

# PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 12 October 2015 at 7pm 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, V Taylor and L Woodhouse. Cllr Drobny signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**In Attendance:** Jan Finch, Clerk to the Town Council and 4 members of the public.

### **(15-16)114 Apologies for Absence**

None. The Mayor welcomed Cllr Drobny back to the Council.

### **(15-16)115 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**

Cllr McCann declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 16 (verbal report from Wyre in Bloom representative) as his wife is heavily involved in the group.

### **(15-16)116 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meetings held on 14 September 2015 be agreed as a true record.

### **(15-16)117 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.

A member of the public raised the state of the pavements outside some of the shops and felt that the shopkeepers should sweep up outside their own shops. She asked whether the Council could approach them to ask them to clean up outside their shops. A member of the public who has a business in the village reported that some shopkeepers do sweep their shopfronts. Following a discussion Cllr Orme, in his role as a Wyre councillor, agreed to talk to Wyre's street scene team on the subject. Cllr Taylor, in her role as County councilor, reported that LCC will soon be undertaking work on the uneven paving slabs.

A member of the public stated that, in his view, the plaque at the Lowry statue was on the wrong side and Cllr Drobny indicated that other people had mentioned it. Cllr Orme reported that it was too firmly fixed to be moved but there are plans for another information board.

A member of the public reported that the cones had not been set out for the mobile bank last week and she had suffered abuse from drivers as she tried to keep the space open. The Mayor confirmed that they will be in place this week and he had provided the fishmonger with some cones as he had volunteered to do it each week. Cllr Greenhough reported that she had been in touch with NatWest and they had confirmed that the longer it took the bank to be able to park the less time they would have to deal with customers. She also reported that some people were unable to get onto the bank but it was being used more than anticipated and they would be providing an additional member of staff who will be able to liaise with customers outside.

Cllr Drobny raised the issue of the traffic problems on Smithy Lane and Mill Street and asked whether a letter could be sent to school to ask them to write to parents. Cllr McCann reported that there were police notices up to stop parking in key locations near the school. Cllr Hudson reported that he had emailed the Police traffic team and someone had come out and would be coming again when he would visit all the schools.

Cllr Taylor reported that she had been approached by a number of people who had heard rumours that the Gala would not be allowed to use the playing field. Councillors confirmed that there had been no such decision and asked the Clerk to publicise this fact.

Cllr Reilly reminded councillors that there had been yet another serious accident at the south end of Park Lane. He had spoken to the police to see what measures might be put in place to reduce traffic speed in that area.

The Clerk reported that there was no Police report. Cllr Taylor reported that the Chief Constable had apparently stated that the further cuts required would lead to the Constabulary only being able to respond to emergencies.

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

**(15-16)118 Review of 2015/16 Budgeted Projects**

Councillors considered the list of projects that they had looked to fund from this year's budget and noted that there were a number of projects where no progress had been made. As a result councillors agreed not to pursue a number of projects and **resolved** that the money set aside for them be returned to balances.

**(15-16)119 Projects for 2016/17**

Councillors identified a number of potential projects for 2016/17 and **resolved** that the Clerk price the work to be considered as part of the budget discussions.

**(15-16)120 Bus Shelter – Saracens Head**

Cllr Hudson reported on the problems he had encountered trying to speak to the appropriate officers at Wyre and LCC. He had finally identified who the appropriate officer at Wyre and was awaiting a call and would report back at the next meeting.

**(15-16)121 Arrangements for December Meeting**

Councillors **resolved** to serve a hot pot supper after the December meeting and **resolved** to invite the In Bloom volunteers to thank them for the excellent work they had done.

**(15-16)122 Civic Christmas Cards**

Councillors **resolved** to send a Christmas card to those in the voluntary and statutory sector who provide services or are involved in local life.

**(15-16)123 Use of Car Park**

Councillors **resolved** to allow St Aidan's Association to use the car park on 5<sup>th</sup> November should overflow parking be required.

**(15-16)124 Wyre Council Task Group**

Councillors noted that a Wyre Council task group is looking at building stronger relationships with Town and Parish Councils and identifying what improvements could be made. Councillors **resolved** to provide the Clerk with responses to the questions in the short survey form for her to collate into a response from the Council, subject to it being agreed with the Mayor.

**(15-16)125 Mobile Phone Contract**

Councillors noted that the two year mobile phone contract is due to expire on 18 October and **resolved** to accept a new contract on a sim only deal at a cost of £11.50 per month plus VAT representing a saving to the Council.

**(15-16)126 Identity Cards for Councillors**

Cllr Campbell raised the issue of whether councillors should have an identity card for use on official business. Councillors **resolved** that identity cards should be provided and asked Cllr Cambell to carry out research on cost and availability.

**(15-16)127 Planning Applications**

**15/00781/FUL**

**Proposal:** Erection of two private double garages and open canopy entrance to courtyard (resubmission of 14/00894/FUL)

**Location:** The Granary, Green Dicks Lane, Pilling

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

**15/00806/FUL**

**Proposal:** Erection of two dwellings (resubmission of 15/00527/FUL)

**Location:** Wyre Borough Council Public Conveniences, 57 Lancaster Road, Knott End

By a majority (3 councillors voted for and one councillor abstained) it was agreed that the Council objects to the proposal on the grounds that it is overintensive for the site and could have a negative impact on the trees at the site and the street scene.

**(15-16)128 Finance**

**a) Payments received:**

Reserve account interest (June-August)	£2.95
Wyre Juniors (Invoice 15/010)	£305.80

**b) Payments to be approved:**

2894/95	Staff Costs	£2145.24
2894	Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£10.00
2896	HMRC	£323.88
2897	Preesall Auto Discount	£31.21
2898	Viking	£91.14
2899	Knott End Cafe	£100.00
2900	Cllr P Orme (reimbursement)	£7.00
2901	MTC Fencing	£2150.00
2902	Wyre Building Supplies	£118.63
2903	Preesall Town Council (RBS current account)	£10,000
2904	Preesall Town Council (RBS reserve account)	£23,665.00
28	Mrs C Y McCann (reimbursement) (In Bloom)	£72.35

**Transfer to be approved:**

Transfer £23,665.17 from Reserve Account into Current Account and transfer any remaining monies on account closure to the Current Account

**Payments by Standing Order/Direct Debit**

Easy Websites (hosting fee)		£24.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)		£22.82
LCC (employer contribution)	£518.34)	
LCC (employee contributions)	£142.48)	£660.82

### c) Statement of Accounts – August and September 2015

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for August which shows:

Current account	£41,347.49
Reserve account	£23,665.17
Mayor's Charity Account	£nil
In Bloom Account	£2,131.37

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for September which shows:

Current account	£31,896.90
Reserve account	£23,665.17
Mayor's Charity Account	£nil
In Bloom Account	£2,131.37

Councillors **resolved** to note the payments by standing order/direct debit and the statement of accounts and to approve the accounts for payment. Councillors noted that all three new accounts with RBS were now open and **resolved** to close the Mayor's Charity Account and, once the funds were transferred to the current account, close the Reserve Account. Councillors noted that the funds paid into the new Current Account would allow payments to be made from this account and, when all transactions from the current Current Account had been processed, it would be closed. The In Bloom account would be closed when all transactions made on it had been processed.

### **(15-16)129 Verbal Reports from Subject Leads and Outside Body Representatives (information only)**

#### **Housing**

Cllr Hudson reported on an item of individual case work he had been dealing with and asked for the support of councillors if he needed to ask Regenda to come to talk to councillors on the operation of some of their policies.

#### **Health**

Cllr Greenhough reported that she had talked to a number of people about the possibility of re-routing the 2C so that it ran to the medical centre and there appears to be support from the bus company and users of the medical centre. Councillors asked that this be an agenda item for the next meeting.

#### **Youth**

Cllr Taylor reported that St Oswald's Dramatists had recently held auditions for Cats and now had over 70 children and young people involved. Cllr Orme reported that he had been invited to the Annual Meeting and Investiture of the Garstang Young Mayor. He was unable to attend given a previous commitment but would be attending the Youth Council in the near future.

#### **Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee)**

Cllr Orme reported that the next meeting will be held on 4 November. He had attended a meeting of the NW Federation where there had been discussion of the reductions in funding for principal authorities leading to town and parish councils being asked to take on more services. He will be presenting the Best Kept Village awards on behalf of LALC.

#### **Wyre Flood Forum**

Cllr Orme reported that a meeting had taken place in September but the email calling the meeting had only been sent at very short notice and he had been unable to attend.

#### **Protect Wyre Group**

Cllr Taylor reported that further communication from the European Commission was awaited and it was still intended to go to Brussels.

### **Friends of Preesall Park**

Cllr Orme reported that he would soon be placing an order to replace the trees on the playing field and would order another rowan for the car park side border.

### **Wyre Road Safety Committee**

Cllr Reilly reported that he would be meeting Chris Anslow from LCC on another matter and would update Cllr Hudson in due course.

### **Wyre Festive Lights Committee**

Cllr Reilly reported that another meeting was due to be held but he had not seen a meeting invitation yet.

### **Wyre in Bloom**

Cllr Mutch reported that the Bloomers were still watering and had planted the new tubs at the ferry area. They have more plants on order and are waiting for the barrels to be collected. Three of the Bloomers will go to the award ceremony in Southport and will not know until then what award they had won.

### **Christmas Fair**

Cllr Orme reported that the Fair would take place on Saturday 28 November. Councillors discussed whether the festivities could be extended round the corner and involve more businesses and Cllr Orme identified some of the difficulties.

### **(15-16)130 Verbal Report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)**

Cllr Taylor reported that work would be undertaken to improve the pavements in the village centre within the next four weeks.

### **(15-16)131 Clerk's Report (information only)**

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

#### **Lengthsman's Report**

In September the Lengthsman took some holiday following his wedding. He gave the area around the Lowry statue a good clean prior to the unveiling ceremony, has disposed of a derelict rowing boat that has blighted the beach near the Bourne Arms and has cleaned the gullies in anticipation of the high tides at the end of September.

#### **Upgrade to Telecommunications Radio Base Station**

Telefonica and Vodafone have agreed to jointly operate and manage a single network grid across the UK. As a result they are in the process of upgrading a site on land on Knott End Squash Club on Lancaster Road in order to improve the 2G/3G capacity and to enable the site to deliver 4G capability to the network. They propose to remove an existing 6.5m telecommunications flagpole with 3 shrouded antennas and install a new 7m flagpole with 3 shrouded antennas. They will also add a 300mm dish attached to the existing apex roof and remove 2 existing equipment cabinets and install 2 new equipment cabinets at ground level plus ancillary equipment including the replacement of 2 diplexers with 3 diplexers.

#### **Community Resilience Website**

The Met Office has launched a community resilience web page containing severe weather links, best advice during severe weather and a link to the Weather Observations Website which enables individuals to submit independent weather observations to help improve understanding of local weather conditions and their impact. The web page can be viewed at

[www.metoffice.gov.uk/publicsector/resilience/community-resilience](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/publicsector/resilience/community-resilience)

### **New Bank Account**

The main current account has been opened but the In Bloom account and the Reserve account have not. As a result of a complaint £250 compensation has been paid and new forms to open the two accounts have been submitted.

### **Path in Jubilee Garden**

The path is now complete and the grant completion report submitted to the Big Lottery.

### **Festival of Remembrance**

The Mayor and Mayoress of Wyre will host the Festival of Remembrance at the Marine Hall, Fleetwood on November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £10 and must be pre-booked All the proceeds will be donated to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Telephone 01253 887257 or call in at the Civic Centre, Poulton.

### **New Community Directory**

Organisers of activity groups such as parent and toddler groups, dance groups and walking groups are being urged to provide details of their groups to go into a new community directory for use by doctors and health professionals. for further information please contact Angela Glass at: [angela.glass@cvsbwf.org.uk](mailto:angela.glass@cvsbwf.org.uk)

### **School and Community Tree Packs – Woodland Trust**

The Woodland Trust has 3250 tree packs available for schools and community groups. Applications for this season are open, and all those eligible will receive their tree packs between 7-11 March 2016. The deadline for applications is 6 January 2016 but the application period may close early depending on the number of applications.

### **(15-16)132 Mayor's Report (information only)**

The Mayor had nothing to report.

### **(15-16)133 Questions to Councillors**

Cllr Campbell asked councillors who he needed to approach to ask for the numbers of the buses that use particular stops to be shown on them and was advised to contact Stagecoach and Blackpool Transport.

Cllr McCann asked Cllr Taylor about a Wyre Cabinet paper which referred to works on the playing field. Cllr Taylor replied that she did not know the detail.

Cllr Hudson asked Cllrs Taylor and Orme, in their roles as Wyre councillors, whether it was true that Wyre Council might charge for the collection of green waste. Cllr Taylor confirmed that the issue had not been discussed and there is no such proposal for Wyre.

Cllr Hudson referred to his recent attempts to find an up to date bus timetable. The only times shown were from June and the timetable indicated that they were to be reviewed in September but there was no up to date timetable available even despite his contacting LCC's public transport team. Cllr Orme was aware that there had been a change to the 2C timetable to allow St Aidan's students to catch the bus.

### **(15-16)134 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) and 1(3) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, councillors **resolved** to exclude the press and public to discuss matters relating to the playing field lease on the grounds that the discussion involves confidential details and advice from sources other than members.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.20pm.