

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 13 April 2015 at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall

Present: Councillors P Orme (Mayor), R Black, B Campbell, R Drobny, P Greenhough, D Hudson, R Lawson, G McCann, J Mutch, K Nicholls, T Reilly and V Taylor

In Attendance: Jan Finch, Clerk to the Town Council, and three members of the public

(14-15)230 Apologies for Absence

None.

(14-15)231 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr McCann declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 12 (Finance) and 13 (verbal report from Wyre in Bloom representative) as his wife is heavily involved in the group. Cllr Orme declared a non-pecuniary interest in Items 7 and 9 (Preesall and Knott End Gala and Playing Field Lease) as he is involved with the development of the playing field and Item 8 (Shop Preesall) as he has a business in the village.

(14-15)232 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2015 be agreed as a true record.

(14-15)233 Public Participation (Including a Verbal Police Report)

At the request of the Mayor, councillors **resolved** to adjourn the meeting to allow non-councillors to speak.

Two members of the public raised concerns about planning application 15/00203/FUL and asked councillors to take those concerns into account when they considered the planning application.

The Clerk had circulated the crime figures provided by Sgt Freaney which showed that, in March 2015, there had been 5 crimes compared to 10 in March last year and 16 incidents of antisocial behaviour compared to 13 in the same period last year. Sgt Freaney would provide the narrative at a later date.

Cllr Drobny raised further concerns about police response times as he had called 999 to report a dangerous driver and a possible drug issue and there had been no response within 45 minutes.

Cllr Hudson asked if the Police still had funds to put traffic calming measures into place. It was this fund that had recently provided the new Speed Indicator sign and he asked that the possible use of this fund to install CCTV on Park Lane be placed on the June agenda. Cllr Reilly confirmed that the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner would be meeting Chief Superintendent Noble shortly and would make a response to Cllr Reilly's letter after that. Cllr Reilly had also received a letter from Eric Ollerenshaw MP giving his support.

Cllr Campbell relayed two complaints from residents in respect of the playing field. The first involved parents watching the football matches and leaving rubbish which then blows into people's gardens and the issue of dog fouling. He also raised concerns at the long term parking of a camper van on the Esplanade and the potential for others to park there over the summer.

Cllr Reilly reported that, in response to an issue raised at the Annual Town Meeting, he did not think it appropriate to put minutes on the notice board. The font would have to be made larger to make the minutes readable and this would take too many pages. He also raised concerns at the number of potholes and asked Cllr Taylor, in her role as County Councillor, to ensure they were filled as soon as possible.

Cllr Greenhough reported resident concerns at the speed some of the bikers travelled at along Lancaster Road and skateboarders are using sloping drives off Lancaster Road to gain speed and are annoying the residents concerned.

Cllrs Orme and Black asked for the provision of a sign showing Pilling Lane when accessed from Grasmere Avenue.

Cllr Orme asked if the Clerk could contact Cllr Paul Moon to ask for the swimming pool sign.

At the conclusion of the public participation and at the request of the Mayor, councillors **resolved** to reconvene the meeting.

(14-15)234 Subject Leads

Councillors **resolved** to instigate a system of subject leads for areas that are important to the Council and the community. Councillors further **resolved** to agree Housing, Health, Tourism and Youth as key subjects. Councillors discussed subject lead councillors and these will be confirmed at the Annual Meeting of the Council in May.

(14-15)235 Employment Working Group

Councillors **resolved** that Cllr Reilly be appointed to the Employment Working Group.

(14-15)236 Preesall and Knott End Gala

Councillors considered a request from the Gala Committee for hire of the playing field from Monday 6 July to Tuesday 14 July 2015 and **resolved** to agree to the request subject to the following conditions:

- a) that a bond of £500 be required with the full amount being returned as long as the playing field is undamaged and in good order
- b) That the costs of any work required to reinstate the playing field or to return it to good order be deducted from the bond
- c) That councillors and a representative of the Gala Committee inspect the playing field immediately before and after the Gala to determine whether the bond should be returned in full or in part

(14-15)237 Shop Preesall

Councillors **resolved** that Cllr Lawson work with Cllr Drobny on the scheme and that progress be reported at the June meeting.

(14-15)238 Playing Field Lease

Cllr Drobny circulated a paper outlining a number of options and councillors **resolved** to consider the paper prior to discussion at the June meeting. Councillors further **resolved** that each councillor be provided with a copy of the lease to aid deliberations.

(14-15)239 "Raising the Profile" Working Party

Councillors noted that the Working Party had not met and **resolved** that Cllr Reilly organise a meeting to take the action plan forward.

(14-15)240 Planning Applications

15/00223/FUL

Proposal: Rear conservatory

Location: Sunflower Barn, Bourbles Lane, Preesall

It was unanimously agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

15/00203/FUL**Proposal:** Erection of two detached dwellings**Location:** Land South of Park Lane, Preesall

It was unanimously agreed that the Council objects to the proposal on the grounds of low lying land prone to flooding; an already inadequate sewer and surface water drainage system; the road layout and volume and speed of traffic; accident record; inadequate sight lines on access/egress and impact on wildlife

15/00191/FUL**Proposal:** Replacement equine building for stabling and general storage of equipment including garaging of horse box following demolition of existing building**Location:** Caldera, 226 Pilling Lane, Preesall

It was unanimously agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

15/00156/FUL**Proposal:** Erection of detached building to the rear for use as garage and ancillary living accommodation**Location:** Horseshoe Barn, Bourbles Lane, Preesall

By a majority (4 councillors voted in favour) it was agreed that the Council objects to the proposal on the grounds that it is in a zone 3 flood risk area

15/00189/MB**Proposal:** Prior approval for the conversion of existing agricultural building to one residential dwelling (under class MB)**Location:** Willow Trees, Cart Gate, Preesall

It was unanimously agreed that the Council objects to the proposal on the grounds that the area is low lying and prone to flooding and the detrimental impact on bats and barn owls

15/00178/FUL**Proposal:** Roof lift, front and rear dormers and rear extension following demolition of conservatory, to existing annex attached to side of dwelling**Location:** 6 Little Tongues Lane, Preesall

By a majority (1 councillor voted against and 1 abstained) it was agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

15/00174/FUL**Proposal:** Erection of one dwelling (following demolition of existing building) (resubmission of 14/00819/FUL)**Location:** 9 Lune View (Old Emmanuel Church), Knott End

By a majority (1 councillor voted against and 1 abstained) it was agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

15/00216/FUL**Proposal:** New vehicular access to the front of property**Location:** Glenree, 163 Lancaster Road, Preesall

By a majority (1 councillor abstained) it was agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal but objects to the use of gravel

(14-15)241 Finance

a) Payments received:

Sponsorship (In Bloom)	£640.00
Reserve account interest (March)	£0.88
Stalmine Parish Council (14/0013)	£20.70
Wyre Council (precept)	£58,601.00

b) Payments approved:

2838/39	Staff Costs	£2041.14
2838	Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£31.48
2840	HMRC	£285.78
2841	Wyre Building Supplies	£60.73
2842	Lancashire Association of Local Councils	654.44
2843	The Society of Local Council Clerks	£187.00
2844	Wyre Council	£15.00
2845	Preesall Auto Discount	£58.74
2846	Mrs E Parry	£100.00

Payments by Standing Order/Direct Debit

Easy Websites (hosting fee)	£24.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	£22.58
LCC pension	£611.66

c) Transfers approved

Transfer from Current Account to In Bloom Account	£500.00
Transfer from Current Account to In Bloom Account	£278.80
Transfer from Current Account to Reserve Account	£3500.00

d) Statement of Accounts – March 2015

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for March which shows:

Current account	£12,380.04
Reserve account	£20,160.38
Mayor's Charity Account	£nil
In Bloom Account	£2,021.47

a) Budget Monitoring – Quarter 4

Councillors noted the budget outturn for the year 2014/15

Councillors **resolved** to note the payments by standing order/direct debit, the statement of accounts and the year end budget monitoring report and to approve the accounts for payment and the transfers.

(14-15)242 Verbal Reports from Outside Bodies (information only)

Protect Wyre Group

Cllr Orme reported that there would be no decision until after the General Election

LALC

Cllr Orme reported that the next meeting of the Wyre Area Committee will be on 16 April

Wyre in Bloom

Cllr Mutch reported that they had a successful cream scone and coffee morning raising around £390. They have identified a project in Jubilee Garden for discussion with the Council in June.

Wyre Road Safety Committee

The Clerk reported that there was some uncertainty over the future of this committee given staffing changes at LCC. It will be raised at the next meeting of the Three Tier Forum.

Wyre Festive Lights Committee

Cllr Reilly had attended a meeting on 17 March and topics included community events, LED lights, Christmas trees, road closures, insurance, the Local Event Organisers' Network, United Utilities and future funding. The festive lights grant for 2015 is likely to be circa £2160. The next meeting will be on 20 October at 6.30pm.

(14-15)243 Verbal Report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)

CCllr Taylor reported that a number of potholes had been marked for repair and the teams were working their way around them.

Cllr McCann reported that he had attended his last meeting of Wyre's Planning Committee and had raised concerns at the proliferation of caravan sites in Wyre and that this should be considered in the emerging Local Plan. He had also raised concerns over the lifting of the tie on agricultural workers' dwellings and the subsequent selling of such properties and the corresponding applications for new agricultural workers' dwellings.

Cllr Taylor reported on the number of successful prosecutions for fly tipping and an increase of 35% in the issue of fixed penalty notices for dog fouling.

(14-15)244 Clerk's Report (information only)

Councillors noted the information contained in the Clerk's report in respect of:

Lengthsman's Report

Through March the Lengthsman has carried out litter picking on some of the roadsides outside the villages and cut back the hedges and briars on the bridge footpath as well as more general tidying around the villages. He has also marked the pitches for Wyre Juniors twice.

Ornamental Welcome Sign

The sign on Head Dyke Lane has been damaged by a vehicle. The sign was returned to the manufacturer on 26 March for repair. The sign has now been straightened and the damaged paintwork repaired with no requirement for an insurance claim.

Neighbourhood Planning Update

Eric Ollerenshaw MP has provided a copy of a letter from Brandon Lewis MP to local authority leaders updating them on the current position in relation to Neighbourhood Planning and take up across the country. A copy of the letter can be provided on request.

Jubilee Garden Fencing

The bow top fencing has now been installed.

Public Rights Improvement Plan Consultation

Lancashire County Council is consulting on the public rights of way improvement plan from 23 March to 15 June 2015. The plan can be seen on the LCC website or in hard copy at any library. In addition a number of informal drop in sessions are being held, the nearest one being in Lancaster Library on 14 April from 3-7pm. Responses can be made via an online questionnaire which can also be found on the LCC website.

Local Community Website for Wyre

Streetlife, the local social network, aims to help people make the most of where they live by connecting with their neighbours. The website provides a free and easy place to share local news, views, recommendations and resources enabling residents to keep in touch with their community. Streetlife has recently launched in Wyre. Anyone interested can sign up at www.streetlife.com.

St John Ambulance

St John Ambulance has created a new guide which they hope parents, grandparents and guardians will print out and keep handy. A copy has been placed on the Council's website.

Star Councils 2015

NALC has launched the Star Councils 2015 awards. The awards are an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the achievements of member councils and County Associations. There are nine categories recognizing individual and council achievements – Young Councillor, Clerk, Councillor, Chair, Council Worker, Digital Communications, CALC Outstanding Project, Local Council Outstanding Project and Council of the Year. Nominations close on 30 June and the event itself will be held in October.

The Local Government (Electronic Communications) (England) Order 2015

This came into effect at the end of January and allows meeting papers to be issued by e-mail rather than delivered in hard copy. If any councillor wishes to receive papers in this way a signed written request must be made to provide authorisation.

(14-15)245 Mayor's Report (information only)

The Mayor reported on arrangements for the Annual Meeting of the Council in May.

(14-15)246 Questions to Councillors

Cllr Campbell thanked everyone for their help in his short time as a councillor.

Cllr Hudson asked Cllr Taylor how money raised by parking enforcement was spent. Cllr Taylor reported that, at Wyre Council, the money was spent on maintenance of car parks. It was suggested that Cllr Hudson submit a Freedom of Information request to LCC to find out how they spent the money.

Cllr Reilly asked whether new councillor training could be approved at this meeting and was advised it would have to be an item on the next agenda.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9pm.