

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

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Mrs Tracey Price (Clerk)
Garn Farm
Chapel Lawn
Bucknell
Shropshire.
SY7 0BT

9th November, 2023

Dear Councillor

There will be a meeting of Presteigne and Norton Town Council on **WEDNESDAY 15th November, 2023 at 7.30 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.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87179642121?pwd=RQExBHXxMdarJ4CrnppVEgY1tNbKnR.1>

Meeting ID: 871 7964 2121 Passcode: 801765

Dial by your location -0203 481 5240 United Kingdom

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87179642121?pwd=RQExBHXxMdarJ4CrnppVEgY1tNbKnR.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.

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. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR REMAINDER OF 2023/24.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

To approve that the Minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2023 are a true and accurate record and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes as such.

5. UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS AND CLERKS REPORT

From the Meetings of 18th October. Also to receive the Clerk's Report for November.

6. FINANCE

a) Donations: To consider payment of the precepted donation to the Wales Air Ambulance (£300).

b) Payments: to approve the following payments –

Mrs T.A. Price	£1495.00
HM Revenue & Customs	£586.51
NEST Pensions (direct debit)	£139.37
T. Lloyd-John	£654.23
N. Close	£56.00
N. Close	£176.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£345.89 MEADOW ACCOUNT
EDF Energy (Meadow Barn)	£47.10 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Artisan Print (Dark Skies Flyers)	£30.84
Caring for God's Acre (Corton Roundabout)	£275.00
Play Inspection Co	£221.88 MEADOW ACCOUNT
O. Rimington (scarifier hire)	£65.58
Orphans Press Ltd (website hosting)	£192.00
Nature Reserve Payments -	
JJW Ltd	£8160.00
Rawlins Paints	£125.06
AS Handover (paint)(paid debit card)	£21.18
Tradeprint	£60.11
O. Rimington	£400.00
O. Rimington	£1120.00
O. Rimington	£484.00
META (translation)	£10.00
Castle Ring Oak (posts for sign)	£144.00
Presteigne Building Supplies	£13.59

c) To consider draft investment policy and to consider investment of the majority of the capital account monies (£31k) into HSBC Money Market Account. Clerk's report 2a.

d) To approve the transfer of £20,000 from the Treasurer Account to the Money Manager Account (return of cashflow monies used for Nature Reserve Project).

e) Updating of Bank Mandate: To remove R. Bamford and consider removal of Cllr. Abecasis due to temporary absence. To consider replacement signatories.

f) Receipts: To note the following receipts –

Heritage Lottery	£2064.09
Heritage Lottery	£131.32
Heritage Lottery	£6921.87

g) Notification of Local Government Pay Award, 2023/24.

7. PLANNING

- (a) To consider applications received: None at issue of agenda.

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 –
23/1277/FUK 11 High Street, Presteigne: Approval 23rd October.
(c) Bute Energy/GreenGen Project: To receive any update.

8. HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

- a) Dark Skies/Lighting Update inc possible letter to High Street Businesses.
b) Climate Crisis Update Including:-
 - Cancellation of Climate Crisis Committee on 1st November and future arrangements.
 - Replacement Councillor for Climate Crisis Stakeholder Group
 - Updating of Climate Crisis Action Report.
 - Publicity for Climate Crisis Small Grant Fund.Clerk's Report 4b.
c) To consider full review of parking/yellow lines in Presteigne/Norton for potential inclusion in 2024-25 budget.
d) Update re. Proposed Speed Limit, Coombe Corner.
e) Fold Farm Footpath Update. Clerk's Report 4a.

9. NORTON

- a) Norton Community Trust Update.

10. SITES AND BUILDINGS MATTERS

- a) Public Conveniences: To note -
b) Allotments: Possible grant in 2024/25. Rent review to be considered by Sites and Buildings Committee.
c) Meadows: To include –
Good Earth Community Garden proposal/information.
Possible new dog fouling signage.
d) Nature Reserve: To note conclusion of project. To raise any matters/work needed.
e) Grant Application Update – Table Tennis/storage/games.

11. CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

- a) Update on current situation – Presteigne Memorial Hall.
b) Update on Leisure Services Review.
c) Education in Presteigne:
d) Christmas Lights Update. Clerk's Report 5a. Also to consider lights for Norton.

12. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

13. CASUAL VACANCIES

Update. Clerk's Report 5b.

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

15. DATES FOR JANUARY MEETINGS:

17th Budget Setting Meeting

24th Main Council Meeting

Also to confirm date for December meeting.

Enc. *Clerk's Report November. Minutes of October Meeting. Any background papers.*

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18TH OCTOBER 2023
HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, BROAD STREET, PRESTEIGNE AND ALSO VIA
VIDEO CONFERENCING

Present: Cllrs. B. Baynham (Mayor), D. Edwards, J. Gray, F. Preece, T. Owens, M. Price, A. Van Huls (via video link), J. Wilding.

Apologies: Cllrs. L. Abecasis, L. Firth, M. Williams.

Request for Extended Absence, Cllr. Abecasis: Members considered the request for a six month period of absence from Cllr. Abecasis. The public were excluded briefly for the Clerk to explain the reasons for the request and Members approved this unanimously. The absence would be reviewed shortly before the end of the six month period.

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.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Members heard from PC Fraser Scott who updated Members on the problems with anti-social behaviour in and around the town in recent months. A group of those responsible had been identified, three had been dealt with via restorative justice and five were now receiving or having received anti-social behaviour first warning letters. He explained that the town was currently without its own PCSO but that over the recent weekend he had received assistance from two other PCSOs. Extra patrols were being carried out as much as possible and would continue into the Winter months.

In the absence of Cllr. Baynham, Cllr. Edwards thanked PC Fraser Scott for attending the meeting and for all his hard work in the town.

Cllr. Baynham joined the meeting at this point.

MIN 4247 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th September, 2023 were approved without amendment. The Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th September, 2023 were approved without amendment. The Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 4248 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

(1) Street Cleaning: The Clerk reported that there had been no interest in the contract so far. She had however approached the County Council which would not be able to carry out extra cleaning work but would provide the road sweeper on an occasional basis. Cllr. Baynham confirmed that she had asked for the road sweeper to attend as soon as it was back in the Penybont Depot. The Clerk had also asked the Community Payback team if it would consider any works to remove weeds etc from pavements and this was being considered by their supervisor.

MIN 4249 FINANCE

(1) Donations: The following donation was confirmed

Norton Community Hub (fireworks)	£200.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£60.00

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved –

Mrs T.A. Price	£1495.00
HM Revenue & Customs	£586.51

NEST Pensions (direct debit)	£139.37
T. Lloyd-John	£654.23
N. Close	£16.00
N. Close	£144.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£345.89 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Border Janitorial (toilet rolls-July)	£94.67
Border Janitorial (toilet rolls – Sept)	£94.67
Lyreco (stationery)	£67.01
HSBC (Bank Charges) – Treasurer Acc)	£8.00
HSBC (Bank charges) – Meadow Acc)	£8.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Clean My (toilet cleaning items)	£104.78
EDF Energy (Hereford Street)(Direct Debit)	£59.27
EDF Energy (Wilson Terrace)(Direct Debit)	£33.03
RB Landscaping (strimming over year)	£270.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT
J. Bird (final invoice – street cleaning)	£62.40
Cartridge People (ink toner)	£241.80
Nature Reserve Payments –	
RS Minerals Ltd	£7154.40
Wildflower Grant Payments	
Caerfagu Products	£141.60
Emorsgate Seeds (by debit card)	£586.56

(3) Budget update to end of September 2023: Members noted the budget update. There were no questions.

(4) Review of Internal Audit Arrangements for the 2023/24 year: Members approved the re-appointment of Mr. Stephens as internal auditor and confirmed the audit documents as supplied.

(5) Receipts: The following receipts were noted: -

Chatterbrook WI (donation)	£45.00 MEADOW ACCOUNT
Heritage Lottery (grant refund)	£5962.00

(6) Mayor's Allowance in 2023/24: Cllr. Baynham asked that the Mayor's Allowance be vired into Mayor's expenses for the current year only and this was agreed.

(7) Mid Year Internal Audit: The mid-year audit had been concluded without any issues being raised.

MIN 4250 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 applications were considered –

23/1420/HH Grid Reference: E:331434 N: 264351 Proposal: Installation of gas fired central heating and domestic plumbing. Rewiring of the house, and repair of damaged walls and ceilings. Site Address: Millfields, Hereford Street, Presteigne, LD8 2AT. Resolved no objections be raised.

23/1421/LBC Grid Reference: E:331434 N: 264351 Proposal: Listed building consent for the installation of gas fired central heating and domestic plumbing. Rewiring of the house, and repair of damaged walls and ceilings. Site Address: Millfields, Hereford Street, Presteigne, LD8 2AT. Resolved no objections be raised.

Cllr. Edwards returned to the room.

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

23/1306/TRE, The Vine, St. David's Street, Presteigne: Approval.

21/2227/FUL, Judge's Lodgings, Presteigne: Approval.

21/2228/LBC, Judge's Lodgings, Presteigne: Approval.

23/1304/TPO, Greenacres, Norton Manor, Norton: Approval.

In relation to the Judge's Lodgings Cllr. Baynham reported that it had recently been awarded a large grant towards the conversion work and it was agreed to write and congratulate the Trust on its success.

(3) Bute Energy/GreenGen Project: Cllr. Edwards stated that there was nothing new to report with the preplanning consultation due to be released around the end of the year.

(4) Tree Preservation Order – John Beddoes High School: Members noted with pleasure that the Order was now confirmed.

MIN 4251 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) Dark Skies Project Update: Members approved the printing of 100 of the A5 flyers. Costs to be met from the Dark Skies Reserve. Members also noted the requirement to contact sports clubs to advise on dark skies and possible alternative lighting. There was however absolutely no obligation or pressure on the clubs

to do so and Members fully acknowledged that Leagues placed minimum requirements for their member clubs and which had to be adhered to.

(2) Climate Crisis Update: Members discussed the nature reserve including the following -

- Pond update: Cllr. Wilding reported that work had now commenced and was expected to conclude shortly. The bentonite had all been delivered and was ready for use. He anticipated a final bill of £6-8000.
- agreement for mowing of 1 metre strip adjacent to fences by residents: Members agreed that residents adjoining the site should be allowed to do this on request.
- weeding of entrance: agreed the Clerk ask the Community Payback Team if it could clear this area.
- text for information board: Members asked for several changes; the inclusion of the name of the Council at the top of the Board, the Council's email to be used not that of the Tree Group, and a change to the first sentence to show purchase by the Town Council and created with the help of the Tree Group. Members then considered the quotes received and agreed to award the work to Mr. O. Rimington which was competitive on price, in wood which was preferred to aluminium, and could be completed within the time scale needed.

(3) Speed Limit, Coombe Corner: The Clerk had been in touch with the PCC Traffic Engineer in relation to the location of the signage and had the following reply – 'It is not appropriate to extend the speed limit any further, but I am happy to erect a 40mph in xx yds sign in advance. There is no set location for this as yet, but it would need to be before the bend as otherwise it wouldn't be effective as drivers would see that and the speed limit sign.' Members were satisfied with the explanation.

(4) Management of Presteigne Roundabouts 2024: Members considered each roundabout in turn. It was agreed to accept the generous offer from Radnor Hills to continue to plant and maintain the Greenfield Road roundabout. With regard to the Kington/Corton roundabout it was agreed to continue to pay Caring for God's Acre for a further year with the cost for this being unchanged at £275.00

(5) Presteigne Verges: Members noted the comments made with some residents supporting and some opposing the decision. Cllr. Baynham reminded Members of the process for re-visiting decisions. Members considered whether to make any further statement and it was agreed not to do so. All those contacting the Council had received a detailed reply. Members raised concerns over weeds in gutters and pavements and Cllr. Baynham suggested that it might be helpful to create a working party to help deal with the problem.

(6) Future management of grass verges in Norton: Members considered the options suggested by Cllr. Edwards and it was agreed that she be given the choice to select those areas she wished and that if she required further seed or plants she should let the Clerk know so that the Grant Officer could be contacted and asked if the current grant could be adapted so some monies could be used in Norton (given the plans in Presteigne had changed and would not be fully going ahead.

MIN 4252 NORTON

(1) Norton Community Trust: Cllr. Wilding reported that work continued to progress.

MIN 4253 SITES AND BUILDINGS

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

Delay in Internal Painting: The painter hoped to do the ceiling at Hereford Street in the next few weeks and would complete the work as weather permitted.

Wilson Terrace Site: To close on 1st November.

(2) Allotments: Members noted the email from the PNAA and were pleased to note that a new Chairperson and Secretary had been found. Regarding the request to collect the subs from tenants in the Association, Members noted that this request had been made previously and that following the advice the Council had been advised not to collect monies on behalf of third parties. The Clerk confirmed that she had written to all tenants reminding them of the need for insurance to cover their own plots.

(3) Meadows:

- Information on Himalayan Balsam: Members noted the advice received and it was agreed that it would not be possible to eradicate the plant. No further action.
- Request for use of field for car parking: Agreed to the request for March 2024.
- Meeting with Community Payback Supervisor: Members noted the recent meeting and the work of the team over the summer. The Clerk would write a letter of thanks.
- Suggestion for weed killing treatment around MUGA/Car Park: Members considered the suggestion from the contractor carrying out the strimming around the edge of the MUGA. It was agreed by a

majority to book one weed killing treatment to the MUGA, toilet and car park edges. Cllr. Preece confirmed that she would like the paved area behind the scout hut done at the same time.

- Update re. annual play area inspection: This had just taken place without any major issues and the formal report would be issued shortly.
- Vandalism and Anti-Social Behaviour Update: Discussed with PC Fraser Scott (see above).

(4) Grant Application Update – Table Tennis/Storage: No progress as yet.

MIN 4254 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Update on current situation – Presteigne Memorial Hall: Cllr. Baynham provided a brief update and added that a further meeting was to be held before the end of October.

(2) Annual Report for 2022/23: All Members had received a copy for review and the Report was approved for publication.

(3) Arrangements for Remembrance Sunday: Members noted that the usual arrangements were in place with the service at the Cenotaph starting at 10.15am. Cllr. Preece gave her apologies as she would be unable to attend.

(4) Powys Broadband – Update: Noted as circulated. Cllr. Baynham had received an email from businesses complaining about the varied quality of their broadband provision. It was agreed that the Clerk ask BT Openreach about its work in Presteigne and the sporadic nature of the fibre offering in the town and surrounding areas.

(5) Update on Leisure Services Review: Nothing further to report at this stage.

(6) Future of Welsh Air Ambulance Services: Agreed that the Clerk write to oppose the closure of the Welshpool base, stating that the Town Council could see no possible advantage to its residents from the closure.

(7) Education in Presteigne inc. update on meeting requested with Head/Campus Head at John Beddoes Campus: Members noted that the Clerk had made contact to request a meeting but that the School was currently preparing for and undergoing an Estyn inspection. A meeting would be arranged once this had concluded.

Cllr. Wilding asked whether the plans for a through School for Presteigne had progressed and Cllr. Baynham confirmed that this was still in the County Council plans for the future. It was agreed that this was an option to be pursued in order to secure a long term future for education in the town.

MIN 4255 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr. Edwards: Appointment of Chief Executive with a start date very soon.

Cllr. Baynham had nothing to add.

MIN 4256 RESIGNATIONS OF CLLRS BAMFORD AND POSTER

The resignations of Cllr. Bamford and Cllr. Poster were noted and the Clerk explained the process for advertising and filling the casual vacancies.

Members noted that the posts of Chairman for both Sites and Buildings and Climate Crisis Committees were therefore currently vacant and would be filled at the next meeting of those Committees.

MIN 4257 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR REMAINDER OF 2023/24

Members were asked to consider this with nominations to be taken at the November meeting.

MIN 4258 APPOINTMENT OF REPLACEMENTS TO COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

Replacement on Sites and Buildings Committee: Cllr. Baynham.

Replacements on Climate Crisis Committee: Cllrs. Edwards and Baynham.

The vacancies on the Working Groups would be left and filled later in the year if needed or if not at the Annual Meeting in May.

All Memberships would be reviewed in May when the two vacancies on the Council should have been filled.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Warden Guardians Foundation to advise the Cllr. Bamford was no longer on the Council and no replacement had been appointed but that the Group should contact the Clerk if it needed any help etc.

MIN 4259 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) Broadband in Presteigne: Cllr. Van Huls advised Members that much of Presteigne could now access fibre to the cabinet broadband but this was not widely publicised.

The meeting closed at 9.22 pm.

Minutes 18.10.23 PNTC

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PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

Investment Policy

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Presteigne and Norton Town Council acknowledges the importance of prudently investing the temporary surplus funds held on behalf of the community as part of its duty to have the highest standard of care for precept payers' money.

2. POLICY

2.1 This policy establishes formal objectives, practices and reporting arrangements for the effective management and control of the council's treasury management activities and the associated risks and should be read in conjunction with the council's Financial Regulations.

3. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

3.1. The council's investment priorities are:

- the security of its reserves;
- the adequate liquidity of its investments, and
- the return on investment – the council will aim to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity.

3.2 All investments will be made in sterling.

3.3 The borrowing of money purely to invest, or to lend and make a return, is unlawful and the council will not engage in such activity.

3.4 The council will monitor the risk of loss on investments by review of credit ratings on a regular basis. The council will only invest in institutions of high credit quality – based on information from credit rating agencies.

3.5 Investments will be spread over different providers where appropriate to minimise risk.

4. SPECIFIED INVESTMENTS

4.1 Specified investments are those offering high security and high liquidity, made in sterling and with a maturity of no more than a year. Such short term investments made with the UK Government, or a local authority, or town or parish council, will automatically be Specified Investments.

4.2 For the prudent management of its treasury balances, maintaining sufficient levels of security and liquidity, Presteigne and Norton Town Council will use:

– Deposits with banks, building societies, local authorities or other public authorities and other approved public sector investment funds.

4.3 The choice of institution and length of deposit will be at the approval of the full Town Council

4.4 The council will aim to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with the proper levels of security and liquidity.

5. NON-SPECIFIED INVESTMENTS

5.1 These investments have greater potential risk – examples include investment in the money market, stocks and shares. Given the unpredictability and uncertainty surrounding such investments the Council will not use this type of investment.

6. LIQUIDITY OF INVESTMENTS

6.1 The Finance Committee, in consultation with the Responsible Finance Officer, will determine the maximum periods for which funds may prudently be committed so as not to compromise liquidity.

6.2 Investments will be regarded as commencing on the date the commitment to invest is entered into rather than the date on which the funds are paid over to the counterparty.

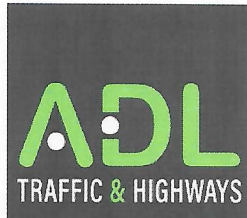
7. LONG TERM INVESTMENTS

7.1 Long term investments are defined as greater than 12 months. Any investment greater than 12 months will be subject to specific consideration and approval by the full Town Council.

8. INVESTMENT STRATEGY

8.1 The council will invest as much of its balances as possible in low risk products in order to achieve its investment objectives. The council is mindful of the need to not make the administration of investments too complex, especially when considering the current relatively low rates of return and the administration costs associated with managing multiple accounts and creating new accounts.

8.2 The investments will be split between appropriate bank and building societies and other low risk investment funds as determined by Finance Committee and the full Council.



ADL House, Oaklands Business Park,
Armstrong Way, Yate, BS37 5NA

wc@adltraffic.co.uk

Herefordshire.gov.uk

Scheme Ref. 3409-169

31st October 2023

Dear Statutory Consultee,

RE: TRAFFIC ORDER INVESTIGATIONS TO REDUCE THE EXISTING SPEED LIMIT ON THE B4362 BETWEEN PRESTEIGNE AND COMBE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

I write on behalf of Herefordshire Council to advise you of the outcome of the Traffic Order (TO) investigations that have recently been undertaken regarding a reduction in the existing national speed limit to a 40mph speed limit on the B4362 in the vicinity of Combe Corner and its junction with the C1007. This has been investigated as a result of a request raised by local representatives to undertake a review the current speed limits in place.

Officers visited the site in August 2023 to conduct an assessment and met with members of the Parish Council's on both sides of the Welsh Border. In addition to this site assessment, speed surveys have been undertaken and the accident history over the most recent 5-year period has been reviewed.

As a result of this assessment, it has been deemed that this section of carriageway is unsuitable for progressing a Traffic Order to reduce the speed limit here for the following reasons:

Department for Transport (DfT) guidance states the following when considering a 40mph speed limit on a single carriageway road with a predominant motor traffic flow function (such as the B4362):

"A 40mph speed limit should be considered where 'there are many junctions, bends and accesses, substantial development, a strong environmental or landscape reason, or where there are considerable numbers of vulnerable road users'".

This section of the B4362 at Combe under investigation has one junction with only a handful of property accesses, two bends and properties significantly set back from the road. Evidence suggests there are unlikely to be a considerable number of vulnerable road users at this location. Therefore, it is deemed that this section of carriageway does not align with this DfT guidance.

The speed data gathered from the surveys shows that vehicles are currently travelling significantly faster than the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) guideline intervention level for a 40mph speed limit in both directions on approach to and away from the corner. However, the 85th percentile speed data suggests that vehicles are slowing down for the corner and given that request was for a speed limit in the vicinity of the corner, due to speeding vehicles here, a speed limit reduction is unlikely to reduce vehicle speeds significantly further here.

The analysis of the collision history shows that there is a limited collision history here, with only two recorded personal injury collisions reported - one of which was a drunk driver.

Therefore, it is deemed this section of the B4362 does not meet the above-mentioned criteria and, as such, does not qualify for a 40mph speed limit.

A plan showing the 85th percentile vehicle speed data, gathered in September 2023 as part of the assessment, together with the collision history data is attached to this letter.

We will also investigate the potential to enhance the existing Traffic Engineering measures already on site, including signage and road markings that could be installed along the route, in order to further manage traffic in the absence of a speed limit here.

The next stage of the TO process will be to write an Officers Decision report outlining the above information and to recommend to formally close down the investigations of a speed limit here. If you have any observations or comments, please contact ADL Traffic & Highways Engineering Ltd by email at wc@adltraffic.co.uk or at the above address.

The deadline for receipt of comments is **noon of Tuesday 21st November 2023.**

Yours sincerely,

Will Cox BSc (Hons), GradCIHT
Traffic Engineer

Contributory Factors Report Summary - 2023 ADL WC - B4362 Welsh border to Coombes Moor area

Accidents Found Date Range: 13/10/2018 - 31/07/2021

Grid Coordinate Range: 334515, 263152 - 334942, 263453

Accident Date BETWEEN '01-Jan-2018' AND '31-Jul-2023'

Accident Severity

	2018	2021	Total
Serious	1	0	1
Slight	0	1	1
Total	1	1	2

Casualty Severity

	2018	2021	Total
Serious	1	0	1
Slight	0	1	1
Total	1	1	2

Casualty KSI

	2018	2021	Total
Adult KSI	1	0	1
Slight	0	1	1
Total	1	1	2

2023 ADL WC - B4362 Welsh border to Coombes Moor area

Accident Date BETWEEN '01-Jan-2018' AND '31-Jul-2023'

Accident Reference:355744 Serious B4362 COMBE CORNER. COMBE Accident 1 of 2

Saturday 13/10/2018 21:22 Grid Coordinates: 334515 / 263453 Lighting: Dark/no lights

Surface: Wet/Damp Weather: Raining without high winds

Contributory Factors

- 307 Travelling too fast for conditions (Driver/Rider - Injudicious)
501 Impaired by alcohol (Driver/Rider - Impairment)

Participant

Vehicle 001
Vehicle 001

Confidence

Very likely
Very likely

Did a police officer attend?

Yes

Accident Description

Single vehicle RTC, DQ deiver. Left the road near side and went over ? Of a river bridge and he was thrown through the windscreen. He sustained 2 broken legs and a minor head injury. Unable to breath test but likely under the influence.
Taken to selly oak.

Vehicles

1 Car Going ahead right hand bend Skid Not provided SE to N Male Age 44

Casualties

1 Driver or Rider Serious Vehicle no.1 Male 44

Accident Reference:1073681 Slight B4362 AT COOMBE MOOR OS COOMBE COTTAGE Accident 2 of 2

Saturday 31/07/2021 08:05 Grid Coordinates: 334942 / 263152 Lighting: Daylight

Surface: Wet/Damp Weather: Raining without high winds

Contributory Factors

- 103 Slippery road due to weather (Road Environment Contrib)
410 Loss of control (Driver/Rider - Error)

Participant

Vehicle 001
Vehicle 001

Confidence

Very likely
Very likely

Did a police officer attend?

Yes

Accident Description

V1 has been travelling from the direction of Presteigne on the B4362 towards Shobdon. Driver of V1 has lost control of vehicle on a elft hand bend at Coombes Moor, the road surface was wet/damp. The vehicle has collided with the offside hedge and rolled over. Driver has minor bump to head.

Vehicles

1 Car Going ahead right hand bend Skid & O/T Negative W to SE Female Age 24

Casualties

1 Driver or Rider Slight Vehicle no.1 Female 24

PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT

NOVEMBER 2023

1. INFORMATION –

a) Grass Verges: I have received three further emails objecting to the change in management and two supporting it since the last meeting.

2. FINANCE

a) Council Investment Policy: Members will all have received a draft of a basic policy for the Council. With the rises in interest rates it has become much more possible to achieve a reasonable rate of interest on the cash held and so following a suggestion from Cllr. Wilding a proposal is included on your agenda for your consideration. The Council reserves have also increased in recent years and these need a thorough review as part of your budget setting process in January. Currently the Council has more than the financial compensation limit of £85,000 with HSBC. This risk should be considered, again I suggest in January, when the latest project reserves/general reserves will be produced for consideration.

3. SITES AND BUILDINGS –

a) Eddie's Meadow Work: As requested the Community Payback team cleared back the brambles at the top of Eddie's Meadow on 23rd October. They also weeded and cleared the entrance to the Nature Reserve.

b) Nature Reserve: As the grant project is now complete I have placed the Reserve under the Sites and Buildings section. To confirm that I have claimed repayment of all the invoices I have to date.

4. HHE –

a) Fold Farm Footpath Update: I chased this in October and received the following reply on 3rd November – *'This year has continued to present challenges that have required urgent action and attention, not least the accelerating pace of work around the climate and nature emergencies and profound budget challenges, which have an impact on all of our residents. Activity around these areas does sit within the role of the Professional Lead and it is unfortunate but unavoidable that this does impact on the time for other casework. However, we have agreed that officers will look to present a report to Committee in March 2024. That is subject to the caveat that when officers send out the consultation report in early 2024, the responses may necessitate further consideration or legal advice.'*

b) Climate Crisis Committee: Unfortunately I received too many apologies for this meeting to go ahead. There were only a few items on the agenda and I have included these under Climate Crisis on your November agenda.

5. GENERAL –

a) Christmas lights: These will be going up shortly and Highline will turn them on on 1st December. There is money in the budget for lights in Norton if Norton Councillors wish to consider this.

b) Casual Vacancies on the Council: The closing date for a formal election to be called by the electorate is 9th November so I will update you at the meeting. If no election is called then the Council proceeds to advertise the vacancies for co-option and Members will then consider any applicants at a future meeting.

PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL



CLIMATE CRISIS REPORT NOVEMBER 2023

Since the Town Council's acknowledgement of the Climate Emergency in May 2019 the Council has continued to work to reduce climate change and improve biodiversity in and around Presteigne and Norton.

The work of the Council is divided into the following areas:-

1. Council Day to Day Working.
2. Council Buildings.
3. Council land and open spaces.
4. Council Climate Crisis Small Grants Scheme.
5. Planning Matters.
6. General

Council Day to Day Working:-

Reduced postages through increased use of email.

Members encouraged to access meeting papers electronically.

Printing only when necessary and when printing do so double sided to reduce paper use.

Printer/toner cartridges recycled.

Printer has economy mode when not in use.

Decreased Brightness on the computer screen.

Computer/printer turned off at night.

Council Buildings:-

Energy usage minimised through use of LED bulbs in lighting.

Motion Sensors in Hereford Street Public Toilets reduce energy use.

Council Land and Open Spaces:-

Recycling bins installed on Went's Meadow to enable users to dispose of their cans, bottles etc responsibly.

Users of Meadow encouraged to reduce their use of single use plastic.

Biodegradable dog bags provided.

Weed killing treatments reduced and only used when essential.

Trials of wild/wildflower areas on Went's Meadow.

Lower Went's Meadow cut just once annually.

Eddie's Meadow managed with minimal intervention.

Hedge Management: Trial ongoing to reduce cutting and allow selected hedges to grow out and upwards. For regular review.

Rejuvenation of small pond on Lower Went's Meadow.

Ongoing provision of organic allotments.

Provision of community orchard.

New management plan commissioned for Eddie's Meadow.

Purchase and creation of new Nature Reserve, planting of trees, open grassland, wildflower areas and ponds. (via Heritage Lottery Grant/Welsh Government)

Council Crisis Local Grants Scheme:-

Introduced in April 2020 this fund provides small grants to local groups and organisations to carry out climate crisis or biodiversity work. To date the scheme has funded –

Tree Weekend

Purchase of yellow rattle plants for verges.

Reuseable Plastic Cups for use at events.

Energy Survey

Creation of Garden – Warden View Methodist Church.

Applications can be made at any time and forms are on the town website or can be obtained from the Clerk to the Council.

Planning Matters:-

Recommended to the LDP that conservation area protections should be balanced with environmental improvements to properties like double glazing, heating systems etc.

Consider commercial planning applications with regard for their potential environmental impact.

Where possible request that new property built or extensive renovations to old property must be to the highest environmental standards.

General:-

Dark Skies Project: Supported and helped fund the dark skies project to reduce light pollution and energy use with support of County Council. Application now submitted.

Bus Issues: Requested action to stop school buses idling engines outside school premises.
Electric Vehicle Charging Points: Pressed for charging points in Presteigne town which are now in place in the Hereford Street Car Park.

Roundabouts and Verges:

Roundabouts: One managed by Caring for God's Acre, one planted and managed by Radnor Hills.

Roadside Verges: A recent change in Town Council policy means that the Town Council now supports the Powys County Council county wide mowing policy with the exception of the grass bank/verge below the Warden which will remain under the management of volunteers.

Member of Renew Wales.

Active Travel: Pressed for initial two phases of the Active Travel Route in Presteigne and continuing to press for the extension of that route to Norton to encourage reduced use of vehicles.

20mph Limit: Pressed repeatedly for a 20mph limit in the town centre – something that is now in place not only in Presteigne and Norton but throughout Wales.

Climate Events: To publicise climate events via the TC facebook page and newsletter.