



PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council
held on Wednesday 5 May 2021 at 7.30pm via
Zoom video conference**

Present: Cllrs P Orme (Mayor), A Cropper, J Cropper, R Drobny, T Johnson, K Nicholls, N Patrick, D Williams, L Woodhouse, K Woods.

In attendance: Alison May, clerk to the town council, and seven members of the public.

1 The Mayor Cllr Phil Orme, welcomed everyone to the meeting and delivered a short address.

The Mayor commented on the unusual setting – via Zoom - when in previous years the meeting would have been a celebratory event held in person. He thanked the many people who, over the past twelve months, have assisted the most vulnerable members of the community, NHS staff, Care home staff and council workers. He went on to comment on the frustration of the council not to have advanced a number of projects and its inability to recruit a lengthsman. However, there were some positives such as the seating area at Fordstone Avenue, the renovation of the millennium clock, the Preesall Town Council flag and the launch of the council's Facebook site. Plans for the future include progressing the CCTV system, the heritage pathway and the Barton Square project. Some civic events had taken place on a reduced scale such as Remembrance Sunday, VJ day and Commonwealth flag raising. The Christmas lights had been a great success as had the community organised sleigh ride round the villages.

It was also mentioned that the council had continued to be proactive on planning, flooding, housing and highways issues.

He finished by thanking the clerk for her hard work and everyone in Preesall and Knott End for making it a wonderful place.

2 Star Awards

The Mayor gave a speech thanking all those who have given their time within the community to help others. He thanked those individuals who had taken the time to nominate members of the community for the award and announced the winners of the 2020 awards.

The Star Award group trophy for 2020 went to the Covid-19 group for its tireless efforts to serve the community and in recognition of the many volunteers who had worked so hard. Specific awards to be given to Sandra Jepson and Nattie Wright for their work in establishing the group. In addition, given the unusual circumstances of the past 12 months, the council made an

additional award to Jane Mary Wilcox for her fundraising efforts and the support she had given to individuals and other help groups.

3 Election of Mayor for 2021/22

The Mayor invited nominations for Mayor.

Cllr A Cropper gave a short speech ending with the proposal that Cllr Phil Orme be elected to the office of Mayor of Preesall Town Council for the municipal year 2021/22.

Cllr J Cropper seconded the proposal.

Councillors **resolved** to agree to the proposal.

4 Investiture of Mayor

The Mayor read out and then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the proper officer.

5 The Mayor addressed the meeting

The Mayor, Cllr Orme, said he was looking forward to serving the community over the next municipal year. Plans were already in place to recruit a new lengthskeeper and to finalise a number of projects held in abeyance as a result of Covid. Funds from the Mayor's Charity would be held over until the end of his term of office.

6 Apologies for absence

Cllr Burn, Cllr Tarpey-Black.

7 Declarations of Interests

None.

8 Election of Deputy Mayor for 2021/22

Cllr Orme gave a short speech ending with the proposal that Cllr Kath Nicholls be elected to the office of Deputy Mayor of Preesall Town Council for the municipal year 2021/22.

Cllr Rob Drobny seconded the proposal.

Councillors **resolved** to agree to the proposal.

The Deputy Mayor read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Deputy Mayor, witnessed by the proper officer.

The Mayor invested Cllr Nicholls with the chain of office.

- 9 Review of delegation arrangements to the clerk**
Resolved: to readopt the clerk's delegations.
- 10 Review of the terms of reference for committees**
i) Councillors **resolved** to note the minutes of the finance committee held on 25 January.
ii) Councillors **resolved** to postpone the review of the terms of reference for the finance, civic events and personnel committees until the next meeting.
- 11 Appointment of members to existing committees**
Councillors **resolved** the following appointments:
Finance: Cllr Orme; Cllr Nicholls; Cllr Woodhouse + 1 vacancy to be temporarily filled by Cllr Williams.
Civic events: Cllr Orme; Cllr Drobny, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Woodhouse, Cllr Woods.
Personnel: Cllr Tarpey-Black; Cllr Johnson; Cllr Nicholls, Cllr Patrick, Cllr Woods.
- 12 Appointment of members as subject leads and outside body representatives**
Councillors **resolved** to appoint the following:
Co-op - Cllr Woodhouse
Best Kept Village - Cllr Orme
FOKEL - Cllr Woodhouse
Gala - Cllr Tarpey-Black
Halite/Brine watch - Cllr Johnson
Health (all aspects) - Cllr Tarpey-Black, Cllr Johnson
Highways - Cllr Patrick
Housing - Cllr Nicholls; Cllr Williams
Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) - Cllr Orme (all councillors have a right to attend)
Over Wyre Parishes joint meeting - Cllr Orme
Preesall Youth and Community Association - Cllr Johnson
Planning Ambassador - Cllr Patrick
Tourism - Cllr Johnson
Wyre Flood Forum - Cllr A Cropper, Cllr Johnson
Wyre In Bloom - Cllr Woods
Christmas Community Events committee - Cllr Woods
Youth - Cllr Patrick; Cllr Tarpey-Black

13 Standing Order 5j

Councillors **resolved** to note the following were reviewed and adopted at the March and April 2021 meetings:

Standing Orders and Financial Regulations - March

Asset register - March

Insurance renewal with Zurich - March

Clerk's subscription to SLCC - March

Council's subscription to LALC - April

Councillors **resolved** to note the following are to be reviewed as per the council's schedule for annual review of documentation:

Complaints procedure

Policies, procedures and practices in respect of its obligations under freedom of information and data protection legislation

Policy for dealing with the press/media

Employment policies and procedures.

14 Calendar of Town Council meetings for the 2021/22 civic year

Councillors **resolved** to approve the dates of the meetings for the 2021/22 civic year:

14 June 2021 – cancelled, to be replaced by a working group

12 July 2021

9 August 2021

13 September 2021

11 October 2021

8 November 2021

13 December 2021

10 January 2022

14 February 2022

14 March 2022

11 April 2022

9 May 2022

15 There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 8.20pm.