

# PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 10 November 2014 at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall

**Present:** Councillors P Orme (Mayor), 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)119 Apologies for Absence**

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

### **(14-15)120 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**

Cllr McCann declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 19 (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 8 (Playing Field Lease) and Item 10 (Playing Field Development) as Chair of Friends of Preesall Park and in Item 15 (Christmas Fair) as one of the organisers.

### **(14-15)121 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2014 be agreed as a true record.

### **(14-15)122 Public Participation (Including a Verbal Police Report)**

The Clerk reported that Sgt Freaney had been away and the crime and anti-social behavior figures for October had not yet been prepared. They would be circulated by email once they were received. The Clerk further reported on a response from Ben Wallace MP on the matter of police resourcing.

Cllr Campbell suggested that the Police carry out a recruitment exercise for Special Constables in the villages.

Cllr Lawson raised the problem of motorists parking across dropped kerbs preventing disabled people from crossing the road and asked whether no parking lines could be installed.

Cllr Drobny reported that he had obtained posters from Keep Britain Tidy and asked if the posters, if laminated, could be put up on the shelters on the Esplanade.

He also reported that there are now new rails to the beach at the NatWest corner but the beach was just mud at that spot. The Clerk agreed to contact Natural England.

### **(14-15)123 Draft Budget for 2015/16**

Councillors considered, in detail, a first draft of the budget for next year and **resolved** to consider a further draft either at the next or the January meeting.

### **(14-15)124 Shop Preesall**

The Clerk reported that there was no requirement for a licence to run such a scheme. Cllr Drobny reported that he had calculated the costs involved in running the scheme and had talked to some of the businesses. Councillors **resolved** to discuss this further at the January meeting.

### **(14-15)125 Brown Tourism Signs**

Councillors noted that LCC has provided the following information in relation to brown tourism signs following a site visit. The main purpose of a brown sign is to guide visitors to an attraction along the most appropriate route during the latter stages of their journey. Tourist signs should only be approved where existing directional signs are not sufficient. A Gateway sign for Knott End would be located on Lancaster

Road close to the junction of Pilling Lane. Any eligible attractions/destinations would need to demonstrate that they have sought to attract visitors through publicity and advertising ie leaflets and the internet. Councillors felt that other areas had such signs and **resolved** to pursue this further. Cllr Drobny asked the Clerk to find out whether Wyre Council would contribute to the cost of the signs if they could be obtained.

#### **(14-15)126 Playing Field Lease**

Cllrs Orme, Drobny and Taylor reported on a meeting they had had with Wyre in respect of issues arising from the playing field lease. Councillors **resolved** to ask Cllr Drobny to write up the various options with their advantages and disadvantages for further discussion at the January meeting.

#### **(14-15)127 Lowry Project**

Further to the discussion at the last meeting councillors **resolved** to formally approve the purchase and installation of a matchstick man and dog to be located at the ferry slip. Councillors noted that a CAD drawing and statement of work was being drawn up and would be circulated when it was ready.

#### **(14-15)128 Playing Field Development**

Councillors noted that, at the May meeting (minute (13-14) 246 refers), they had resolved not to ask FOPP for an immediate grant in the amount of £2036.50 for the additional works to Phase 1 but, instead, to wait until the outcome of further grant applications was known and revisit the decision in six months. In his role as Chair of FOPP Cllr Orme reported that, although some grants had been received they were for specific elements of Phase 2 and could not be spent otherwise. Councillors therefore **resolved** not to ask for a grant at this stage and to review the decision in a further six months time.

#### **(14-15)129 LCC – Rights of Way Improvement Plan**

Councillors noted that LCC is starting to work on a revised Rights of Way Improvement Plan for Lancashire and is inviting consultees to make representations to support the assessment of need in advance of the publication of the first draft. Councillors **resolved** not to respond at this stage.

#### **(14-15)130 Tiles**

Councillors noted that Adrian Cross is continuing to clean the old tiles which is time consuming and has pressed the councillor tiles. He is committed to finishing the project as soon as possible.

#### **(14-15)131 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – Ash Grove**

Councillors **resolved** that they had no objection to LCC's proposal to make a Traffic Regulation Order prohibiting waiting at any time in Ash Grove.

#### **(14-15)132 Community Engagement Strategy**

Councillors considered the approved Community Engagement Strategy as part of the policy review programme and **resolved** to approve it without amendment.

#### **(14-15)133 Christmas Fair**

In his role as one of the organisers Cllr Orme asked that the Town Council make a financial contribution to help fund the Christmas Fair. Councillors **resolved** to provide up to £500. Councillors noted that the lights in the tree in the Methodist garden had been damaged by both the strong winds and children climbing in the tree. Councillors **resolved** to remove the lights from the tree and to use them on the Methodist Church instead, subject to their agreement.

#### **(14-15)134 Weedspraying Certification**

Councillors **resolved** to pay 50% of the costs of the weedspraying training to enable to Lengthsman to use weedkiller as part of his work.

## **(14-15)135 Planning Applications**

### **14/00813/FUL**

**Proposal:** Two storey side extension

**Location:** 4 Barnes Cottages, Back Lane, Knott End

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

### **14/00368/FUL**

**Proposal:** Change of use of existing agricultural building to B2 use (car repairs), modifications to access and provision of footpath

**Location:** Preesall Park Farm, Cemetery Lane, Preesall

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

### **14/00836/FUL**

**Proposal:** Change of use of part of first floor offices to a podiatry clinic

**Location:** 14 Lancaster Road, Knott End

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

### **14/00819/FUL**

**Proposal:** Erection of one dwelling (following demolition of existing building)

**Location:** 9 Lune View (Old Emmanuel Church), Knott End

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

## **Planning Appeal**

### **14/00449/FUL**

**Proposal:** Pointer Stables, Lancaster Road, Preesall

**Location:** Erection of two-storey live/work unit (B1), replacement stables and alterations to existing access

By a majority (2 councillors abstained) it was agreed that the Council make no further representations.

## **(14-15)136 Finance**

### **a) Payments received:**

Wyre Juniors (Inv 14/008)	£212.40
Lancashire County Council (PROW)	£30.00
HMRC – VAT refund	£3,697.18

### **b) Payments to be approved:**

Staff costs	£1986.20
Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£22.72
HMRC	£265.75
Rigby Taylor	£311.10
Wyre Council (grass cutting)	£1,680.00
Preesall Auto Discount	£48.35
Wyre Building Supplies	£42.59

### **Payments by Standing Order/Direct Debit**

Carter's Charity Primary School	£50.00
---------------------------------	--------

Fleetwood's Charity Primary School		£50.00
Easy Websites (hosting fee)		£36.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)		£22.58
LCC (employer contribution)	£471.72)	
LCC (employee contributions)	£126.65)	£598.37

**c) Statement of Accounts – October 2014**

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for September which shows:

Current account	£26,815.00
Reserve account	£20,152.82
Mayor's Charity Account	£nil
In Bloom Account	£1,490.63

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

**(14-15)137 Verbal Reports from Outside Bodies (information only)**

**Protect Wyre Group**

Cllr Orme reported that The Department of Energy and Climate Change has written to Halite asking for clarification on some key design parameters for the proposed plant (see Clerk's report for detail).

**LALC**

Cllr Orme reported that he, Cllr McCann and Cllr Hudson had attended the AGM on 8 November. He reported that they were promoting a Community Car Scheme. Cllr Hudson reported that there had been a debate of fracking and they had learned of the subscription increase next year. Cllr Orme reported that, at the Wyre Area Committee, Wyre's Director of Resources had provided a presentation on Wyre's budget situation.

**Friends of Preesall Park**

Cllr Orme reported that the Prince's Trust had worked hard for two weeks getting rid of the dens etc. Community Payback would be starting work to finish off and a team of volunteers from Veolia will be planting trees and daffodils towards the end of November.

**Preesall Youth and Community Association**

Cllr Orme reported on the damage to the roof and the broken window. More recently the park bench had been destroyed The roof has been repaired and the cost of hiring the hall had been increased.

**Wyre in Bloom**

Cllr Mutch reported that winter planting continued despite the inclement weather and she was pleased to report that they had gained a Silver Gilt Award this year.

**Planning Ambassador**

Cllr Orme reported on the meeting held with Wyre on the Emerging Local Plan and the further discussion by councillors on 3 November. He had prepared a draft response covering the points raised by councillors and this would be submitted to Wyre Council.

**Christmas Fair**

Cllr Orme reported that the lights switch on would take place at 5pm and encouraged all to attend.

**(14-15)138 Verbal Report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)**

Cllr McCann reported that the updated Local Plan would be discussed on 18 November and would include consideration of gypsy/traveller sites.

## **(14-15)139 Clerk's Report (information only)**

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

### **Lengthsman's Report**

The Lengthsman attended free Marshalling training provided by Wyre Council on 9 October. He found the training extremely useful and brought back a copy of the "Safety at Street Works and Road Works" Code of Practice which outlines the principles of signing for road closures. He has spend time in the last two weeks in October working alongside the Prince's Trust tidying up the corners and edges of the playing field.

### **Grant**

Councillors are asked to note that a conditional grant offer has been received for the path in the Jubilee Garden to be replaced and a frog litter bin to be provided.

### **Temporary Road Closure – Quail Holme Road**

LCC is proposing to close the road (between house numbers 56-85) from 14-21 January 2015 between the hours of 8am and 6pm to enable essential maintenance repair works to be carried out. An alternative route from Quail Holme Road – B5270 – Ashton Avenue – Quail Holme Road will be posted.

### **Temporary Road Closure – Cemetery Lane**

LCC is proposing to close the road from its junction with the A588 Hall Gate Lane to Back Lane from 16-23 January 2015 between the hours of 8am and 6pm to enable essential highway maintenance to take place. An alternative route from Park Lane to Back Lane and vice versa will be posted.

### **Proposed Underground Gas Storage Facility**

The Department of Energy and Climate Change has written to Halite, in the light of the Senergy Independent Geological Report) asking for clarification on some key design parameters for the proposed plant ie the planned daily injection rate and withdrawal rate; the planned number of annual cycles; the anticipated static working volume and the anticipated annual volumes; and, if different from that applied for, the size of the above ground infrastructure that would be required for a range of working volumes under the planned operating conditions (eg 600, 300, 200, 150, 100Mcm).

### **Deliveries to the Co-op**

Following the last meeting photographs provided by Cllr Lawson were sent to LCC asking them to consider whether a time limited loading bay outside the Co-op or a loading bay cut into the pavement in front of the Co-op might be the answer. The response from LCC is that no new information has been supplied that would affect their previous decision not to progress the matter further and accordingly LCC does not intend to re-open discussion on this matter at this moment in time.

### **Environment Agency National Flood Action Campaign – 3<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November**

The main aim of the campaign is to sign people up in flood warning areas to Floodline Warnings Direct, encouraging people to prepare for flooding through developing personal and community flood plans and to be aware of the dangers of walking and driving through flood water. In order to raise awareness of these key themes the EA will be undertaking a range of awareness activities including local engagement, doordrops and social and digital media. There is a designated campaign webpage which provides an overview of the campaign as well as a link to templates and materials which other organisations can use to support the campaign - [www.gov.uk/floodsdestroy](http://www.gov.uk/floodsdestroy)

### **Pay Award 2014**

Both sides of the NJC for Local Government Services are consulting on a proposed pay award for local government staff covering 2014/15 and 2015/16. The proposal is for a 2.2% pay award to cover the period 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2016. In addition there would be a £100 (pro rata) non-consolidated payment for those on scp 11-25 to be paid in December 2014 pay and for those on scp26-49 0.45% of

the proposed new salaries from January 2015 with £100 to be paid in December 2014 pay and the remainder in April 2015 pay. The consultation ends on 14 November.

**(14-15)140 Mayor's Report (information only)**

The Mayor reported that he and the Deputy Mayor had been invited to the Over Wyre Singers' Christmas concert. Following his attendance at the Investiture of the Young Mayor in Garstang he would like the Council to consider adopting the scheme and would put it on the agenda for discussion in the new year.

**(14-15)141 Questions to Councillors**

Cllr Campbell asked Cllr Hudson if there had been any progress in respect of the anti social behaviour issues raised with Great Places Housing. Cllr Hudson reported that, following the meeting with Great Places on 20 October they had promised to provide an update but this had not materialised and the situation had not improved. Councillors asked the Clerk to chase up the response and agreed to invite Wyre Council's Housing Manager to a meeting to discuss lettings criteria.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.25pm.