

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

14th October, 2025

Dear Councillor

There will be a meeting of Presteigne and Norton Town Council on **MONDAY 20th October, 2025 at 7.00 p.m.** at the **East Radnorshire Day Centre**, Scottleton 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/83794437797?pwd=LQQTyHZZbMqVe31hu2ehsDU1JGk2eN.1>

Meeting ID: 837 9443 7797 Passcode: 035311

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 meeting held on 15th September, 2025 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 15th September. Also to receive the Clerk's Report for October.

5. FINANCE

- a) Donations: To approve the following donations –
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Royal British Legion (poppy wreaths) | £75.00 |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
- b) Payments: to approve the following payments:-
- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| Mrs T.A. Price (pay) | £1668.44 |
| HM Revenue & Customs | £733.21 |
| NEST | £155.40 |
| Highground Maintenance Ltd | £469.96 MEADOW ACC |
| T. Lloyd-John | £735.23 |
| N. Close | £12.00 |
| N. Close | £184.00 MEADOW ACC |
| Lyreco (toilet rolls) | £49.50 |
| Lyreco (office supplies) | £10.79 |
| John Cromar (tree survey) | £1350.00 MEADOW ACC |
| British Gas Lite | £17.27 |
| Presteigne Building Supplies | £52.34 MEADOW ACC |
| RB Landscaping | £324.00 MEADOW ACC |
| EDF Energy | £20.98 MEADOW ACC |
| EDF Energy | £43.65 |
| Powys County Council (bunting licence Christmas :Lights) | £130.00 (debit card) |
| William Smith Group (signs Brilliant Basics Grant Project) | £54.18 |
- NB £2 refund made to allotment tenant who paid into TC account in error.
- c) Budget Update to end of September, 2025. Also to consider removal of allocated reserve for website (£1212) and storage container (£599) and return to general reserves.
- d) Interim Internal Audit Update.
- e) Grant Application: Presteigne Little People's Playgroup : To consider the grant application for £250 towards gardening set up costs. (Could be considered from Climate Crisis Grant Fund?).
- f) To consider the Democracy and Boundary Commission draft report on Councillor remuneration for 2026-27.
- g) To consider renewal of the Money Market Bond for a further term.
- h) Receipts: To note the following receipt –
- | | |
|--|----------|
| HM Revenue & Customs (VAT refund – mid year) | £5876.45 |
|--|----------|
- i) Bank Transfer: To approve the following transfer –
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Treasurer Account to Meadow Account | £5476.10 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
- j) Update re. code of conduct training cost. To consider whether to agree to the higher cost of £60.

6. PLANNING

(a) To consider applications received:

25/1267/TPO Grid Ref: E: 330858 N: 264438. Proposal: Removal, Pollarding and Crowning of 7 trees (TPO-543) Location: Silia Cottage , Warden Road, Presteigne LD8 2NL.

25/1250/RES Grid Reference: E:331819 N: 263670 Proposal: Reserved matters (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) in respect of outline consent 20/0116/OUT for the erection of 35 dwellings (11 affordable) and associated works Site Address: Land At Broadaxe Farm, Broadaxe, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2LA.

25/1366/HH Grid Reference: E:333408 N: 263535 Proposal: Erection of rear extension and dormer window (part retrospective) Site Address: The Heath, Presteigne, LD8 2HG.

25/1432/TRE Grid Ref: E: 331550 N: 264286 Proposal: Removal of 14 trees within a conservation area Location: Presteigne Youth Centre, Hereford Street, Presteigne Powys LD8 2AR.

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 –
25/0592/FUL Land at Lower Rowley, Evenjobb: Refused 8th September.
25/0784/LBC 51a High Street, Presteigne: Approval 25th September.
- (c) Trees and TPOs: To receive an update report from Cllr. Baynham.

7. HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

- a) Dark Skies Project: To receive an update from Cllr. Harling-Bowen. See also Clerk's Report 7.
b) Climate and Environment Matters. To receive an update from Cllr. J. Ramsay.
NB Updated Biodiversity Report due December.
c) Fold Farm DMMO Application: To receive any update.
d) Car Parking: Update.
e) Tree Work/Surveys: To note the reply from the County Council. (Clerk's Report 4).
f) Reply from David Chadwick MP re consultation on use of biocides etc. (as emailed 24th September).
g) Reply from County Council re. damage to Lugg Bridge. Clerk's Report 5.
h) Update on various highway items. Clerk's Report 8.
i) Topple Testing of Memorials in Presteigne Cemetery. (Cllr. Kirkby).
j) Replies re. cross border funding on Health Provision.
k) Management of Roundabouts in 2026. To consider offers to continue from present sponsors.
l) Daffodil Bulbs and Planting: To consider any requirements in 2025.

8. NORTON

- a) To consider any village matters.

9. SITES AND BUILDINGS MATTERS

- a) Public Conveniences: Update on any ongoing matters including painting of Hereford Street Building.
b) Allotments: To include –
Meeting with PNAA
Untidy Plots Update and to consider termination of one tenancy.
Need for Replacement Gate Post at Site Entrance.
Current Waiting List
c) Meadows: To include –
Quote for next pallet of Dog Bags (price held).
Update - café bar/storage. (Cllr. Kirkby).
Update – Brilliant Basics Grant (paths). (Cllr. Preece).
Hedge Management Review Update.
Hedge along East Side of path from Scottleton Street. (Cllr. Ramsay).
(Quote obtained)
Tree Survey Report: NB report going to Committee on 27th October.
Meadow Use Request – Sheep Music 8th November (fireworks/music etc).

Complaint re. hedge cutting/new paths.

d) Nature Reserve Matters: To receive a general update from Cllr. J. Ramsay and consider any decisions needed including path maintenance budget.

10. CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

- a) Leisure Services Review: Update.
- b) Recent Burglaries in Presteigne: To receive information from Cllr. Baynham (if any) and consider response to the letter from the police.
- c) Future Town Carnivals: Report on AGM.
- d) Full Fibre Broadband Update. See Clerk's Report 3.
- e) Telephone Box Adoption: Update.
- f) Residents' Email re swift boxes for new development on former Kayes' Site.
- g) Christmas Lights/Christmas Trees Update.

11. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

12. CASUAL VACANCY UPDATE

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

Enc. Clerk's Report October. Minutes from 15th September, 2025. 2025. Budget Update. Any other background papers.

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton
PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15TH SEPTEMBER 2025
HELD AT NORTON COMMUNITY HUB, NORTON, PRESTEIGNE AND ALSO VIA VIDEO
CONFERENCING

Present: Cllrs. D. Edwards, (Mayor), T. Owens, L. Harling-Bowen, A. Ramsay, C. Kirkby MBE, F. Preece, M. Price, J. Ramsay and F.H. Fleming.

Apologies: Cllrs. C. Ross (Deputy Mayor), B. Baynham, N. Rogers.

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.

MIN 4524 RESIGNATION OF ANDRE VAN HULS

Cllr. Edwards reported that Cllr. Va Huls had resigned from the Council. It was agreed that the Clerk write a letter of thanks to Cllr. Van Huls and start the process to fill the vacancy.

MIN 4525 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th August, 2025 were approved as a true and accurate record and the Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 4526 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS AND CLERKS REPORT

(1) Missing Bin, High Street: The Clerk reported that Cllr. Ross had followed this up and the relevant officer was now aware. It would be replaced as soon as possible.

(2) Recent Burglaries, Presteigne: Cllr. Kirkby asked if Cllr. Van Huls had been able to obtain more detailed information from those affected so a response could be sent to the letter from the police.

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Van Huls had been unable to get any more information. It was agreed to defer any further action until the next meeting so Cllr. Baynham could be consulted as it was felt she may have relevant information due to her position as the local County Councillor.

(3) Renovation of Bench, Station Road: Agreed that a letter of thanks be written to the resident who had paid for the renovation.

(4) Pollution of River Lugg: Cllr. Kirkby had received a reply from the River's Trust with some data however there was currently no testing in the Presteigne area and it was agreed that the Clerk write to NRW requesting monitoring for biocides in the Presteigne area of the Lugg.

(5) Trees, Scallions: The Clerk confirmed these would be added to the PCC Inspection/Works Programme. Cllr. Kirkby asked that the Clerk ask if the precise date had now been scheduled and if she could stress that the trees at the Scallions and in Station Road should be included.

(6) Lost Rights of Way: The following reply was noted - *'Quite a number of your selections have been popular with others too. I do not have everyone's submissions yet, but it looks like it will be time to apply for all of the routes you prioritised, although this is likely to take a year or more to complete the task. All the routes were selected by me because they had at least one piece of strong evidence, but sometimes, when I look at all the evidence for a route, there is not enough to make an application. This has only happened in two cases so far. You can follow the progress of the route on the British Horse Society map.'*

(7) Tennis Court Net: In mid August the Clerk had received a complaint about the net on the tennis court. On inspection it appeared to have been tied up randomly and after a bit of fiddling these knots were undone and the net tensioned properly. The resident is now happy with the net.

(8) Use of Barn by Fitness Instructor: This had now stopped. There were no classes currently using the new barn.

(9) Norton Kiosk: Door repair done and door repainted. Some paint was available on request for the volunteers to paint the remainder.

MIN 4527 FINANCE

(1) Donations: The following donations were approved –

Sheep Music (annual bonfire/fireworks)	£500.00 (precepted)
Presteigne and Norton Community Trust (annual Norton bonfire/fireworks)	£400 (precepted)

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved –

Mrs T.A. Price (pay)	£1668.44
HM Revenue & Customs	£733.21
NEST	£155.40
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£469.96 MEADOW ACC
T. Lloyd-John	£765.23
N. Close	£12.00
N. Close	£216.00 MEADOW ACC
D.E. Edwards (refund expenses)	£136.80
R. Bennet (storage building)	£3000.00 MEADOW ACC
British Gas Lite	£19.08
Kington Building Supplies (storage building)	£309.52 MEADOW ACC
Presteigne Building Supplies	£1404.11 MEADOW ACC
EDF Energy (Meadow)	£35.22 MEADOW ACC
Alan Preece (digging of allotment)	£150.00 MEADOW ACC
PHS Group (toilets)	£22.05
EDF Energy (Hereford Street Toilets)	40.52

(3) Transfer of the Mayor's Allowance Budget to Mayor's expenses for 2025-26: Agreed that this should be vired across to expenses.

(4) Review of Internal Auditor and Internal Audit Arrangements for 2025-26: 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 –

Allotment Plot Deposit	£28.00 MEADOW ACC
Powys County Council (precept)	£25,351.00

MIN 4528 PLANNING

(1) Applications: No applications this month.

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

25/0911/HH 1 Albert Square, Presteigne: Refused.

25//0477/CAC The Old Laundry, Broad Street, Presteigne: Approved.

(3) Trees and TPOs: The Clerk provided a brief update as Cllr. Baynham was not present. Letters had now gone out to most of the landowners with just a couple of queries remaining for which the Clerk was waiting for more information. She advised that two of the proposed trees were sited on the Council Nature Reserve and asked for confirmation that these were to be included in the list for submission to the County Council. This was agreed.

(4) Local Development Plan – Meeting Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs: Resolved no comment be made.

(5) Email of Concern re proposed gym facility/planning permissions on Old Depot Site: The Clerk reported that she had received an email expressing concern that a new facility was opening on the site and that 24 hour opening was being advertised. She added that Cllr. Baynham had been in touch with the planning department to ask that the situation be investigated.

MIN 4529 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) Dark Skies Project: Cllr. Harling-Bowen provided the following updates –

- Bat Walk held as part of Presteigne Festival on 21st August.
- Visit by representatives of Dark Skies International on 4th September. Help had been offered towards the production of the first report due at the end of the year. It had also been suggested that Presteigne consider twinning with a dark sky community in New Zealand. Members agreed to consider this but asked that Cllr. Harling-Bowen get more details before a decision was made.

- On September 11th Cllr. Harling-Bowen had met a community group at Hundred House that was interested in setting up a dark sky area.
- First meeting of Presteigne and Norton Dark Sky Support Group to be held on 26th September. All Members welcome to attend.

(2) Climate and Environment Matters: Cllr. J. Ramsay had nothing to report at present but stated that he felt it was important that the Town Council was active on climate and environment matters. He would email Members to ask for ideas that the Council could consider.

(3) Fold Farm DMMO Application: The amended representation had been sent to the County Council on 27th August. What will happen next is included here as received from the County Council - *Any objections or representations received will be placed on file for now. Once the deadline for receipt (being 12th September 2025) has passed, then we will review them and prepare a submission to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) who act on behalf of the Welsh Ministers in determining these cases. For Definitive Map Modification Order cases, the Council does not have the discretion to decide whether an opposed Order will come into effect or not; that must be decided by an Inspector appointed by PEDW.*

The PEDW decision-making process is focussed on assessing the witness and historic documentary evidence in relation to the case against the statute law and case law relevant to this type of casework. Whilst we recognise their importance to members of the community, other matters such as impacts of the Order on the interests of the public are outside the scope of the legal tests for Definitive Map Modification Orders, so cannot be considered.

The Closing date for objections or representations had now closed and an update had been requested from the County Council but no reply received as yet.

(4) Car Parking: The email reply from the Portfolio Holder was discussed. Members expressed concern that the changes to the charges had not been sufficiently publicised and the Clerk was asked to write and suggest that holders of the blue disabled badges be written to, to advise them that parking would now be charged for. She was also asked to request the most recent monthly figures for the two Presteigne car parks stating that in order to consider submitting a business case for the Town Council requesting a transfer of the car park. It was noted that previously the County Council had stated it was unable to supply expenditure figures for individual car parks but it was felt that these should be available even if on a pro rata basis and that they should be requested again.

MIN 4530 NORTON

(1) Weeds in Pavements: Cllr. Edwards had received a complaint about these. It would be reported to the County Council.

(2) Report of a lack of white lining at the bend at Home Farm Lane to the twelve trees. No action for the present.

MIN 4531 SITES AND BUILDINGS

(1) Public Conveniences: The Clerk was still struggling to get a definite date for the painting of the Hereford Street site.

(2) Allotments: The Clerk provided an update on the following matters –

- Untidy plots – all but one had now been addressed. Cllrs. Edwards and Preece to meet with the remaining tenant to discuss.
- Waiting List - currently there was no one on the list.
- Bases of Allotment Pumps – to be replaced as soon as time permitted.
- Allotment Association: Cllrs. Edwards and Preece to meet with representatives of the Association to discuss the site and recent concerns.
- Plot 36 – The Little People's Playgroup had accepted the offer of plot 36 (free of charge). Members confirmed that the Clerk should issue a formal tenancy to the Group.

(3) Meadows: The following matters were discussed -

- Update - Café bar/storage: Cllr. Kirkby reported that works were now mostly finished and it was hoped the project would be completed by the end of November.
- Update – Brilliant Basics Grant (paths): Cllr. Preece gave a short update on progress. The Clerk was asked to chase the County Council re. the work needed at the Old Mill end of the path.
- Hedge Management Review: Cllr. J. Ramsay reported that a number of minor changes were proposed and Cllr. Price reminded him that they were due to meet on site to discuss the review but that this had not yet happened. It was agreed that this would happen over the coming few days. The

Clerk confirmed that any proposals for the 2025 cut should be agreed by Full Council. Members were happy that some minor changes be made but that the details should be provided to all as soon as possible so the Clerk could advise the contractor. Cllr. J. Ramsay reminded Members that the three year programme would finish this year and so a fuller review would be due in 2026.

- Cutting of Lower Went's Meadow: Agreed that Lower Went's Meadow should be cut with the flail at the same time as the hedge trimming.
 - Use for Community Apple Juicing/Activities/Music – 28th September 2pm-5pm: Agreed.
- (4) Nature Reserve Matters: Cllr. J. Ramsay reported the following –
- Volunteer turnout still good.
 - Some small grants were available to the volunteers.
 - One pond now dried out and more bentonite clay to spread on this soon.
 - Improved numbers of butterflies.
 - No major changes to range of species on the site as yet.
 - Accessible paths on the site in need of renovation. Clerk to ask Community Payback team if they could weed in order to prepare the paths for improvement.

Cllr. Harling-Bowen added that a rare species of bat had been found in Silia Wood. Hazel dormice had also been found. He now had equipment that could be used on the Nature Reserve to identify bats and any other species that emitted ultrasonic sound.

(5) Offer of 'gala tent': Cllr. Edwards reported that the tent had been damaged in the winds after Norton Show and was no longer useable so would not need to be stored.

MIN 4532 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

- (1) Leisure Services Review: No update.
- (2) Active Travel Network Map Consultation: It was agreed to support the routes listed for Presteigne and Norton but to stress that the Town Council's priority was the Presteigne to Norton route. Members also raised concerns about increasing numbers using the road from Presteigne to Rockbridge, particularly in the Summer and the Clerk would also report these. It was suggested that the management at Rockbridge could make site users more aware of the permissive footpath route and the Clerk would get in touch with them to suggest this.
- (3) BT Phone Kiosk, Station Road: Members considered possible adoption and it was agreed that unless there was a use for the kiosk it would be better for it to be left in the ownership of BT. The Clerk was asked to put a post on social media to ask for suggestions for use that could be considered at a future meeting.
- (4) Cross Border Funding for Health Services - Request from Llandrindod Wells TC to write to the First Minister: Members shared the concerns of Llandrindod Wells Town Council and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to the First Minister as suggested.
- (5) Police Letter re. Recent crimes: See Minute 4526(2).
- (6) Annual Report for 2024/25: Approved as circulated.
- (7) Future Town Carnivals: The AGM was planned for the 23rd September. It was agreed to discuss the matter again after the AGM when it was hoped that sufficient people would have come forward to run the event in 2026.
- (8) Welsh Government Consultation on extending the duty on (principal) local authorities to broadcast meetings: Resolved no comment be made. Noted that this would not alter the position with Town and Community Councils.
- (9) Review of Meeting Start Times: Resolved to keep the same meeting start time at 7pm. Review in six months.
- (10) Small Christmas Trees for Shops: Agreed to provide trees in 2025. Cllr. Preece suggested that the fire service might put the trees up if asked. The lights for each tree were currently in the Town Council store – Cllr. Preece would check them to see they were working and if batteries were needed.
- (11) Reply from John Beddoes Campus re. pupil numbers: Noted. Members were pleased to note the appointment of an Engagement Co-Ordinator. The Clerk was now getting notifications on Facebook so posts from the School could be shared on the Council Facebook page. Cllr. Edwards advised that all Members were invited to the Founder's Day Service on 26th September at 9.30am at St. Andrews Church.
- (12) Fire Station - Nomination for Award: Cllr. Kirkby reported that the local Station had been nominated for the Top Fundraiser award and one of the fire-fighters had been nominated for the award for Community Champion. The Clerk would write letters of congratulations.
- (13) Report from Presteigne and Norton Community Trust: Cllr. Kirkby reported on the recent meeting of the Trust and on the options for its future. He explained that the Trust currently ran three projects in Norton

– the Show, the annual bonfire/fireworks and the Community Hub. He recommended that the Trust be handed over to the Norton Hub Committee as it fitted with the Trust's present activities. The Town Council would retain the right to appoint four Charity Trustees. It was agreed that the Hub Committee be handed the Trust and to be able to make any necessary changes to the name/constitution as needed for it to cover Norton only.

MIN 4533 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr. Edwards reported the following –

- County Council had confirmed that flags could be flown on private property but that none were to be placed on Powys property such as street lights and buildings.
- New public transport routes including a route to Leominster. Members highlighted that the timetable allowed for only a very short time in Leominster and Cllr. Edwards agreed to investigate.
- Congratulations to John Beddoes Campus on its recent exam results.
- Estyn Report on the Primary School released recently.

MIN 4534 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

- (1) Damage to Lugg Bridge: Cllr. Kirkby reported damage to part of the bridge. The Clerk would report. Cllr. Kirkby again raised the issue of a width restriction for the bridge and the Clerk agreed to review the previous correspondence on the matter and report back to the October meeting.
- (2) Presteigne Cricket Club: Agreed to write a letter of congratulations on winning the League.
- (3) John Beddoes Campus: The Clerk was asked to report repairs needed to the pavement and the speed humps outside the school building.

The meeting closed at 9.12 p.m.

PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT

OCTOBER 2025

1. Active Travel: Comments sent to County Council and the priority for the proposed Presteigne to Norton route and the concerns re the Presteigne to Rockbridge route have been noted. INFORMATION ONLY.
2. Following a complaint from a resident I reported their concerns to PCC which has now agreed to schedule works to clear the alleyway between Harpers Lane and Broad Street (report reference - 5618-5107-2848-8956). INFORMATION ONLY.
3. Broadband Update: I followed up the progress of full fibre towards the end of September and was updated as follows - Presteigne exchange is included in the Openreach commercial programme, and it is currently targeting build completion by the end of next year. Residents will be FTTP-enabled at various stages throughout the build, depending on where the network is constructed first. It will build as much as it can but not all premises in the exchange area will be included in the commercial build plans, as some properties won't be commercially viable. It does however expect to build to some premises in the area using direct funding from UK Government within the Project Gigabit procurement. If residents in the area would like to be kept up to date with the plans they can register for updates online.
4. Tree Inspections/Works: As requested I chased up the County Council for a date and received the following reply –
Full Tree Safety Inspections of the Presteigne Community Council area isn't scheduled until November 2026, we will be carrying out inspections (Tree Survey Reports) of known tree assets in November 2025. Once these are completed any work scheduled will be added to a program of works which will include the trees in Station Road and the Scallions, those works will likely take place early in the New Year certainly before the end of March 2026.
5. Damage to Lugg Bridge: Officer came out to inspect within a few days and sent the following reply –
We have created a job for the bridge to be repaired. As of the width restriction sign , at this moment we can't authorise a sign to be placed on the bridge, but we could put 10mph signs out before you get to the bridge to slow them down. As for the width there seems to be enough width on the bridge, and it seems to be the speed they are going over there.
6. Permissive Path, Rockbridge: I have been in touch with the caravan park and they are aware of the path and say they do encourage people to use it. INFORMATION ONLY.
7. Dark Skies: Since the last meeting I have been contacted by two Councils looking for information on becoming a dark sky community – Highley in Shropshire and Wadhurst in East Sussex. Cllr. Harling-Bowen has kindly returned their calls.
8. Update on Highway Issues:
 - Poor Road Surface, Warden Close – PCC has confirmed that a job has been created for this to be done.
 - Slabs, Broad Street – PCC say these are all cleaned etc. If Members could look when next there and let me know at the meeting if any work is needed.
 - Overgrown Hedge just past Warden Close: PCC have created a job for this and it will be done when the hedge trimmer is next in the area.

2025-26 - Project Balances at 30th September 2025	(Including 2025-26 Precept)				
Meadows (as bank balance)	64,184.74	includes matured money market acc			
allotment monies (Held in Meadow Acc)	-				
Warden/Eddie's Meadow Reserve Fund (as bank balance)	0.00	Account now closed			
Remuneration of Councillors	1176.00				
Councillor Training	472.50				
Wildflower Mix / Bulbs	271.16				
Website	1212.00	Move to general reserves?			
Christmas Lights Anchorage Testing	698.80				
Renewal of Christmas lights	4177.95				
Toilets (both blocks)	28101.10				
Election Fund	7109.92				
Norton Lights	365.45				
Clerk's Training	233.00				
Devolved Services inc library	5854.00				
Xmas Lights Annual Costs	2428.25				
Norton General	0.00				
Dark Skies/Street Lighting NEW	968.00				
Climate Crisis Grants	1149.87				
MUGA/New Barn	17250.00				
Storage Container	599.00	Move to MUGA/Barn??			
	136,251.74				

BUDGET UPDATE 2025/26
PNTC

Expenditures	Final 2025/26	Spend to end Sept 2025		
Council Administration Costs				
Mayor's Allowance - vired to expenses	1000	0.00		
Mayor's Expenses	500	136.80		
Clerk's Salary PAYE inclusive. See note 1 below	30,643	16088.19		
Audit Fee (Internal and External)	350	100.00		
Insurance (3 year agreement exp. 2/9/25)	1575	1728.93		
Membership of SLCC	300	300.00		
Stationery & Computer Sundries/Petty Cash inc computer repairs	800	36.21		
Video Conferencing Licence (zoom)	150	129.90		
One Voice Wales Annual fee	600	612.00		
Training/Conference Fees for Clerk	0	Reserve held		
Travelling and Misc Expenses	100	38.70		
Election Expenses (reserve held)	250	to allocated reserve		
Remuneration of Councillors/Cllr Expenses.	0	Reserve held		
Councillor Training.	0	Reserve held		
Information Commissioner Data Registration	35	47.00		
Website (funded via advertising income)	0	0.00		
Bank Charges Treasurer Account	110	32.00		
	36,413.00	19,249.73		
Donations and S137s				
Air Ambulance	250	250		
British Legion (Remembrance Wreaths)	75	0		
East Radnorshire Care	2000	2000		
Memorial Hall	1500	1500		
Mid Border Arts	1500	1500		
Presteigne and Norton Community Trust	2000	2000		
Presteigne and Norton Community Trust (Fireworks)	400	400		
PACDG	250	250		
Presteigne Festival	1500	1500		
Presteigne Fireworks Display (Sheep Music)	500	500		
Presteigne & Norton Community Support	0	0		
The Judge's Lodging Trust Ltd	2000	2000		
Powys CAB	200	200		
The Samaritans	250	250		
Youth Project	1000	1000		
Miscellaneous	500	0		
	13,925.00	13,350.00		
Ongoing Projects:				
Anchorage Test for Xmas Lights	125	to allocated reserve		
Toilet Blocks (2) (£5000 reserves to be used for excess)	5000	6405.81		
Devolved Services (inc Town Library Service)(reserve held)	0	Renamed from Library		
Presteigne Christmas Lights (installation)	1200	0		
Wildflowers/ Bulbs/Verges/Roundabouts - 2024 via sponsorship	120	0		
Street Lighting/Dark Skies Project	0	See under new projects		
Climate Crisis Project Grants	0	Adequate reserve held.		
Street Cleaning Arrangements	0	Budget to be considered if contractor found.		
Christmas Lights, Norton	0	Possible use of old Presteigne Lights		
	6,445.00	6,405.81		
New Projects 2024-25				
New website	2300	654.15		
Disabled Access Paths Meadow (Match Funding)	3000	0		
New Storage Building (Match Funding)	3000	3000.00		
Christmas Lighting	3000	0		
Dark Skies Project	1500	143.40		
Additional for Devolved Services inc car parks/Leisure Centre	5,000	0		
	17,800.00	3,797.55		

BUDGET UPDATE 2025/26
PNTC

[illegible]

Presteigne and Norton Dark Skies Report
Presteigne and Norton Town Council Meeting 20 October 2025

1. Enquiries from interested groups regarding obtaining International Dark Sky Community Status were obtained from a community group at Hundred House (Powys), Archenfield Community Environment Group (Herefordshire), Wadhurst District Council (East Sussex) and Highley Parish Council (Shropshire).
2. The first meeting of the Presteigne and Norton Dark Skies Support Group took place on the evening of the 26th September 2025. This was well attended. Further meetings are planned and will be advertised on social media. Discover Parks have volunteered to produce a Presteigne and Norton dark sky publicity leaflet/brochure free of charge, as long as Rockbridge dark sky retreat is included. This is a good idea, as it will help attract tourism into the town. The Town Council need to have editorial oversight to ensure that the publication balances the needs of the Town with that of Discover Parks.
3. John Beddoes High School has now incorporated dark sky education into both the Science curriculum and Design & Technology curriculum. They are also interested in getting the students to help with light pollution measurements in Presteigne and Norton.
4. Budget allocation needs to be made soon regarding the installation of "dark sky compliant" Christmas lights in 2026. It is suggested that this item is put on the PNTC agenda for November 2025.
5. We have had notification from Dark Sky International that our first Dark Sky Annual Report will be due by the 31st January 2026.