



PRESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 12 December 2022 at 6.15pm at Preesall and Knott End Youth and Community Centre

Present: Cllrs K Shepherd (Mayor), R Drobny, S Jepson, P Orme, S Rossall, K Woods.

In attendance: Alison May Clerk to the council; three members of the public.

155a(1) Apologies for absence – Cllr Johnson, Cllr Lewin, Cllr Rollason.

155b(1) Absent without apology – Cllr Williams.

156(2) Declaration of interests and dispensations

None.

157(3) Minutes of the last meetings

Councillors **resolved** to approve as a correct record the minutes, as presented, of the meetings held on 14 November and 30 November 2022.

158(4) Public participation

Resolved: to adjourn the meeting to allow non-councillors to speak.

County Cllr Salter reported that budget setting for the next financial year was under way at Lancashire County Council. He also agreed to chase the requests for:

- a member of the public to pay for the installation of a pavement between Park Lane and the boundary with Stalmine.
- Provision of paint for the Esplanade railings and to ascertain what is happening re the areas in need of welding.

He continues to pursue UU regarding the road sinkage outside Carter's Charity School.

He agreed to take action on the lack of salt/grit at the two junior schools and to take forward any requests to LCC for additional grit bins.

He also agreed to check on the road patching at the bottom of Park Lane and whether it is fit for purpose.

Cllr Drobny arrived at 6.25pm

Resolved: at the conclusion of the public session to reconvene the meeting at 6.33pm

159(5) Changes to the criteria for the consideration of grant applications

Resolved: to revise the rules on when grant applications are considered. Going forward the council is to consider applications on a quarterly basis. The next review to take place at the March meeting.

160(6) Exclusion of the press and public

Resolved: to move item 6 to later in the agenda. Pursuant to Section 1(2) and 1(3) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the council may resolve to exclude the press and public to discuss a staffing matter and a grant application from an individual.

161(7) Planning applications

Councillors **noted** that no applications have been received. It was queried why application 22/22/01048/AGR had not been presented to the council for comment by Wyre planning. The clerk informed the council that once a response was received from planning it would be circulated to councillors.

162(8) Reports from committees and working groups

i) Finance committee

Councillors **resolved to note** that the finance committee will meet prior to the meeting and approved December's expenditure.

ii) Civic Events committee

Councillors **resolved to note** that the civic events committee met on 16 November and that the next meeting of the committee will take place in the new year – date to be confirmed. It had been resolved that the May Day event would proceed on 1 May.

iii) Personnel committee

Councillors **resolved to note** that the personnel committee met on 16 November and that the next meeting of the committee will take place on 14 December.

iv) Committee attendance

Resolved: that standing orders are amended so that where a councillor fails to attend three meetings they are automatically removed from that committee and cannot return within 12 months. Also, that apologies for absence be provided to the clerk by 10.00am on the day of the meeting.

163(9) Telescope

Councillors noted that a special motion in accordance with Standing Order 7a had been submitted to the clerk as proper officer requesting that this item be revisited. **Resolved:** that the non-fee telescope be sited near the Esplanade panorama. This is because the public funding of £1,000 to £1,200, announced as being available to the council at the September and October meetings, is not in place. It had previously been agreed that the individual making the donation could determine the siting of the telescope. As the council has now paid in full for the telescope it will be sited alongside the council's other assets on the Esplanade.

164(10) Public bench ownership

Resolved: that the clerk purchase five benches at a cost of up to £2,600 with funding coming from general reserves. Going forward, members of the public requesting benches to be directed to replace failed benches in the community. Where possible repairs to be carried out on the existing benches.

165(11) Green canopy initiative

Resolved: that the council would provide up to £450 of funding for the replacement of four damaged trees on Preesall Park and the purchase of up to five more to be planted within the Wyre whips in order to create more of an impact sooner. It was further **resolved** not to support a project to provide nature information on the park in the form of QR codes.

166(12) Projects for 2023/2024

Resolved: to ring-fence part of the environment budget by putting £3,000 into EMR for the provision of a disability access pathway once the council takes ownership of Kelly's Corner.

167 (6) Exclusion of the press and public

Resolved: Pursuant to Section 1(2) and 1(3) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to exclude the press and public to discuss a staffing matter and a grant application from an individual.

Resolved: not to support a grant application from a member of the public. It was felt that the precept raised in the community should be spent within the community.

Resolved: to interview the applicant for the clerk vacancy on Saturday 17 December at 10.00am.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

168(13) Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives

None.

169(14) Verbal reports from Wyre councillors

Wyre Council has appointed a new Chief Executive to replace Garry Payne when he retires at the end of the financial year.

170(15) Clerk's report

Councillors **noted** the information contained in the clerk's report:

Radar speed signs

The council authorised the clerk to purchase two of these from Evolis at a discount price of £4,500. Unfortunately, the new LCC rules regarding lighting columns specify that any speed camera attached can be no larger than 0.3 sqm. The Evolis camera is 0.5, therefore they have not been purchased. A list of suitable cameras is being put together by LCC. Details of the suitability of new post fixing locations are being investigated.

CCTV

The camera has now been checked and a new sim card has been inserted. It will be returned before Christmas. A purchase order commissioning the drilling of the lighting column and installation of a power supply at a cost of £481.50 + vat has been issued to LCC. Details of the correct department to commission for the installation of the camera are being chased by Wyre Council.

LANPAC certificate

A certificate of membership has been received from LANPAC.

Councillor training

Cllr Lewin and Cllr Rollason are to attend the planning for parish and town councils course in April.

Cllr Rollason is to attend the New Councillor and Clerk course in February.

Response from LCC re consultee request for any quarry application

On 24/11/2022 11:34, Haine, Jonathan wrote:

Hello Alison, We always consult the parish councils on any planning applications that we receive. The proposed site is in your parish so I confirm that Preesall PC would be consulted on any planning application. We would also consult Pilling PC as the site would be adjacent to the boundary.

Kelly's Corner

New staff have been recruited by Wyre Council with a named officer having been allocated the task of looking at the transfer of ownership of Kelly's Corner to Preesall Town Council.

Public benches

It has now been confirmed that ownership of public benches within the community has passed to Preesall Town Council. See agenda item.

171(16) Mayor's report

None.

172(17) Questions to councillors

Cllr Woods expressed thanks to the councillors and volunteers for the best lights switch-on, achieved by everyone working as a team.

173(18) Items for next agenda

The next meeting will be held on **9 January 2023** - councillors were asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda and provide updates from working groups by notifying the clerk **in writing by Thursday 29 December** at the latest. The item should specify the business which it is proposed be transacted, in such a way that the members who receive it can identify the matters which they will be expected to discuss i.e. it needs to specify what the proposal is and that a decision is required or whether the item is for information only.