

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 February 2015 at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall

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

In Attendance: Jan Finch, Clerk to the Town Council and PCSO Terry Molloy (Item 4)

(14-15)184 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs R Drobny, J Mutch and V Taylor and the reasons accepted.

(14-15)185 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr McCann declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 18 (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 10 (Shop Preesall) as he has a business in the village.

(14-15)186 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2015 be agreed as a true record.

(14-15)187 Public Participation (Including a Verbal Police Report)

The Clerk had circulated the crime figures and narrative provided by Sgt Freaney which showed that, in December 2014, there had been 18 crimes compared to 10 in January last year and 10 incidents of antisocial behaviour compared to 8 in the same period last year.

PCSO Molloy referred to the increase in crime in the past month and particularly burglaries in the area. He reported that the Police had been successful in a bid to the Road Safety Partnership Fund that had funded two SplDs and one of those had been deployed locally.

Cllr Hudson raised concerns regarding anti-social behaviour on Meadow Close and asked that the Police work with the social landlord to resolve the issues. He also asked PCSO Molloy to inform his senior officers of the need for more resources in the area as residents are increasingly angry about the increase in crime. Cllr McCann referred to the increase in people with a criminal background being placed in the area and questioned whether this had led to the increase in crime.

Cllr Reilly asked PCSO Molloy to look into speeding and parking issues at the south end of Park Lane and asked for visible enforcement to reinforce letters that had gone to residents.

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 issue warnings to those concerned in order to prevent an accident.

Cllr Orme asked whether it would be possible for some officers to sign in at the Preesall police station in order to provide a public presence and improve confidence. PCSO Molloy reported that other officers can now access the station and would raise it with Sgt Freaney.

Cllr McCann reported that a member of the public had suggested that webcams/CCTV be placed around Knott End as a deterrent and councillors agreed to consider this at a future meeting.

(14-15)188 Mayor for the Civic Year 2015/16

Councillors **resolved** to nominate Cllr P Orme as the Mayor Elect of Preesall Town Council for the Civic Year 2015/16.

(14-15)189 Date of and Location for the Annual Meeting of the Council and Investiture of the Mayor 2015

Councillors **resolved**, as a result of elections on 7 May, that the Annual Meeting take place on 18 May at Knott End library if available.

(14-15)190 Arrangements for Civic Sunday 2015

Councillors noted that at least 3 months notice is required for a road closure application to be dealt with. Councillors **resolved** that Civic Sunday take place on 14 June at St Oswalds, subject to the date being acceptable to the Church and marshals being available. Councillors confirmed that the arrangements be as last year.

(14-15)191 Arrangements for Annual Town Meeting

Councillors **resolved** that the Annual Town Meeting take place at 7pm on 30 March at the Preesall Youth and Community Centre.

(14-15)192 Location of Future Meetings

Councillors **resolved** that meetings continue to be held at the Youth and Community Centre.

(14-15)193 Shop Preesall

In the absence of Cllr Drobny this item was deferred to the next meeting.

(14-15)194 Playing Field Lease

In the absence of Cllr Drobny this item was deferred to the next meeting. Cllr Orme reported that, in line with para 3.4 of Financial Regulations, the Clerk had authorised the replacement of concrete posts on the playing field boundary which had broken in recent storms and that the Lengthsman had carried out the work. He further reported on a site meeting with officers of Wyre Council regarding boundary fencing and councillors **resolved** to replace part of the post and wire fence that had fallen into disrepair. Councillors noted that the residents who had contacted the council about sharing the cost of replacing their fence had now begun work and had once again asked that the Council meet half of the cost. Councillors referred to the previous discussions with Wyre Council and reconfirmed the decision taken at the 13 October 2014 meeting (minute (14-15)111 refers) to accept the advice provided by Wyre and inform the residents that the council had no responsibility to do so.

(14-15)195 Footpath No 1

This item was discussed at the January meeting and deferred until Cllr Taylor, in her role as County Councillor, could attend to update councillors on discussions she is having with the various parties.

(14-15)196 Local Council Award Scheme

Councillors considered the new scheme which has replaced the Quality Council scheme and noted the requirements and costs. Councillors **resolved** to defer any decision on whether to pursue to the Foundation level award until such time as more information was available in the light of take up and experience nationally.

(14-15)197 Wyre Council – Call for Sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

Councillors noted that, as part of developing the Local Plan, Wyre Council has to address the accommodation needs of the above groups and has asked the Town Council if it wished to put forward any sites which it feels has the potential for this type of development. Councillors **resolved** that there were no sites in the villages but would want assurance that the former Blueberry Park would not be reinstated as a site.

(14-15)198 Raising the Profile of the Town Council

Cllr Campbell reported that he felt the Town Council could do more to provide information to residents and to publicise what it was doing. He also felt that the Town Council needs to raise its profile with other tiers of local government. Councillors **resolved** to form a small working group to consider the proposals put forward by Cllr Campbell and to bring back a firm set of proposals for the council to consider. Cllrs Campbell, Reilly and Hudson agreed to take part.

(14-15)199 Planning Applications

15/00045/OUT

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of one dwelling and access (all other matters reserved)

Location: Mill View Cottages, 255 Park Lane, Preesall

By a majority (1 councillor voted against) it was agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal but would want to ensure that sight lines are appropriate.

15/00046/FUL

Proposal: Front and rear dormers

Location: 49 Links Road, Knott End

Cllr Orme withdrew from the discussion on the grounds that the applicant is a friend of his. By a majority (1 councillor voted against) it was agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

15/00019/FUL

Proposal: Erection of private stables

Location: Penlake House, 176 Pilling Lane, Preesall

By a majority (3 councillors voted for and 1 councillor abstained) it was agreed that that the Council objects to the proposal on the grounds of proximity to a neighbouring property and the proposal being too large for the site. Councillors also asked to be assured that the stables would not be used as a business.

14/01015/FUL

Proposal: Variation of condition 5 relating to planning application 97/00350 to reduce the age of the principal occupier from age 60 years to age 50 years

Location: The Fairways, 35 Esplanade, Knott End

By a majority (2 councillors voted for) it was agreed that that the Council objects to the proposal on the grounds that there is insufficient age appropriate properties in the village and a growing older population.

14/00894/FUL

Proposal: Erection of garage building to form courtyard parking area and re-routing of access track

Location: The Granary, Green Dicks Lane, Pilling

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

15/00064/FUL

Proposal: Change of use from public house to one residential dwelling including creation of first floor balcony to rear

Location: Saracens Head Hotel 200 Park Lane Preesall

By a majority (1 councillor voted against) it was agreed that that the Council has no objections to the proposal but would want to ensure that the access issues onto Park Lane are addressed.

15/00074/REM

Proposal: Reserved matters application for the appearance, landscaping and scale of six dwellings, following outline approval 11/00599/OUT

Location: Preesall Garage, Sandy Lane, Preesall

By a majority (2 councillors abstained) it was agreed that that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

(14-15)200 Finance

a) Payments received:

Wyre Juniors	£381.80
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b) Payments to be approved:

Staff Costs	£2014.14
Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£25.12
HMRC	£285.78
Glasdon	£930.50
Rigby Taylor	£258.00
Wyre Area Road Safety Committee	£20.00
Fleetwood High School	£22.56
Wyre Building Supplies	£133.93
Viking	£68.82
Smith of Derby Ltd	£1024.80

Payments by Standing Order/Direct Debit

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

c) Statement of Accounts – January 2015

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for January which shows:

Current account	£21,118.42
Reserve account	£20,156.99
Mayor's Charity Account	£nil
In Bloom Account	£1,460.63

d) Budget Monitoring – Quarter 3

The Q3 Budget Monitoring statement was noted.

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

(14-15)201 Verbal Reports from Outside Bodies (information only)

Friends of Preesall Park

Cllr Orme reported that there had been some good publicity in the press in respect of the playing field improvements.

Wyre in Bloom

In the absence of Cllr Mutch the Clerk reported that plans were being made for summer planting. Cllr McCann reported that they were planning a fundraising event.

Christmas Fair

Cllr Orme reported that there would be another event this year.

(14-15)202 Verbal Report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)

None.

(14-15)203 Clerk's Report (information only)

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

Lengthsman's Report

Through January the Lengthsman has continued to tidy up the village. He has responded to two enquiries of full litter bins along the sea wall and these have been reported to Wyre Council. He continues to mark the pitches for Wyre Juniors who are recharged for his time.

Fylde Coast Highways and Transport Masterplan

LCC is consulting on the Masterplan between 12 January and 20 February. The full Masterplan can be seen on LCC's website (www.lancashire.gov.uk) and comments can be made online or by writing to Room C4, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD.

Plain English Guide to the Planning System

The Government has just published its 'Plain English guide to the planning system'. This document seeks to give a succinct summary of how the planning system in England works under 12 headings including national planning policy, neighbourhood planning, obtaining planning permission and planning enforcement. It is intended to give an overview only and does not set out planning policy or guidance. The guide can be found at www.gov.uk and search for Plain English Guide to the Planning System.

2015 Town and Parish Council Elections

Elections will take place on 7 May 2015. As it is a combined parliamentary, borough and parish election the town and parish council count (if required) will take place on the afternoon/evening of 8 May once the borough count is complete.

Healthy Streets

Healthy Streets is a Lancashire County Council Road Safety initiative. We utilise the 20mph scheme, introduced throughout Lancashire, to encourage communities to get active. We have created a poster in partnership with the 20mph team to positively reinforce the 20 mph message. This poster is also encouraging people to get in touch with us as we can help you improve elements of your area, from cycle routes to plots of land and more all in an aid of getting communities active. For more information on healthy streets go to www.safe2travel.co.uk/healthystreets.

LCC Parish Conference

The conference will be held from 9.30am to 2pm on Saturday 21 March 2015 at Burnley Town Hall. The event is free and lunch will be provided. Councils are initially limited to two delegates each until demand is known. If any councillor is interested in attending please let the Clerk know. Bookings must be made no later than 2 March.

Footpath No 1

The EA has confirmed that the works planned for January have been delayed and will not now start until mid-February and they expect to be on site until June. The work is to reinforce the embankment which has been undermined by rodents. The EA are aware that the footpath closure has been advertised but it remains open to the public and the EA are planning a letter drop to alert local people to the change in timescale.

(14-15)204 Mayor's Report (information only)

The Mayor reported that he had attended the Civic Epiphany service in Blackburn Cathedral. He reported

that there had been some good publicity for the Lowry feature with articles in the local press and an interview on Radio Lancashire.

(14-15)205 Questions to Councillors

Cllr Lawson asked for information on the tiles councillors had purchased and the Clerk confirmed that they had been made but not yet laid.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.35pm.