

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 13 March 2017 at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall

Present: Councillors T Reilly (Mayor), B Burn, R Drobny, D Hudson, R Lawson, G McCann, J Mutch, P Orme, and L Woodhouse.

In attendance: Alison May, Clerk to the Town Council, and 4 members of the public.

1(16-17)267a Apologies for absence

Cllr P Greenhough, Cllr V Taylor, Cllr R Black (reported as absent at meeting, had sent email at 18.32)

1(16-17)267b Absent without apology

None.

2(16-17)268 Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllr Drobny – Police report re two crimes he had reported; Cllr Orme – item 10 as ward councillor; Cllr Reilly item 18 as neighbour.

3(16-17)269 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED: 1) That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February be agreed as a true record (item(16-17)266 was discussed in closed session)

4(16-17)270 Public participation

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

Members of the public raised the following items:

- a) two members of the public spoke in favour of the council providing support to keep the Fleetwood to Knott End ferry running and stated that their friends also supported Cllr Taylors proposal. They cited examples of where the ferry had saved the lives of those who had got into difficulty in the estuary. It is also a tourist attraction with walkers often doing a circular walk and having lunch at the local pub. In response: the council discussed the importance of the ferry to the community and funding available within the budget.
- b) Cllr Drobny commented on the police report statistics and stated that he was perturbed that for Preesall as a whole there was a zero clear up rate. He felt that the Chief Constable and Police Commissioner should be made aware of the matter. Cllr Hudson stated that someone needed to speak with the media re the lack of police patrols in the village.
- c) Cllr Orme reported that the bus stop on Lancaster Road had been blocked off by the development work and that the railings needed to be moved behind the bus stop.
- d) the clerk read out the following apology on behalf of Mr Campbell:

'I have just received the result from the Commissioner and they say that the questions/complaints I raised are NOT within their remit. I shall pass on the response to you for the records of PTC. I am of course disappointed, but one must live in the world as it is, not as it should be. I would like to apologize to the council, NOT for fighting to clear my name, because that's what an innocent person does. I apologize for the problems that have been caused by my efforts to do so. I have other options, but am so worn out with the whole business, I just want to draw a line under it and content myself with the fact that my supporters in council, and within the community know the true situation. My wife and I now hope that we can live quietly, and enjoy the rest of our retirement in peace. I hope that the council will start to pull together and serve the people of our community in a manner that they have a right to expect. I wish my replacement Cllr Burn and whole council well. In an effort to calm things down I will make my apology public.

e) Cllr Orme made councillors aware that the old, partially chopped up goal posts from years ago needed to be removed from the playing field site as they posed a safety hazard. It was suggested that someone may be able to recycle them, perhaps for a charitable donation.

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

5(16-17)271 Deputy Mayor for the Civic Year 2017/18

The Mayor Elect, Cllr Reilly, confirmed that he had invited Cllr McCann to be Deputy Mayor for the civic year 2016/17 and that Cllr McCann had accepted.

6(16-17)272 Civic Sunday 2017/18

RESOLVED: that Civic Sunday be held on 25 June 2017.

7(16-17)273 Purchase of additional mini Christmas trees

RESOLVED: that the Clerk be given authority to purchase an additional ten mini Christmas trees.

8(16-17)274 Plunkett Foundation

RESOLVED: that the clerk issue an invitation to the Plunkett Foundation for a representative to address a meeting of the council.

9(16-17)275 Ferry signage

RESOLVED: that Cllr Orme and Cllr McCann progress ideas for the ferry slip signage with the artist Gordon Heald.

10(16-17)276 Ferry

RESOLVED: in the absence of Cllr Taylor to postpone this item to another meeting.

11(16-17)277 Vacant Land

RESOLVED: that councillors identify possible vacant plots over the next couple of months and that the clerk keep a log of these. Once a list is available a search of the land registry is to be carried out, with the findings reported back to council for a decision on how to proceed.

12(16-17)278 Annual governance review

RESOLVED:

- a) that the changes proposed to Standing Orders be accepted subject to the current Standing Order 21 being revisited and brought back to council for approval.
- b) that the revised Financial Regulations be accepted subject to regulation 11e being amended to read '3' members.
- c) that the Risk Management Plan and Risk Register be approved in their entirety subject to references to the MUGA and youth shelter being removed when hand back of the playing field occurs.
- d) that no changes be made to the Annual Town Meeting Standing Orders.
- e) that the Schedule of Assets as at March 2017 be approved subject to the following changes:
 - i) reference to the MUGA, the youth shelter and two benches on the playing field be removed from the register when official hand back of the playing field occurs.
 - ii) the notice board at Preesall be added to 2014/15 as a donation at a cost of 1p.
 - iii) assets kept in Wyre's safe from pre 2012 be checked and added to the register where appropriate (Cllr Orme to provide a list).
 - iv) date of acquisition of deputy mayoress chain of office be amended to 2008/9.

13 (16-17)279 Easy web

RESOLVED: that the method of payment to Easy Web be changed from standing order to direct debit.

14 (16-17)280 Dyke maintenance

RESOLVED: that the clerk issue a letter on behalf of Preesall Town Council to Wyre Council, LCC and the Environment Agency requesting that they act together to ensure maintenance of Wheelfoot watercourse and its feeder Dykes and ditches.

15(16-17)281 Playing Field Lease committee feedback

Cllr Orme reported that the playing field lease committee had convened on Friday 10 March and that he had been elected as chairman. The planned meeting with Wyre Council representatives to hand back the terminated lease had not gone ahead due to the illness of one of Wyre's representatives. This meeting would be re-arranged. Cllr Orme also made the council aware of possible developments in respect of Wyre's approach to the playing field and his desire to raise this as an agenda item at a subsequent meeting.

16(16-17)282 Insurance quotations

RESOLVED: that the clerk be given authority to pay the insurance renewal at the appropriate rate which is dependant on the hand back of the lease negotiations with Wyre Council. The amount paid is to be reported to council at its next monthly meeting.

17(16-17)283 Account set-up

RESOLVED: that the clerk set up an account on behalf of the council with Cartridge Save Ltd.

18(16-17)284 Planning applications

17/00143/FUL

Proposal: Single storey rear/ side extension

Location: The Mill House 280 Park Lane Preesall Poulton le Fylde

It was agreed that the council has no objections to the proposal (8 in favour, 1 abstained)

19(16-17)285 Finance

a) It was resolved to note the following receipts:

Reserve account interest	£ 0.18
In Bloom	£ 620.00

b) It was resolved to pay the following

142/143 Staff Costs	£ 3240.36
142 Clerk's expenses on behalf of council	£ 71.54
144 HMRC	£ 737.22
145 Preesall Auto Discount (inv.675)	£ 11.94
146 LALC (inv 2659)	£ 579.40
147 Viking (inv 962484)	£ 48.58
148 Best Kept village Competition	£ 25.00
149 Wyre Building Supplies (inv. SI0114856)	£ 10.80
12 FH &M Davies (inv.5053)(in bloom)	£ 38.40
150 E.ON (inv H14229BOFE)	£ 9.73
151 PYCA (Grant)	£ 6000.00
152 Thornton facilities management (inv. 25546)	£ 11.05

It was resolved **to note** the following payments:

Payments by standing order/direct debit	
Easy Websites (hosting fee)	£ 24.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	£ 13.97
LCC	£ 1122.40

- c) It was **resolved to accept** the Statement of Accounts for February 2017 showing balances of:
- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cash book | £34359.49 |
| Reserve | £23677.21 |
| In Bloom | £3693.69 |

20(16-17)286 Verbal Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)

Housing – Cllr Hudson reported that the problem of disrepair at a house in Knott End was ongoing and the matter was now with Wyre planning.

Youth – Cllr Orme reported that a meeting had been held the previous week and that a number of people had expressed an interest in voluntary youth work. Thanks to the grant from Preesall Town Council youth provision would now recommence on 1 April under the banner of the Youth and Community Association. Initial expenditure will be to pay for first aid training and CRB checks. Cllr McCann said that he wished to express his thanks to Cllr Orme for his work with the Youth and Community Association and making youth provision a real possibility.

LALC – Cllr Orme reported that the spring conference would be held on Saturday 13 May in Leyland and that it would be free to attend. He also reported that The Chairman of NALC's bulletin was of particular interest and that he would provide the clerk with a copy for circulation to councillors.

Wyre flood forum – Cllr Orme reported that this had been a positive meeting with the most significant change for Preesall being a re-design of the flood alleviation works for Sunnyside Terrace with the proposal now being in line with that in 2009. This would involve the construction of a dyke in the existing grass verge with access under the road.

Friends of Preesall Park – Cllr Orme reported that they had been awarded second place in the Tesco carrier bag fund which equated to a receipt of £2000. A further £500 had been granted from the Duchy of Lancaster which would be put towards the creation of a path around the park.

Wyre Festive Lights Committee – the clerk reported that she had attended the meeting and had been informed that the grant application process would start earlier than last year, with forms being sent out by Wyre in May for submission by the end of June.

In Bloom – Cllr Mutch reported that the sponsored tub money had been raised and that Preesall co-op was to sponsor the diamond shaped bed. Summer planting schemes have been agreed and the team have been out weeding.

Preesall Youth and Community Association – Cllr Reilly stated that he had offered his services as a resident.

Planning Ambassador – Cllr McCann announced that the planning decision for the 9 houses on Rosslyn Avenue had been overturned and granted on appeal. He had also been asked to attend the committee meeting in respect of the house being built to the rear of the Saracen's head.

Gala - Cllr Hudson reported that as this is the 70 year anniversary the committee are trying to get all the past Queens together for the event which will be held over two days. A number of groups have already been booked, including Outpost and Lancashire Hawks and Owls. On 1 July there will be a promenade night at St Oswalds with tickets priced at £10 being available from the post office from 8 May, numbers are limited to 120. The clerk has been given a completed grant application form for bunting and signage.

Cllr Burn reported that he had been looking into the possibility of wracking to hold the wreaths at the cenotaph.

Cllr McCann reported that an initial meeting had taken place at the library with the Over Wyre history society and that a follow up meeting was planned for 11.00 on 3 April.

21(16-17)287 Verbal report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)

Cllr Orme reported that there would be an extraordinary meeting of the planning committee on 22 March to look at 9 planning applications along the A6 corridor. He also reported that students from around Wyre would be performing at Thornton Little Theatre on Friday 23 April, tickets available from the Mayor of Wyre's secretary.

22(16-17)288 Clerk's Report (information only)**Lengthsman's report**

In February the Lengthsman has continued cleaning gullies to ensure the free flow of water and reclaiming pathways where soil has encroached. He has spring cleaned litter from hedgerows and carried out emergency repairs to a gate on the Esplanade.

Phone tariff price increase

O2 has announced that from April the mobile phone tariff will increase in line with the current 2.6% Retail Price Index.

Mayor's inauguration

The library has been booked for Monday 8 May 17.

Plants scheme

The National Plant Monitoring Scheme is seeking volunteers to look at what is happening to different habitats across the UK. The scheme has been running for two survey seasons with more than 900 volunteers. One of the reasons the scheme has enjoyed success is through the support of parish and town councils. Volunteers are asked to survey five plots in a kilometre square close to where they live. The plots will be surveyed twice a year. There are three levels volunteers can participate at depending on confidence and knowledge and support will be provided both through training; web and telephone. Across Lancashire there are still 27 squares available to survey with more to be released.

Carers sought

A search has been launched in Lancashire for people who could offer a 'family' home to an adult living with a disability and unable to live independently. The Shared Lives concept is similar to foster care, making a real difference to the lives of adults who need extra support. Shared Lives carers work from their own homes to provide day care, short-term respite or long-term live-in arrangements for adults who have social care needs. Lancashire's Shared Lives service is the largest in the country, supporting 377 people in 288 households, with 227 of those receiving long-term care. The service was recently recognised as 'outstanding' by the Care Quality Commission. Carers receive full training, regular support and a monthly financial allowance.

Cllr Hudson reported that he had followed up on the latest rejection from LCC re permit parking for Smithy Lane and Mill Street, as a result Mr Kirby from LCC has agreed to refer this back to the decision maker and a response is expected by 25 March. Cllr Hudson reported that he will continue to fight for permit parking on the hill and that if he doesn't get a positive response he will talk to the press. He also reported that once LCC legal department have completed their actions re the double yellow lines on Park Lane then the new bus shelter could go ahead.

23(16-17)289 Mayor's report (information only)

Cllr Reilly reported that the village had lost another serviceman from the second world war, leaving only one leading wren resident in the village.

24(16-17)290 Questions to councillors

Cllr Orme reported that the meeting to discuss the proposed Wyre barrage had gone well and there seemed to be an appetite for a further meeting if the council was prepared to cover any outstanding

costs. He reported that donations of £11.75 had been received and that he would provide the clerk with an invoice for room hire costs.

25(16-17)291 Exclusion of the press and public

Pursuant to Section 1(2) and 1(3) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the council resolved to exclude the press and public to discuss:

- a) employment matter – a report from EWG.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 21.45.