

# PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 8 December 2014 at 6.00pm 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, T Reilly and V Taylor

**In Attendance:** Jan Finch, Clerk to the Town Council

### **(14-15)142 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Nicholls and the reason accepted.

### **(14-15)143 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**

Cllr McCann declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 15 (verbal report from Wyre in Bloom representative) as his wife is heavily involved in the group. Cllr Orme declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 9 (Shop Preesall) as he has a business in the village.

### **(14-15)144 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2014 be agreed as a true record.

### **(14-15)145 Public Participation (Including a Verbal Police Report)**

The Clerk had circulated the crime figures and narrative provided by Sgt Freaney which showed that, in November 2014, there had been 7 crimes compared to 12 in November last year and 12 incidents of antisocial behaviour compared to 13 in the same period last year.

Cllr Hudson noted that there had not been a significant change in the number of reported crimes but the number of crimes detected had reduced and he questioned whether this was linked to the reduction in resources available. Councillors asked the Clerk to write to Sgt Freaney to identify the reasons.

Cllr Hudson noted that the car park at the former Saracen's Head was no longer available for parking and this meant that some drivers were parking cars at the bottom of Mill Street at the junction creating a dangerous situation. He asked that the Police be alerted to this and ask them to issue warnings to those concerned in order to prevent an accident. Councillor also asked that the Clerk write to the school to ask them to point out the problem to staff and also write to LCC.

Cllr Reilly raised the issue of cars driving up dropped kerbs and speeding traffic on Park Lane which had led to a number of incidents where property had been damaged. Councillors agreed to ask the Police to use mobile speed enforcement to try to curb the problem.

Cllr Orme reported that a resident had raised the issue of a zebra crossing in Knott End on the basis that many older people with mobility problems did not have time to walk across the road given the amount of traffic through the village. He informed councillors that the recent 3 Tier Forum meeting had considered the LCC Road Safety Strategy Action Plan for Wyre which included a number of measures including a zebra crossing but the precise location was not clear.

### **(14-15)146 Lengthsman's Working Week**

Councillors **resolved** to increase the Lengthsman's hours from 30 to 35 per week from 1 April 2015 in order to reflect his increased workload.

### **(14-15)147 Grant**

Councillors noted that the Big Lottery Fund conditional grant offer of £9,770 for the path in the Jubilee Garden to be replaced and a frog litter bin to be provided has now been confirmed and thanked the Clerk

for her initiative in applying for the grant. Councillors **resolved** that the old path be replaced with paving (as per the new access path). Councillors further **resolved** to install interlaced bow top fencing along the boundary with library as provision had been made in this year's budget for the project.

#### **(14-15)148 Rural House Numbering**

Councillors noted that, at the August meeting, they had resolved to support the LALC North West Federation's campaign to secure numbered postal addressing in rural areas to assist the emergency services in locating properties and the issue had been raised with Wyre Council. Councillors noted Wyre Council's response that they would not support the request on the basis that, overall, the quality of the addressing dataset is of a high standard and is adhering to National guidance and any problems can be dealt with in isolation to negate the need for major changes. Additionally, and in discussion with the emergency services, there are no major concerns on the way properties are being addressed. Councillors provided examples of where emergency services and delivery drivers were struggling to find properties and **resolved** to pursue the matter further.

#### **(14-15)149 Society of Local Council Clerks Regional Roadshow**

Councillors **resolved** that the Clerk should attend the roadshow on the proviso that the costs be shared with Stalmine Parish Council.

#### **(14-15)150 Shop Preesall**

As a prelude to the discussion Cllr Orme reported that he had been approached by two business owners who are keen to start up a Chamber of Trade and an initial meeting had already been held. Cllr Drobny provided examples of costs for various aspects of the Shop Preesall scheme which would be open to all local businesses. Councillors expressed general support for the idea and **resolved** to discuss it further at the next meeting after Cllr Drobny had talked further with local businesses.

#### **(14-15)151 Bus Shelter (Saracen's Head)**

Cllr Hudson reported that the bus shelter outside the Saracen's Head had been removed and councillors noted that Wyre Council had removed it as it had been damaged beyond repair by a horse box and had no plans to replace it. Councillors **resolved** to ask Wyre Council to replace it.

#### **(14-15)152 Raising the Profile of the Town Council**

Councillors noted the paper provided by Cllr Campbell and **resolved** to defer discussion to the January meeting.

#### **(14-15)153 Update on Social Housing Issues**

Cllr Hudson reported that there were likely to be new Regenda homes in Hambleton that could be available to Preesall and Knott End residents under the rural local lettings policy. He asked that this item be deferred to the January meeting.

#### **(14-15)154 Planning Applications**

##### **14/00817/FUL**

**Proposal:** Conversion of existing public house to form 3no two-storey apartments including first floor extension to the rear and erection of 2 semi-detached dwellings

**Location:** Saracens Head Hotel, 200 Park Lane, Preesall

By a majority (2 councillors voted against) it was agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal. However, councillors raised issues relating to access, the need to be vigilant in respect of bats in the area and the need to maintain as much of the historic aspect of the building as possible. Councillors also suggested that the name of the development recognises the name of the public house.

## 14/00903/FUL

**Proposal:** Change of use of first and second floors from Class C3(a) dwelling to Sui Generis Use for food preparation, storage and office to supplement existing ground floor use as Bakery and Retail Shop Class A1/A5; construction of rear dormer, fire escape door and erection of fire escape bridge at rear

**Location:** 4 Wyre View, Knott End

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

### (14-15)155 Finance

#### a) Payments received:

Lancashire County Council (PROW)	£227.00
Wyre Council (Festive Lighting Grant)	£2442.31
Stalmine Parish Council (Inv 14/009)	£22.61
Awards for All (Jubilee Garden grant)	£9,770.00
Reserve Account Interest*	£4.17

\*Changed from quarterly to monthly interest with quarterly statement

#### b) Payments to be approved:

Staff Costs	£1986.45
Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£65.68*
HMRC	£265.95
Stalmine Parish Council	£180.00
Glasdon	£465.25
Mr P K Orme reimbursement (Christmas Cards)	£22.50
Colin Cross Colour Printers	£55.20
PRS Electrical Contractors Ltd	£6,000.00
Preesall Auto Discount	£44.63
Wyre Building Supplies	£162.15
FH& M Davies & Son	£348.00
Mrs C Y McCann reimbursement (In Bloom)	£30.00

#### Payments by Standing Order/Direct Debit

Easy Websites (hosting fee)	£36.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	£22.58
LCC pension	£598.37

#### c) Statement of Accounts – November 2014

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for November which shows:

Current account	£37,890.44
Reserve account	£20,156.99
Mayor's Charity Account	£nil
In Bloom Account	£1,490.63

#### d) Pay Award

Councillors noted that NALC and SLCC have issued a circular approving the pay award and noted the implementation dates.

Councillors **resolved** to note the payments by standing order/direct debit and the statement of accounts and to approve the accounts for payment.

## **(14-15)156 Verbal Reports from Outside Bodies (information only)**

### **LALC**

Cllr Orme reported that he had been re-elected as Vice-Chair.

### **Friends of Preesall Park**

Cllr Orme reported that trees had now been planted on the playing field with the help of staff from Veolia. There are still 400 daffodil bulbs to plant.

### **Preesall Youth and Community Association**

Cllr Orme reported that money had had to be spent on repairs to the building.

### **Wyre in Bloom**

Cllr Mutch reported that they had had a good day at the Christmas Fair and had many appreciative comments about their work.

### **Christmas Fair**

Cllr Orme reported that the event had been a success and lessons had been learned for next year including better publicity.

## **(14-15)157 Verbal Report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)**

Nothing to report this month.

## **(14-15)158 Clerk's Report (information only)**

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

### **Lengthsman's Report**

The Lengthsman has taken some holiday in November. He has completed a PROW project as well as the normal clearing up duties. He will be assisting with the placement and securing of the Christmas trees, with the installation of the lights and will help with the Christmas Fair and, in particular, operating the road closure on Clarence Avenue.

### **Proposed Withdrawal of Paper Copies of Planning Applications**

Wyre Council is proposing that, from 5 January 2015, they will stop sending full paper copies of planning applications to town and parish councils and would, instead, send a letter alerting the town or parish council to an application open for consultation. However, if a specific plan is required in paper form it can be requested from the planning department. The Clerk has responded that this would disenfranchise those town and parish councillors without access to the internet and cause additional work for the Clerk given that every application would have to be requested. On that basis the Clerk has asked that paper copies continue to be sent out to any town or parish council that has councillors without internet access.

### **Dropped Kerbs – Provision of H Bars**

Following the last meeting LCC was asked whether H-bars could be provided at dropped kerbs to deter drivers from parking across them. LCC has responded that, while understanding the difficulties experienced by pedestrians when inconsiderate drivers park across dropped kerbs, the cost of providing H-bar markings would be considerable and could not be supported in the current financial climate. In addition there would be an anomaly in those kerbs that had the marking and those without which could result in claims of inconsistency and an attempt by some to have the penalty charge waived.

### **Minerals and Waste Local Plan and Statement of Community Involvement**

The Minerals and Waste Local Plan (the adopted Core Strategy, and adopted Site Allocation document) contains land use planning policies that are used by each of the three authorities (Lancashire, Blackburn and Blackpool) to determine planning applications for minerals or waste developments. The authorities are starting to review the Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan. The review is intended to

extend the plan period to 2032 (15 years from the anticipated date of adoption). The first stage in the review is the scoping consultation. The purpose of the scoping consultation is to consult with stakeholders on the scope of the Local Plan Review, to invite comments on what the review of the local plans should contain, and identify the issues from the evidence presented. It seeks to ensure that any issues which may influence the content of the revised Local Plan are identified at the beginning of the drafting process. If anyone wishes to promote a site for inclusion in the Local Plan they should include details of its location, the type and scale of development proposed, its likely market catchment, an indicative trajectory of development, and an assessment of its sustainability.

The Statement of Community Involvement describes how the Councils will engage with interested parties through the plan making and development management process. Each of the three authorities must produce one separately. Lancashire County Council is consulting on a revised Statement of Community Involvement. This revision is necessary in order to bring the Statement of Community Involvement in line with new planning regulations and guidance.

The consultations can be viewed on LCC's website [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk) and will run from the 7 November to the 19 December 2014. Paper copies can be viewed at libraries and main council offices during their normal opening hours. Comments on any of these consultation can be made either through the "Have Your Say" facility on LCC's website, in writing to Lancashire County Council, Planning Policy, Room C4 County Hall, PO Box 100, Preston, PR1 0LD or by email to: [lmwf@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:lmwf@lancashire.gov.uk)

Comments received will be made public and cannot be treated as confidential. Contact details will not be made public or shared.

### **Onshore Oil and Gas Supplementary Planning Document**

The three authorities are preparing a supplementary planning document on Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution and will be consulting on the draft Supplementary Planning Document shortly. Further information is available from the Lancashire County Council website.

### **Pay Award 2014**

The pay award was agreed following the consultation that closed on 14 November and the official circular notifying town and parish councils of the detail is awaited.

### **Public Footpath No 1**

LCC will close Public Footpath No 1 from a point near Sandy Bay Caravan Site and running in a general north easterly direction of a distance of approximately 2773m to its junction with Fluke Hall Lane. The closure is to protect the public whilst essential sea defence works are carried out and will be in force from 12 January 2015 for a period of 6 months or until the works are completed within this period.

### **War Memorials Trust Grant**

The War Memorials Trust has now signed off the project to replace the path and confirmed that the grant of £600 towards the cost will be paid into the Town Council's bank account shortly.

### **(14-15)159 Mayor's Report (information only)**

The Mayor reported that he had been invited to the Over Wyre Singers Christmas concert next Saturday. Cllr Reilly had prepared a Project Update on the Lowry project which provided councillors with details of what is planned.

### **(14-15)160 Questions to Councillors**

None.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 7.40pm.