Bank charges – Treasurer) | £8.00 |
| HSBC (bank charges) | £10.00 MEADOW ACC |
| Information Commissioner (data registration) | £47.00 |
| EDF Energy (Hereford Street Toilets) | £43.45 |
| Purrfect Cat Hire (work on storage building) | £2739.00 MEADOW ACC |
| RJ Barrington (storage building) | £383.52 MEADOW ACC |
- c) Receipts: Powys County Council 1st Precept Payment £25,351.04
Allotment Rent £28.00
- d) To receive the internal audit report on the accounts for 2024-25.
- e) External Audit/Annual Return and Governance Statement: To consider and approve the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement 2024-25 for submission to the External Auditors together with associated papers. Clerk's Report 4
- f) Bank Balances as at 30th April 2025:
- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------------|------------|
| Treasurer | £70,148.81 | Money Manager | £36,968.57 |
| Meadow | £5,087.42 | Money Market Acc | £50,000.00 |
- Warden Reserve/Capital Reserve Accounts in process of being closed.
- g) To review the signatories on bank mandate form.
- h) To approve the following bank transfers –
- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--|
| Treasurer Account to Meadow Account | £14,515.00 | Annual Precept amount |
| Treasurer Account to Meadow Account | £1,928.54 | VAT Refund |
| Treasurer Account to Meadow Account | £20,000.00 | Lottery Grant |
| Meadow Account to Treasurer Account | £745.89 | Allotment Hours
(inc employer's NI) |
- i) To confirm spending of balance of 2024-25 Mayor's Expenses/Allowance.
- j) To consider delegated authority for Clerk to make payments for the storage building project between meetings.

6. PLANNING

a) To consider the following applications:-

25/0568/DEM Grid Ref: E: 331656 N: 264598 Proposal: Demolition of entire residential property including rear extension Location: The Old Laundry , Broad Street, Presteigne LD8 2AG.

25/0477/CAC Grid Reference: E:331656 N: 264598 Proposal: Demolition of entire residential property including rear extension Site Address: The Old Laundry, Broad Street, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2AG.

25/0614/TRE Grid Ref: E: 331614 N: 264213 Proposal: Works to trees (one sycamore and two silver birches) Location: 27 Hereford Street, Presteigne, LD8 2AT.

25/0592/FUL Grid Reference: E:328764 N: 264045 Proposal: Construction of 3 raised glamping units, installation of sewage treatment plant, parking area, bike store and all associated works Site Address: Land At Lower Rowley, Evenjobb, Presteigne, LD8 2NL.

25/0677/TRE Grid Ref: E: 331468 N: 264444 Proposal: Works to trees within a conservation area Location: Harley House , 7 Broad Street, Presteigne LD8 2AA.

25/0676/HH Grid Reference: E:330982 N: 264681 Proposal: Erection of extension. Site Address: 1 Warden Terrace , Joe Deakins Road, Presteigne, LD8 2BW.

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 decision –
25/0359/HH 3 Church View, Broad Street, Presteigne: Approval.

7. HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

- a) Dark Skies Project Update. To include benefits of membership to Mid Wales Tourism Cymru and Mid Wales Tourism Forum and an update on possible additional electrical connections for the Christmas Lights.
- b) Climate and Environment Matters:
- c) Fold Farm DMMO Application: To receive an update on the Committee decision.
- d) Car Parking: Update.
- e) Mill Lane Issues: Update and Members' Reports on loose/fallen stones.
- f) Notification of Powys County Council Strategy for Managing Trees along Highways (as emailed 4th May, 2025).
- g) To receive the resident comment on grass cutting, Orchard Close. Clerk's Report 8.
- h) To consider applying for a licence to allow Guerrilla Gardeners to put planters in Presteigne.

8. NORTON

- a) To consider any village matters raised.

9. SITES AND BUILDINGS

- a) Public Conveniences: To receive any necessary update from the Clerk.
- b) Allotments: Update on new raised beds/picnic bench. Clerk's Report 6. Also to consider the letting of plot 36. Complaint re. untidy plot.
- c) Meadows: To consider the following –
 - Report on Work Day (Cllr. Preece)
 - Update on Storage Building.
 - Update and to consider quotes received re. Brilliant Basics Paths Project. (Clerk's Report 7).
 - Offer of netting for tree guards (Cllr. Kirkby)
 - Cover for Inspections – 20th May – 1st June and 13th July to 20th July.
 - Work to Bike Track – to consider appointing a local contractor to work with Mr. Graham and the young people, Budget of £200 requested.
 - Date for next Committee Meeting – provisionally 9th June.
- d) Nature Reserve: To consider any matters requiring attention.
- e) Norton Telephone Kiosk: To receive an update on quotes for a new electrical installation certificate.

10. CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

- a) Leisure Centre Update. To include letter of support from Titley Parish Council.
- b) Town Council Surgeries – Update on earlier items.
 - Items from May Surgery.
 - Member(s) to attend June Surgery.
- c) Review of Meetings Start Time (presently 7.00pm).

11. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

12. UPDATE ON CASUAL VACANCY

Clerk's Report 2.

13. URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (at discretion of Chair).

Enc. Minutes from April Meeting. Annual Governance Statement and External Audit Papers, Clerk's Report May

PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL
MEMBER ATTENDANCE 2024-25

	Possible	Actual Attended	%
NORTON WARD			
Cllr. Deb Edwards	13	13	100
Cllr. Andre Van Huls	13	12	92
Cllr. Curtis Ross	11	10	91
Cllr. John Wilding (resigned)	12	9	75
PRESTEIGNE WARD			
Cllr. L. Abecasis (resigned)	2	1	50
Cllr. Beverley Baynham	13	12	92
Cllr. Leigh Harling-Bowen	7	6	86
Cllr. Colin Kirkby MBE	13	9	69
Cllr. T. Owens	13	13	100
Cllr. Fiona Preece	13	11	85
Cllr. Mark Price	13	8	62
Cllr. James Ramsay	13	11	85
Cllr. Alex Ramsay	11	10	91
Cllr. James Ramsay	13	11	85
Cllr. Nicholas Rogers	7	4	57
Cllr. M. Williams	2	2	100

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIPS 2024-25

SITES AND BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Cllrs. Baynham, Preece, Price, Kirkby, Ramsay
Outside Representative for Meadow Matters: Richard Rimington.
Outside Representative for Allotments: Susan Robson.
Outside Representative for Meadow Matters: Gareth Graham.
Outside Representative for Nature Reserve Matters: Rose Bamford.

STAFFING COMMITTEE

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

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP (Formed Nov 2024, previously a committee)

Cllrs Harling-Bowen, Edwards, Kirkby and Ramsay.
Plus two outside representatives – Hilary Rimington, Kate Van Den Ende
Agreed to continue this Committee for a further year and review May 2025.

LDP WORKING GROUP: Cllrs. Baynham, Edwards, Rogers, Price.

LEISURE CENTRE WORKING GROUP

To comprise all Members of the Council.
Outside Representatives: As needed.

DARK SKIES/INTELLIGENT LIGHTING WORKING GROUP

Cllrs. Baynham, Kirkby, Ramsay, Harling-Bowen.

ALLOTMENT LIAISON MEMBER: Cllr. Preece.

YOUTH REPRESENTATION MEMBER(S): Cllr. Owens.

REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Presteigne Primary School	Cllr. Edwards.
One Voice Wales (2)	Mayor and Deputy Mayor.
PACDG	Cllr. Harling-Bowen.
Presteigne Trust (4)	Cllrs. Edwards, Vanhuls, Kirkby and Wilding.
East Radnorshire Care (2)	Cllrs. Edwards & Vanhuls.
Warden Guardian Foundation	Cllr. Kirkby

**Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH APRIL 2025
HELD AT THE EAST RADNORSHIRE DAY CENTRE, SCOTTLETON STREET,
PRESTEIGNE AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING**

Present: Cllrs. T. Owens, (Mayor), D. Edwards, A. Ramsay, J. Ramsay, L. Harling-Bowen, M. Price C. Ross, F. Preece, B. Baynham, N. Rogers, C. Kirkby MBE (part of meeting only).

Apologies: None. Absent: Cllr. A. Van Huls (Deputy Mayor).

Resignation of Cllr. J. Wilding: Cllr. Owens announced that he had received the formal resignation of Cllr. Wilding. Members noted this with regret

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk.

Prior to the start of the formal meeting Members held a minute's silence in memory of former Cllr. D.L. (Jim) Rogers.

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. F. Preece, close personal friend of applicant, re. pre-planning consultation for land North of Scottleton Street, Presteigne.

MIN 4461 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th March, 2025 were approved as a true and accurate record and the Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 4462 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

- (1) QR Link to Council Web Pages: Cllr. Edwards noted that notices had been put up to provide the public with quick access to the Council website.
- (2) Warden Guardian Foundation: Cllr. Owens apologised but he had been unable to attend the AGM.
- (3) New Website: The chosen provider had accepted the contract to build a new Council website.

MIN 4463 FINANCE

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

Presteigne Memorial Hall (re VE Day Event)	£150.00
(From Mayor's Allowance, Cllr. Owens)	
Annual Grants as precepted -	
Wales Air Ambulance	£250.00
East Radnorshire Care	£2000.00
Presteigne Memorial Hall	£1500.00
Mid Border Arts	£1500.00
Presteigne and Norton Community Trust	£2000.00
PACDG	£250.00
Presteigne Festival	£1500.00
Judge's Lodgings Trust Ltd	£2000.00
Powys CAB	£200.00
Brecon and Radnor Samaritans	£250.00
Presteigne Youth Project	£1000.00

- (2) The following payments were agreed –

Mrs T.A. Price (pay)	£1622.20
HM Revenue & Customs	£703.97
NEST	£150.64
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£449.69 MEADOW ACC
Lyreco (toilet rolls)	£38.35
Microsoft (email storage)	£19.99
British Gas Lite (Wilson Terrace Toilets)	£15.00
SLCC (annual membership)	£300.00
One Voice Wales (annual membership)	£612.00
EDF Energy (Meadow/Barn)	£19.74 MEADOW ACC
Chemassist	£406.80
T. Lloyd-John	£434.49
N. Close	£100.00
N. Close	£140.00 MEADOW ACC
HSBC (bank charges)	£8.00
HSBC (bank charges)	£8.00 MEADOW ACC
EDF Energy (Hereford Street Toilets)	£85.19
Zoom (annual subscription)	£155.88

3) Receipts: The following receipts were noted–

Allotment Rent	£168.00 (2024-25 Accounts)
	£84.00 (2025-26 Accounts)
	£28.00 (2025-26 Accounts – Deposit)
Website Income (2024-25 Accounts)	£26.00

(4) Approval of Annual Accounts 2024-25: The annual accounts were approved as circulated.

(5) Year End Documents: Completion of end of year VAT return, HMRC information and Councillor Remuneration Payments Return documents was noted.

(6) Renewal of Christmas Lighting in Presteigne: Members had all received a copy of the summary produced by Cllr. Harling-Bowen but noted that the lowest price submitted was still well in excess of the budgeted amount of £3000. In addition it seemed that new lighting would require additional power sources and the Clerk recommended that the view of the Council's contracted installer be sought before any final decision was made. Cllr. Baynham suggested that the purchase of new lights be deferred until 2026-27 in order for additional monies to be budgeted for and to allow for the availability of additional power points to be investigated. It was agreed to defer any purchase until the next financial year and in the meantime to investigate the availability of other power sources such as the street lights and to obtain the view of the company that installed the lights each year. For 2025 the current lights would be used.

(7) Budget Update/Review of Allocated Reserves to end of March, 2025: Members had all received copies of the allocated and free reserve analysis as at the end of 2024-25 but allowing for the £20,000 held from the lottery grant which was still unspent and the £13,000 allocated from reserves towards the 2025-26 budget. Free reserves remaining fell centrally within the three to twelve months expenditure suggested in the Governance guide.

(8) Review of Bank Accounts: The Clerk explained that a separate record was now kept of the capital monies remaining from the sale of the cemetery land and so there was no longer a need for a separate bank account. It was agreed to transfer the balance into the main money manager savings account and to close the existing 'capital' account. In addition it was agreed to transfer the balance in the Warden Reserve Account into the Meadow current account – this being the account used for works on the former reservoir ground. The Clerk was also asked to look at the ease of renaming the Meadow account to better reflect the whole of the spend on that account.

MIN 4464 PLANNING

Cllr. Edwards left the room at this point due to her position on the County Council Planning Committee.

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

25/0011/FUL Grid Reference: E:331313 N: 264509 Proposal: Internal and external works to include, replacement windows and external ramp and steps (part retrospective) Site Address: Poste House, 32 High Street, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2BE. Resolved no objections be raised providing the Built Heritage Officer had no concerns.

25/0010/LBC Grid Reference: E:331313 N: 264509 Proposal: Internal and external works to include, replacement windows and external ramp and steps (part regularisation of works) Site Address:

Poste House, 32 High Street, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2BE. Resolved no objections be raised providing the Built Heritage Officer had no concerns.

25/0420/FUL Grid Reference: E:331339 N: 263945 Proposal: Erection of two general industrial units and associated infrastructure Site Address: Plot 5, Broadaxe Business Park, Presteigne, LD8 2UH. Resolved no objections be raised.

Cllrs. Edwards returned to the room.

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

- 24/1806/FUL, Went's Meadow Storage, Presteigne: Approval 28th February.
- 24/1417/FUL, Western Way, Broadaxe Business Park, Presteigne: Refused 28th February.
- 25/0199/TRE, Appletree Lodge, Hereford Street, Presteigne: Approval 5th March.
- 24/1180/HH, The Rectory, St. David's Street, Presteigne: Approval 21st March.
- 25/0203/REM, Unit 1, Presteigne Mill: Approval 26th March.
- 24/1149/LBC, 11 & 12 Broad Street, Presteigne: Approval 28th March.
- 24/1148/FUL, 11 & 12 Broad Street, Presteigne: Approval 28th March.
- 24/1567/FUL, Lloyds ATM, Presteigne: Approval 28th March.
- 24/1568/LBC, Lloyds ATM, Presteigne: Approval 28th March.

(3) Open Spaces Assessment (GI Suggestions): Cllr. J. Ramsay explained the table of suggestions and the accompanying map which had been drawn up with the assistance of the Tree Group and then reviewed by the Climate and Environment Working Group. Cllr. Baynham had obtained an explanation for the use of any data submitted from the Planning Officer and it was noted, in particular that hedges were covered under a general policy. She also expressed concern that, due to the shortness of time available to submit a list, it had not been possible to consult with the individual landowners adding that without a full explanation for the use it was difficult to assess whether specific sites should be included. It was agreed to submit the list of sites but to add a note that private landowners had not been consulted due to time constraints. Cllr. J. Ramsay would update the table and map and provide to the Clerk for submission to the County Council. *Cllr. Preece left the room at this point having declared a prejudicial interest in the following item.*

(4) Pre Planning Consultation: Land North of Scottleton Street, Presteigne: Members had reviewed the documentation online and agreed to submit the following comments – the presence of Japanese knotweed was noted and Members stressed the need for this to be professionally removed and destroyed. Members were pleased to see that the neighbours had been consulted. They also wished to make the agent aware of the current parking issues (cars parked up onto the pavement) to the South side of Scottleton Street which could impact on the proposed access to the development. Overall Members were pleased with the proposed development, particularly the affordable housing element.

Cllr. Preece returned to the room.

MIN 4465 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) Dark Skies Project Update: Cllr. Harling-Bowen provided a brief update as follows –

- Talk given to Llandrindod Wells Dark Skies Group.
- Further work to develop a dark skies support group. It was suggested that this could be a part of the dark skies working group subject to Council approval and Cllr. Harling-Bowen would bear this in mind.

(2) Climate and Environment Update: In his absence Cllr. J. Ramsay had reported the following –

- Working Group had met to discuss sites for inclusion on the list requested by the County Council as part of the Local Development Plan.
- Powys Climate Stakeholder Group attended.
- One Voice Wales Section 6 Reporting Webinar: Both Cllr. J. Ramsay and the Clerk had attended one of these sessions.
- Biodiversity Training: Cllr. Baynham confirmed she had attended this training via the County Council.

(3) High Street Grant Update: The Clerk confirmed that this had been concluded and that she had been told another scheme was due to start for 2025-26 although she had had no details confirmed as yet. Thanks were noted to former Cllr. Wilding for his work in getting the project started.

(4) Fold Farm DMMO Application: No committee date had been confirmed as yet.

(5) Car Parking: Cllr. Baynham asked that this again be deferred as the expected paper had not yet been submitted to Cabinet at the County Council.

(6) Active Travel Guidance Consultation: Members were encouraged to comment as individuals. No comments to be submitted as a Council.

(7) Slough Road Issues Update: Cllr. Baynham had been working hard to address the various issues raised. She noted that the parking situation at the school was, if anything, getting worse and advised that she was working to find a solution. With regard to the brook problems work was scheduled for over the Summer. Members agreed to leave the issues with Cllr. Baynham to monitor.

(8) Mill Lane Issues: Members noted the email from a resident raising several issues. Cllr. Baynham would ask if the contractor could be instructed to cut the grass triangle at the start of the footpath, the overgrown trees in the former Depot boundary were noted as the responsibility of the site owner. Members were unsure where the loose stones were and it was agreed that Members would visit the site and report back to the next meeting. The Clerk would advise the resident.

MIN 4466 NORTON

(1) General Works: Cllr. Edwards advised that she was currently restoring a donated bench and would replace it on site once complete.

(2) Telephone Kiosk Repair: Members agreed that the Clerk arrange the repair at an approximate cost of £50.00

MIN 4467 SITES AND BUILDINGS

(1) Public Conveniences: The following items were discussed -

- Wilson Terrace Toilets now re-opened and disabled cubicle lock repaired.
- Wilson Terrace Toilets - Repair to rotting cladding: Agreed that the Clerk arrange for the rotten board to be replaced.
- Toilet Roll Thefts: Members were pleased to note that these seemed to have stopped at present.

(2) Allotments: The following matters were considered -

- Update on rabbit proofing/Request for materials: Agreed up to £75 towards the cost of materials. Members noted with thanks the willingness of the PNAA to carry out the repairs needed.
- Update on Unpaid Rent: One tenant was yet to pay. Agreed to allow until 30th April following which the Clerk would give notice to the tenant to quit the plot.
- Disposal of abandoned Storage Box: Cllr. Ross agreed to remove this, clean it and place it on freegle.

(3) Meadows: The following matters were discussed -

Update - café bar/storage: Ground works commenced on 8th April. The trees required under the planning permission were now planted. Fund raising continues to raise the final £2000 needed for the project.

Update - Brilliant Basics Grant (paths): The County Council had confirmed that the grant had been secured. Given former Cllr. Wilding had been leading the project the Clerk asked for help in obtaining the quotes and organising the works on site. Cllr. Owens agreed to speak to Mr. Wilding to get the information needed to hand over the project.

Condition of New Barn Ironwork (beginning to rust): Agreed to monitor.

Update re. bike track works: Cllr. Owens reported that he had suggested a meeting on site with the parent overseeing the project but as yet had not been able to get a date arranged. He would invite Mr. Close and Mr. Graham once a date was confirmed.

Concern over rubbish/stones regularly left on floor of new barn: Noted.

Tree Guards, Community Orchard - No longer rabbit proof: It was felt that the trees were probably strong enough to not need replacement guards and it was agreed to monitor the situation.

Possible Hire of Wood Chipper: Cllr. J. Ramsay asked that the Council agree to fund the hire of a wood chipper for the forthcoming work day if the promised free chipper was not confirmed. Members agreed a budget of up to £100 as a contingency.

(4) Nature Reserve Matters: Cllr. J. Ramsay had given a general update as follows -

- All matters in hand.
- Playgroup Fund Raiser on 12th April had been very successful.
- Tree Group/Warden Guardians Joint Event - 31st May: Members agreed to the use of the Reserve for part of this event. Cllr. Baynham advised that the County Council Officer should be consulted.
- Upgrading of path: To be looked at in due course.

Cllr. Kirkby joined the meeting at this point.

MIN 4468 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Leisure Centre Update: Cllr. Baynham reported that the comments of the Working Group had been submitted to the County Council. Nothing further to report at this point.

(2) Town Council Surgeries –

- Update on earlier items: Footpath roundels would not be replaced until the Footpaths Officer had checked that the route was passable along the legal route. All highway matters reported to the County Council. Police informed re. noisy car exhausts.
- Items from April Surgery: Cllr. A. Ramsay had not attended so no items to discuss.
- Member(s) to attend May Surgery: Cllr. Ross agreed to attend.

(3) Removal of Lloyds Bank Cashpoint: Members noted that this had now been removed and that a LINK cash machine had been installed in the Spar shop. Members were concerned at there being no 24 hour access to cash but felt there was nothing further that could be done.

(4) Notification of next Sustainable Powys Events: Noted. The Llandrindod event was on 20th May.

(5) One Voice Wales - Invitation to submit up to two motions for consideration for debate at National Conference in October: None put forward.

(6) Report on Meeting with High School: Cllrs. Baynham, Owens and Edwards had attended and Cllr. Baynham reported on matters discussed. She added that a catchment review was due in the Summer. No further action at present.

MIN 4469 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr. Edwards had no report to make.

Cllr. Baynham reported the following –

- Estyn Report on the Education Department: Following a very poor report a School Improvement Board had been set up. One of the major issues raised was site security and this was of direct relevance to the John Beddoes Campus which had a public footpath across the school field.

MIN 4470 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) Road Re-surfacing at the Rodd: Noted that this had now been completed. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter of thanks to Herefordshire Council and to point out other local roads that were in need of urgent attention, namely, at Coombes Moor, under Nash Wood and the road from Presteigne to Stapleton.

(2) Reminder- Meadow Work Day: 26th April. Members encouraged to attend.

(3) Visit to Presteigne by Janes Dodds MS: Cllr. Harling-Bowen reminded Members about this meeting to discuss dark skies and to view the changed lighting in the area.

(4) Meeting Start Times: Clerk to check when this could be reviewed and to put back on the agenda once the six months had expired.

(5) East Radnor Care: Cllr. Baynham reported that a new electric vehicle had been purchased and charging point installed via grant funding obtained.

(6) Defibrillator Training: Cllr. Harling-Bowen asked if the Council could organise training in the use of the defibrillators. He was advised that the Fire Service would do this on request. Cllr. Baynham would consider East Radnor Care holding a session.

(7) Accident, Rev. Hollinghurst: Cllr. Owens had purchased a get well card to send on behalf of the Council.

The meeting closed at 9.11 pm.