

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

10th June, 2026

Dear Councillor

There will be a meeting of Presteigne and Norton Town Council on **Monday 15th June 2026 at 7.00 p.m.** at the **Norton Community Hub, Norton, 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/88457683492?pwd=D8Q43Px8QtsLi2BVGsTIOAPnPDtbyz.1>

Meeting ID: 884 5768 3492 Passcode: 531166

One tap mobile

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Join instructions

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/88457683492/invitations?signature=1-JlqIU1LYIL-uDWjVanOi1liu51SXNLU4O17RO7X8U>

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 18th May, 2026 are a true and accurate record and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes as such.

To approve that the Minutes of the Sites and Buildings Committee meeting held on 11th May, 2026 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 18th May. Also to receive the Clerk's Report for June.

5. FINANCE

a) Donations: To approve the following donations – None this month.
To note the letter of thanks from Wales Air Ambulance.

b) Payments: to approve the following payments:-

PHS Group	£5.40
PHS Group	£3.32
JRB Enterprises	£1321.20 MEADOW ACC
Ropes Direct	£85.62 MEADOW ACC
Post Office (refund T. Price – postage LDC)	£5.60 MEADOW ACC
Presteigne Building Supplies	£60.93 MEADOW ACC
Purrfect Cat Hire	£180.00 MEADOW ACC
British Gas Lite	£17.71
Mrs T. Price	£1665.84
HM Revenue & Customs	£735.81
NEST	£155.40
T. Lloyd-John	£765.23
N. Close	£76.00
N. Close	£120.00 MEADOW ACC
EDF Energy	£36.42
EDF Energy	£17.99 MEADOW ACC
Mole Valley Farmers (refund R. Rimington)	£66.00 MEADOW ACC
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£495.78 MEADOW ACC

c) To note the following receipts:

Allotment Rent	£60.00
Allotment Plot Deposits	£60.00

d) Change to HM Revenue & Customs Approved Mileage Rate from 45p per mile to 55p per mile. To consider change to current HMRC mileage rate for travel expenses..

e) Email from resident re. ongoing budget setting.

6. PLANNING

(a) To consider applications received:

Application Reference: P/26/0237/HH
Proposal: Proposed Rear Extension
Location: 4 KINGS COURT, PRESTEIGNE, LD8 2AJ.

Application Reference: P/26/0175/LBC
Proposal: Conversion of the ground floor portion of the old Lloyds Bank to two new dwelling flats (residential)
Location: LLOYDS TSB BANK PLC, HIGH STREET, PRESTEIGNE, LD8 2AU.

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

- (b) Planning Decisions: To note the following decisions – None this month.
- (c) TPO Submissions: Update by Cllr. Baynham.
- (d) Update re. Nant Mithil Energy Park Ltd. New Information submitted by developer.
- (e) Planning and Open Space Play Provision – Request for Suggestions.

7. HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

- a) Dark Skies Project: To receive an update on recent matters.
- b) Climate and Environment Matters:
 - To receive an update on any relevant matters. (Cllr. J. Ramsay)
- c) Fold Farm DMMO Application: To receive any update.
- d) High Street Grant Update. Clerk's Report 4.
- e) Update re. street cleaning Clerk's Report 5.
- f) Update re. fallen tree, Clatterbrook.
- g) Update on Applications to add lost rights of way in Radnor.
- h) To consider requesting a street name sign for Maes Corton. (Cllr. J. Ramsay).
- i) To consider requesting removal of the 'No Ball Games' sign on Lugg View (Cllr. J. Ramsay).
- j) To consider requesting removal of the Twinned with Ligne France sign(s) (assuming Presteigne is no longer formally twinned with Ligne). (Cllr. J. Ramsay).
- k) Grass Cutting, Station Road: Complaint received. Clerk's Report 2.

8. NORTON

- a) To consider any village matters.

9. SITES AND BUILDINGS MATTERS

- a) Public Conveniences: Update from Clerk as needed.
- b) Allotments: To receive an update on any outstanding matters from the Clerk.
- c) Meadows: To include –
Hedge Management Review Update (Cllrs Price and J. Ramsay)
- d) Nature Reserve Matters: To receive a general update from Cllr. J. Ramsay and consider any decisions needed.
- e) Recommendations of Sites and Buildings Committee –

Summary of Full Council Decisions Required –

Allotments: The following items were recommended –

Agree to check and if needed alter pump hose (Northern pump)(Done)

Agree to check gate on small bridge is fixed shut and remove plastic barrier. (Done)

To consider purchase of sign for main allotment gate.

Nature Reserve: The following items were recommended –

Quotes for Storage Container to be updated.

Meadows: The following items were recommended -

Redundant gatepost Skateboard Park: To accept the offer of Mr. Graham to remove and fill in hole.

Loose Slates, Little Hut: To accept the offer of Mr. R. Rimington to secure these.

Pump track: to note the update provided and agree that an application for a lawful development order be made in due course. (Done)

Hedge Management Review: To agree Cllrs. Price and J. Ramsay to meet on site to discuss the review and report back to Council at the June or July meetings.

To write letters of thanks as listed in the Minutes.

Eddie's Meadow: To consider a review of the management of the site and if needed a Working Group be created to discuss.

10. CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

- a) Leisure Services Review: Update on proposed report to Cabinet.
- b) Revival of Chamber of Trade (Cllr. Harling-Bowen)
- c) Little Art Gallery Kiosk Project: Update and decision on contractor to provide the electrical certificate.
- d) Pride in Place Grant Application Decision and Update. Clerk's Report 3.
- e) One Voice Wales Civility and Respect Pledge: To consider signing the pledge as drafted by One Voice Wales (emailed on 6th June).
- f) Community Resilience/Community Risk Register: Request for Town Council Comments.

11. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

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

Enc. Clerk's Report June. Minutes May, 2026. Minutes Sites and Building Committee Meeting May 2026. Other background papers.

PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S REPORT JUNE 2026

1. Roping off of area around trees awaiting work on Nature Reserve: This has now been done. Thanks due to Cllr. J. Ramsay and Mr. Richard Rimington for arranging.
2. Missed Grass Cutting, Station Road: This was reported to me by a resident and I have raised with PCC.
3. Pride in Place Grant: I am pleased to say this grant application has been successful and work to secure the necessary quotes etc is underway by the two project managers (East Radnorshire Care and Presteigne Youth Project). As the PYP project is likely to be one contractor we will need to advertise on the Sell2Wales site and I am in the process of registering to do this. An initial (online) meeting with the Regeneration Team at PCC has taken place to give an initial briefing on how the projects will be expected to work, repayments etc.
4. High Street Shop Frontage Grant: After some considerable chasing this was finally submitted on 25th May. All applications are currently on hold while the newly elected Senedd Members settle in but PCC is hopeful for a decision on additional/future funding soon. Six premises were included in the application.
5. Street Cleaning Update: Cllr. Ross and myself met the new contractor on 3rd June and agreed an initial programme of work in and around the town centre. By the time of the meeting some if not all of the work will have been carried out as when walking around we felt it worth doing as soon as possible. The initial ten hours agreed by Council will cover clearing around the new TC telephone kiosk and bench, work on weeds on the pavings at the bottom of Station Road and then removal of weeds and silt along Hereford Street into the Town Centre, High Street and if any time left down Broad Street. Other possible future works you might wish to consider are the cleaning of street signs, cleaning and re-painting of the heritage (blue) signs, cleaning of the pavings at the Knighton Road junction, leaf clearing in the Autumn, further weed clearance generally. Members can review the initial work once completed and consider further works from there. Initial meeting was positive and the contractor may also purchase a small street cleaning machine in the future.
6. External Audit: Notices displayed as required. Papers will go to Wales Audit Office by the end of this month (as required by law).
7. Access to Wilson Terrace by Resident: This has been agreed following consultation with Cllr. Ross. Will be for around 2 weeks from 13th June.

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PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 18TH MAY 2026
HELD AT THE JUDGE'S LODGINGS (MAYOR MAKING) AND THEN THE EAST
RADNORSHIRE DAY CENTRE, PRESTEIGNE. ALSO VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

Present: Cllrs. C. Ross, (Mayor), J. Ramsay (Deputy Mayor), C. Kirkby MBE, D. Edwards, T. Owens, F. Preece, A. Ramsay, N. Rogers, L. Harling-Bowen, F.H. Fleming.

Apologies: Cllrs. B. Baynham, L. Poulson-Haynes.
Absent: Cllr. M. Price.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Town Clerk.

Declarations of Interest: Members were requested to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests they may have in matters to be considered at the meeting in accordance with the terms of the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct Order) (Wales) Order 2008.

Personal: None.

Personal and Prejudicial: None.

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

MIN 4613 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN 2026/27

Cllr. Edwards opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. She then spoke for a short while on her year in office. She thanked Members, the Clerk and all contractors for their work for the Council over the year. She added that in her role as Mayor she had witnessed the strength, kindness and resilience of people in Presteigne and Norton. She highlighted projects over the year including the new paths network on Went's Meadow, ongoing work on the Council Nature Reserve and the starting of a new initiative to provide some free parking for Presteigne in 2026/27. She noted that other Community Councils seemed to also be looking at this as an option for the future. She noted the town of culture bid and the hard work that had gone into producing this. She also recognised the invaluable contribution from the various volunteers, groups and businesses that contributed to making the community what it is. Cllr. Edwards concluded by wishing her successor good luck for their term in office and invited nominations for Mayor/Chairman for 2026/27.

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

Cllr. Ross completed his formal acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk. He thanked Members for his election and Cllr. Edwards for her work during her term as Mayor. He praised Presteigne and Norton Town Council for "refusing to be satisfied by past successes," highlighting how the authority has gone far beyond the traditional responsibilities of a town council. While councils are typically expected to maintain parks, playgrounds and public amenities, he said the community had continually expanded its ambitions through major projects and investment in local wellbeing. Recent achievements highlighted were the creation of the eight-acre Coed Llanandras nature reserve, new community event and storage facilities, and plans to potentially double the size of the town skate park. He also pointed to the town's bid for Town of Culture funding as an example of the community's determination to think bigger, describing the potential £3 million investment as "the single biggest investment Presteigne and Norton would have seen in living memory", if won. Even if the bid is unsuccessful, he said the process had already revealed the "extensive network of tireless volunteer, charity and community groups" across the area, while identifying opportunities to improve provision for young people. Looking ahead, he added that the council's focus for the coming year would be strengthening cooperation across the community and "joining the dots" between local organisations, residents and young people.

MIN 4614 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR AND VICE-CHAIRMAN 2025/26

Cllr. Ross then invited nominations for Deputy Mayor. Cllr. J. Ramsay was proposed by Cllr. Kirkby and seconded by Cllr. Harling-Bowen. There were no other nominations and Cllr. J. Ramsay was elected unanimously.

Members then removed to the East Radnorshire Day Centre to continue business.

MIN 4615 REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

The following Memberships were agreed –

SITES AND BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Cllrs. Baynham, Preece, Price, Kirkby, J. Ramsay and Ross (One additional Member added)
Outside Representatives for Meadow Matters: Richard Rimington, Gareth Graham.
Outside Representative for Allotments: Margaret Galliers.
Outside Representative for Nature Reserve: Kate Van Den Ende.

STAFFING COMMITTEE

Cllrs. Baynham, Edwards, Ross, Owens and Kirkby.

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP

Membership to be - Cllrs Harling-Bowen, Edwards, J. Ramsay and Kirkby.
Plus two outside representatives – Hilary Rimington, Kate Van Den Ende.

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

LEISURE CENTRE WORKING GROUP: To comprise all Members of the Council. Outside Representatives as needed.

DARK SKIES/INTELLIGENT LIGHTING WORKING GROUP

Cllrs. Kirkby, J. Ramsay, Harling-Bowen, A. Ramsay. Vacancy for outside representative.
(One additional Member added).
Cllr. Harling-Bowen to consider an outside representative for Council to appoint.

SUSTAINABLE POWYS WORKING GROUP

Cllrs. Baynham, Edwards, Harling-Bowen, Owens, A. Ramsay and Kirkby.

ALLOTMENT LIAISON MEMBER: Cllr. Preece.

YOUTH REPRESENTATION MEMBER(S): Cllrs. Owens and Rogers.

Grant Awarding Policy Working Group and Library Services Working Group to be formed if needed in the future.

Given several Members were absent it was agreed to review the above at the June meeting if necessary.

MIN 4616 REVIEW OF APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The following representatives were agreed -

Presteigne Primary School
One Voice Wales
PACDG
East Radnorshire Care
Norton Community Trust
Warden Guardian Foundation

Cllr. Ross
Cllrs. Ross and J. Ramsay.
Cllr. Harling-Bowen.
Cllrs. Edwards and Ross.
Cllr. Edwards.
Cllr. Kirkby.

MIN 4617 REVIEW AND CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

(1) Standing Orders: Confirmed unchanged. Continued serving of meeting papers via email confirmed but noted that printed copies would be supplied on request and either posted or brought to meetings for collection.

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

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

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

(5) Remuneration payments to Town Councillors: The following payments would be available for the municipal year May 2026 to April 2027:

- An annual sum of £156 per year per Member, paid in arrears (mandatory).
- An annual sum of £52 per Member for expenses, paid in arrears (mandatory).
- Reimbursement of the cost of travel expenses incurred for travel on Council business outside the Community Council area.
- Refunding the cost of care expenses up to the current stated approved cost per month (mandatory)
- Payment of the Mayor/Chairman's Allowance as per the budget allocated plus a separate budget for expenses.

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

(7) Annual Report 2025-26: The Clerk confirmed that she would soon be drafting the report and invited articles from Members. Several suggestions put forward by Members who agreed to draft reports and submit them to the Clerk.

MIN 4618 MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Member attendance records for 2025/26 were duly noted.

MIN 4619 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

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

The Annual Meeting concluded at 8.05pm and was followed immediately by the ordinary business meeting.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON 18TH MAY 2026 HELD AT THE EAST RADNORSHIRE DAY CENTRE, PRESTEIGNE AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

Present: Cllrs. C. Ross, (Mayor), J. Ramsay (Deputy Mayor), C. Kirkby MBE, D. Edwards, T. Owens, F. Preece, A. Ramsay, N. Rogers, L. Harling-Bowen, F.H. Fleming.

Apologies: Cllrs. B. Baynham and L. Poulson-Haynes.

Absent: Cllr. M. Price.

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 4620 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th April, 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record and the Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

MIN 4621 FOLD FARM DMMO

The meeting was adjourned at this point for Members to hear from Mr. Graham Taylor of the Ramblers Association who attended to provide advice on the current situation regarding the objections to the formation of the Order. He advised that the new information provided during the period of time for objections should indeed be passed to PEDW for review but that there was no fixed time scale for this to happen. He added that while the Authority would not be able to change its decision it was able to review the objections and consider whether to actively defend its decision to award the Order or whether to take a neutral stance during the consideration by PEDW. Should the County Council not defend the awarding of the order then the Ramblers Association would assist the Town Council to do so. He stated that he felt the Officer in post was excellent but that the difficulties centred around the resources she had available. He suggested that the matter be escalated to the Portfolio Holder and the local County Councillor to ask that more resources be allocated to expedite the matter. He added that possibly it would be useful to contact the new Senedd Members to see if they could also press for more resources to be allocated. He saw no reason why the objection evidence should not be supplied to the Town Council as the applicant for the DMMO. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the County Council again to request copies of the objections and to consult with Cllr. Baynham over possible escalation to the Portfolio Holder, Senedd Members etc.

MIN 4622 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ITEMS

(1) Pollarding of Trees, Station Road: The Clerk had received the following reply – *‘The return visit to pollard the lapsed pollards we reduced was not scheduled to take place within 12 months, we need to phase reduce these to make sure the tree does not fail completely so they will be done in the winter of 2027/28 (end of next year). Prior to this happening a management plan will be put in place with the aim of fully pollarding every other tree other year so we have a situation where the street is never without some tree canopy coverage, but also never in the situation again where any of the pollards lapse.’*

(2) Visit to Mowley Valley: Members reminded to let Cllr. J. Ramsay know if they wished to attend. Cllrs. Ross, Harling-Bowen and Kirkby confirmed they would like to go.

(3) High Street Grant: The Clerk reported that although she now met the minimum threshold for an application she was struggling to get the paperwork from several of the businesses involved. Cllrs. Owens and Edwards agreed to visit the businesses in question to try to encourage them to submit the remaining paperwork.

(4) Kington/Corton Roundabout: Cllr. J. Ramsay said he still had concerns about the mowing and had recently spoken to someone cutting the grass. Cllr. Rogers had agreed to look after the roundabout and confirmed this person was there on his behalf. He added that it was incorrect to raise the issue of wildflowers. He also pointed out that the roundabout was a County Council

responsibility and he was doing the work on its behalf and in liaison with Cllr. Baynham. The Clerk advised that the roundabout was not under the control of the Town Council and that it was merely consulted by Cllr. Baynham out of courtesy. This concluded the discussion.

(5) Potholes and Poor Road Surfaces: Cllr. Owens reminded Members to keep reporting issues online. The list of roads to be resurfaced locally in the current year had still not been received and the Clerk would chase for the details.

(6) Gel Dispenser and Picnic Bench Repair: The Clerk had chased this work but did not know if it had yet been done.

(7) Clerk's Report Information Items noted and covered –

- Free Car Parking Days: Continued to be promoted via facebook. The new sign for putting on the machine on the free days had been done and the second day of free parking was 2nd May.
- One Voice Wales Biodiversity Packages: Grant feedback form completed . Cllr. J. Ramsay kindly took some photographs for the Clerk to include.
- Training: A reminder that the Council has a have a small budget set aside for Members' training.

MIN 4623 FINANCE

(1) Donations: The following grants/donations (as agreed from Mayor's Allowance 2025-26) were confirmed

- Norton Community Hub Clock Appeal £600.00
- Restoration of Village Signage (to be drawn down as needed) £200.00
- Norton Community Hub (for use for children's or educational activities) £563.00

The letters of thanks from PACDG and Presteigne Memorial Hall were noted.

(2) Payments: The following payments were approved –

Pipe Dream Fittings (refund G. Graham)	£81.22 MEADOW ACC
Presteigne Building Supplies	£140.76 MEADOW ACC
R.B. Landscaping (work at allotments/skateboard park)	£273.12 MEADOW ACC
T.A. Price (travel/expenses)	£43.29
HSBC (charges)	£2.00 MEADOW ACC
Mrs T.A. Price (salary May)	£1900.08
HM Revenue & Customs	£875.62
NEST (pensions)	£155.40
C. Kirkby (travel expenses)	£21.60
Artisan Print (car parking poster)	£5.82
EDF Energy (Hereford Street)	£46.72
EDF Energy (Meadow)	£16.56 MEADOW ACC
British Gas Lite (Wilson Terrace)	£15.61
Presteigne Building Supplies	£5.18
T. Lloyd-John	£735.23
Alan Preece (work at allotments)	£300.00 MEADOW ACC
Highground Maintenance Ltd	£495.78 MEADOW ACC
Information Commissioner (Data Registration)	£47.00

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

Interest from Money Market Account	£775.37 MEADOW ACC
HM Revenue and Customs (VAT Refund)	£2,527.89
Allotment Rent (balance on one plot)	£2.00

(4) Internal Audit: The report of the internal auditor was noted. No issues had been raised.

(5) External Audit/Annual Return and Governance Statement: Members considered and approved the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement for submission to the External Auditors together with associated papers. Members noted that two sections of the Annual Governance Statement were entered as no, the Council was not eligible to use the general power of competence and it had not recently carried out a community consultation. The Clerk had included explanatory notes for the Wales Audit Office.

(6) The following Bank Balances as at 30th April, 2026 were noted as:

Treasurer	£40,434.60	Money Manager	£37,527.88
Meadow	£7,694.92	Money Market Acc	£50,000.00

(7) Bank Signatories: Confirmed unchanged.

(8) Bank Transfers: The following bank transfers were agreed –

Treasurer Account to Meadow Account	£14,050.00	Annual Precept amount
Treasurer Account to Meadow Account	£1612.95	VAT Refund
Meadow Account to Treasurer Account	£374.01	Allotment Hours (inc employer's NI)

(9) Ethical Banking Update : Cllr. J. Ramsay reported that he had looked into the affairs of the Council's current banker and believed it was not appropriate for the Council to continue with them. He suggested some other possibilities including Unity Trust Bank (details had been provided by the Clerk). The Clerk stressed that the offering of a business account was not the only consideration and that any bank used would need to be able to manage and understand Council banking and procedures. Unity Trust Bank was the only bank of those listed by Cllr. Ramsay that she felt happy to support. Unity Trust did however charge for their current bank accounts at £7 per month. The Town Council had two current bank accounts at present. Cllr. Ramsay would bring a full report to the July meeting for consideration.

(10) Investment Policy: Deferred to July meeting.

MIN 4624 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 –

P/26/0204/HH. **Proposal:** Creation of new access and associated works. **Location:** OXENBROOK, NORTON, PRESTEIGNE, LD8 2EN. Resolved no objections be raised.

P/26/0087/FUL. **Proposal:** Conversion of part of ground floor of former Lloyds Bank to 2 residential flats. **Location:** LLOYDS TSB BANK PLC, HIGH STREET, PRESTEIGNE, LD8 2AU. Resolved no objections be raised but any external lighting to be dark sky compliant. It was also noted that there seemed to be no toilet facility in the office section.

Cllr. Edwards returned to the room.

(2) Planning Decisions: None this month.

MIN 4625 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) Dark Skies Project Update: Cllr. Harling-Bowen reported on the following –

- Bat Conservation Trust: Cllr. Harling-Bowen gave a talk on "Prestegne dark skies and wildlife" via Zoom to Bat Conservation Trust staff and volunteers on the 22 April 2026, which was well received. A follow up article for "Bat News" has been suggested.
- Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places Partnership: On the 13 May 2026 Cllr. Harling-Bowen gave a talk on "Prestegne Dark Skies" to the Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places Partnership at the Bannau Brycheiniog Visitors Centre. The meeting had delegates from all of the National Parks in Wales. Following the talk, most delegates expressed an interest in visiting Prestegne, seeing the dark skies lighting and meeting the Town Council.

(2) Climate and Environment Update: Cllr. J. Ramsay Had nothing to report this month.

(3) Update re. Fold Farm DMMO Application: See Minute 4621.

(4) Car Parking - Update: Noted that the car park had again seen increased usage on the free Saturday.

(5) Meeting with Welsh Water re works in Norton: Cllrs. Edwards and Harling-Bowen reported on works due to take place in Mynd Road, Norton. Members were pleased to learn that the intention was to ensure any lighting used during the works was dark sky compliant. Cllr. Edwards informed Members that a request had been made for Welsh Water to resurface the road rather than further patching but it seemed this was unlikely to happen. There was also the possibility of some community work or community grants being available whilst the work took place.

(6) Confirmation re. Pound Lane Signage: Members noted the most recent correspondence from the County Council confirming that the direction of traffic would not be changed and noting the new signage.

(7) Gritting Information: Noted.

MIN 4626 NORTON

(1) Norton Village Signage: Cllr. Edwards was working with Mr. Wilding to do restore the signs.

(2) Potholes: Continued to be an issue but some had been done. Also various ongoing road surface issues.

MIN 4627 SITES AND BUILDINGS

(1) Public Conveniences: The Clerk reported that the sanitary services provider would be imposing a temporary surcharge due to the escalation in fuel prices.

(2) Allotments: The following matters were discussed –

- All plots now let although payment for the recent two lets was awaited.

- Request for use of ground covering Plot 24: Agreed.
- Request for Storage Box Plot 24: Agreed subject to size. Also agreed to allow storage boxes generally in future.

(3) Meadows: The following matters were discussed –

- Reply from County Council re. handrail for path by Old Mill: Noted that quotes would be sought by the County Council Officer.
- Use of Barn – Sheep Music Instructor 10th June: Agreed.
- Use of Barn – Sheep Music 13th June: Agreed.
- Pump Track – Cllr. Kirkby was pleased to report that following the initial processes he had now been informed that an application to the People and Places Fund would be permitted. He would now start drafting the application form. Permission was also granted for him to apply for a Lawful Development Certificate for the new track at a cost of £72.00.

(4) Nature Reserve: Cllr. J. Ramsay reported the following –

- Four goslings now hatched.
- Roping of the area around the trees needing work to be done very soon.
- Storage Container: Quotes needing to be updated. The intention was to site the container in late August and as such a decision on supplier would need to be made by July.

(5) Urgent Matters from Sites and Buildings Committee: None other than the pump track discussed above. Full Committee recommendations to be discussed at the June meeting.

MIN 4628 CORRESPONDENCE/GENERAL ITEMS

(1) Leisure Centre Update: No update.

(2) Enquiry re. dementia friendly status: Members noted the enquiry from a member of the public and the Clerk explained that formal status had not been sought previously. She was asked to look into how the formal status was achieved and report back to a future meeting.

(3) Adoption of Telephone Kiosk: Cllr. Ross was pleased to report that the kiosk had now been formally transferred to the Town Council. He had been in touch with the lady who had proposed the little art gallery project and suggested that a working group be sought up to manage the project. Councillors Ross, A. Ramsay and Edwards wished to be part of the Group with the lady who raised the idea although it was agreed that any Councillor could attend/assist as was needed.

(4) Work to Norton War Memorial: The Clerk reported that she had approached four stone masons for quotes but that only one had been willing to quote. It was agreed that the quote from JB Protheroe be accepted and the Clerk was asked to commission the work.

MIN 4629 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

None. Cllr. Baynham not present and Cllr. Edwards had reported under Norton.

MIN 4630 URGENT BUSINESS INFORMATION

(1) Site Meeting in Norton Churchyard, Caring for God's Acre: Cllr. Harling-Bowen reported that a site meeting concerning mowing arrangements was due to take place shortly and added that if any Councillor wished to attend (as an individual not as a Councillor), they would be very welcome.

The meeting closed at 9.42 p.m.

Cyngor Tref Llanandras a Norton PRESTEIGNE AND NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE SITES AND BUILDINGS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 11TH MAY 2026 AT THE EAST RADNORSHIRE DAY CENTRE, SCOTTLETON STREET, PRESTEIGNE AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

Present: Cllrs. Edwards (Mayor), Preece (Committee Chairman), Price (Committee Vice-Chairman), J. Ramsay, Kirkby.

Outside Representatives: Mr. R. Rimington, Ms M. Galliers, Ms. L. Joyce, Ms K. Van Den Ende.

Apologies: Mr. G. Graham.

Absent: Cllr. Baynham.

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

Personal: None.

Personal and Prejudicial: None

MIN SB13/25 ALLOTMENTS

(1) Report by PNAA Representatives: Mrs Galliers and Ms Joyce gave a verbal report on the year so far and on the recent meetings of the Association. This was as follows-

- Annual Meeting attended by sixteen members and Cllr. Edwards representing the Town Council.
- Seven member Committee formed.
- Revised Association Handbook discussed.
- No events planned at present.
- Pump to Northern end of site – pipe too short. Clerk to arrange to be altered.
- Rabbits continuing to be a problem. Believed to be accessing via the closed bridge.
- Dislike the plastic barrier believing it to be unsightly.
- Request for name sign on main gate.
- Thanks to Payback team re. path strimming. Clerk confirmed that visibility splay was part of the list for strimming when on site.
- Request for Gazebo on Carnival Day: Clerk confirmed this would need to be done via the Carnival Committee which booked all the gazebos out as a block for the day.
- Playgroup now started planting. Some concerns voiced by Mrs Galliers. Cllr. Edwards stated that it was good to encourage young gardeners for the future.
- Still concerns over some plots not being tended sufficiently.
- Vacant Plots: Clerk hoped that all would be let shortly.

Mrs Galliers and Ms Joyce left the meeting at this point.

MIN SB14/25 NATURE RESERVE

(1) Update: Ms. Van Den Ende reported on matters generally including –

- Young trees flourishing.
- Wildflowers increasing and general biodiversity improving.
- Bioblitz Day on 7th June.
- Monitoring ongoing and now also included monthly fixed point photography.
- Bat etc monitoring now happening and a number of species identified.
- New hedge planted by residents at the rear of their property.
- 300 reed plants and seed obtained from County Council Local Places for Nature Fund.

- One Voice Wales Grants for trees, plants seed, dipping kits etc.
- Entrance now fully accessible.
- Mower maintenance – agreed to top up oil and lubricate moving parts. Costs to be submitted to Clerk for approval.
- More bentonite for bottom pond to be spread in due course.
- Tree work postponed to late Summer/Autumn. Cllr. Ramsay to supply a plan of access for equipment but if possible someone to attend on the day to see equipment onto site. In the meantime Cllr. Ramsay would arrange for the area to be roped off.
- Container Quotes: Clerk had obtained an updated quote from the previous contractor. Others no longer valid as obtained in 2025. Mr. Rimington to update. Clerk would need copies of actual quotes in due course.

MIN SB15/25 WENT'S AND EDDIE'S MEADOWS, MUGA, FOOTBALL PITCH

(1) Report on Work Day: Cllr. Preece reported on the work day and Members noted the written report by Mr. Graham. It was noted that numbers were low but a huge amount of work had been done on the day. Thanks were noted in particular to Mr. Graham, Mr. Shepherd. O. and R. Rimington. The Clerk would thank them formally. It was noted that there was some tree growth towards the electricity wires and it was agreed that the Clerk ask Western Power to look at cutting these back. The redundant gate post at the skateboard park had not been removed but Mr. Graham would try to do this in the coming weeks. Mr. Rimington agreed to sort the loose slates on the small hut. The second sign for the Brilliant Basics Grant would be put in place shortly.

(2) Report on concluded Brilliant Basics Grant Project (paths): Cllr. Preece reported that this had been completed and the contractor paid. Thanks noted to the contractors and to Mr. Graham for their hard work on the project and to Cllrs. Preece and Price for overseeing the project.

(3) Proposed Pump Track Project Update: Cllr. Kirkby reported that sourcing potential grant funding was proving tricky despite exploring a number of possibilities. However a People and Places application was probably possible and he was currently in discussions with the relevant officer at the Lottery on whether an application could be made. There was a need for a community consultation and this was underway. Supporting evidence was also being obtained from the Town of Culture Feedback Survey where a pump track was mentioned by a number of responders. He had spoken to the planning department and no planning permission was required and the work could be done under permitted development rights but he felt that a Lawful Development Certificate should be applied for so there would be formal confirmation.

(4) Arrangements for next Hedge Management Review: Cllr. Ramsay felt that the policy needed full review rather than updating the current policy. Cllr. Price felt that a meeting on site would be best and it was agreed that he and Cllr. Ramsay would meet on site to review and report to Council. Cllr. Price also stressed that if hedges were left for three years then the subsequent cut would appear more brutal than more regular cutting. He added that the work had been done a little earlier in 2025 in order to minimise damage to the ground. The Clerk stressed the need for any changes to be agreed by Council at the June or July meetings so there was time to brief the contractor on the work schedule for 2026.

(5) Update on Full Council decisions following last Committee Meeting:

- Mowing of Back Field: Previous volunteer had confirmed they were willing to continue to do this.
- Paths on Eddie's Meadow: Community Payback Team asked to do these. Clerk would chase.
- Repairs to Stone Bridge done.
- Tree stakes in orchard mostly removed.
- Tree work pending due to the very wet ground conditions.
- Toilet Budget: Had been adjusted by Full Council to use £2000 more from the toilet reserve held.
- No free tree offers had been found for giving away to individuals. Mr. Rimington reported that the Wildlife Trust sometimes had trees spare after planting but this was of course not suitable for a formal tree giveaway by the Council.
- Trees planted in Cemetery.

MIN SB16/25 TOILET BLOCKS

The Clerk reported the following –

- Disabled Cubicle alarm to be fitted in the next few days.
- Painting of Hereford Street Block still not commenced.

MIN SB17/25 URGENT INFORMATION.

(1) Long Term Management of Eddie's Meadow: Mr. Rimington suggested planting the site with trees and although this was not taken forward it was agreed that the Town Council consider having a Working Group discuss future management.

(2) Review of Items in Storage Container: Cllrs. Preece, Edwards and the Clerk would be reviewing/tidying the container in June.

Summary of Full Council Decisions Required –

Allotments: The following items were recommended –

Agree to check and if needed alter pump hose (Northern pump)

Agree to check gate on small bridge is fixed shut and remove plastic barrier.

To consider purchase of sign for main allotment gate.

Nature Reserve: The following items were recommended –

Quotes for Storage Container to be updated.

Meadows: The following items were recommended –

Redundant gatepost Skateboard Park: To accept the offer of Mr. Graham to remove and fill in hole.

Loose Slates, Little Hut: To accept the offer of Mr. R. Rimington to secure these.

Pump track: to note the update provided and agree that an application for a lawful development order be made in due course.

Hedge Management Review: To agree Cllrs. Price and J. Ramsay to meet on site to discuss the review and report back to Council at the June or July meetings.

To write letters of thanks as listed above.

Eddie's Meadow: To consider a review of the management of the site and if needed a Working Group be created to discuss.

Toilets: None.

General: None.

The meeting closed at 8.17 pm.