



**PRESALL TOWN COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22**

## **Mayor's Annual Report**

It's great to meet again in person after Covid rather than on Zoom and it's great to be seeing the back of the many restrictions, however, the cost-of-living crisis is biting. In deference to that, councillors are paying for their own after event buffet and the guest list is at a minimum.

This year has seen the sad loss of a former councillor, Rosina Lawson who gave 34 years to the service of Preesall Town Council and to community. In her honour the town flag was flown at half-mast.

We have also been flying the flag of Ukraine from as early as the day after the invasion, some three weeks sooner than Wyre.

The new Lengthskeeper, Paul Dooler, has been the subject of nothing but praise since taking up his post.

Sadly, there was no Gala, but there was a much-improved Santa Sleigh event, an excellent Christmas lights display two well attended Remembrance events and a raising of the Commonwealth flag. Thanks to all involved.

With the pandemic loosening its grip I had hoped several of our projects and aspirations would come to fruition at last but that was wishful thinking. Some tradespeople have become elusive and unreliable, and the two higher authorities have failed to get back up to speed. Some of our schemes would have saved them a great deal of money.

I'd like to thank the HM Coastguard team and Lancashire Fire and Rescue for keeping residents and visitors safe and also the numerous volunteers in our lovely community, especially the Bloomers and volunteer youth workers.

I'm glad to say some £1,207 was raised for my charities, with £966 going to Friends of Preesall Park and £241 for the donkey sanctuary.

To finish, I would like to thank the clerk for her excellent work and support over the last three years when she has had challenging times at home.

## Finance

The Town Council is responsible for proper accounting records, safeguarding the assets and taking steps to prevent fraud and other irregularities and a prudent level of reserves. There are accounting policies and procedures in place to mitigate exposure to major risk, which are reviewed annually. Councillors believe they make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates. The accounts are a matter of public information and can be viewed at any time.

### Receipts and Payments Account for Preesall Town Council

Receipts	2021/2022		Payments
Balances brought forward (including reserves)	£154398	£39673	Staff costs
Precept	£98916	£40	Mayor/Civic
Grants/donations	£3700	£6596	Grants
VAT Refund	£3924	£3575	VAT
Recharges	£60	£9326	Community Expenditure
Other	£1995	£7803	Parish maintenance
	-	£290	Training
	-	£1730	Office costs
		£3178	Governance
	£262993	£72211	

Balance to carry forward as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 - £190782

The Town Council accounts are due to be audited in June 2022.

### The Parish Precept

The Parish Precept is the amount of money which the Town Council receives from Wyre Council to pay for the services it provides. This amount is raised by Wyre Council as that part of your Council Tax relating directly to the Town Council area. In other words, Wyre Council collects this on our behalf.

The way we calculate the precept is as follows:

Each year, just before Christmas, the Town Council produces an estimate of its likely **expenditure** for the forthcoming year (eg. staff costs, parish maintenance, community projects). This will also include an amount to cover the costs of any urgent projects that may be required in the area.

We also estimate our likely **income** for the same period (eg the VAT refund, Festive Lighting Grant). The difference between the two figures forms the basis of our precept calculation, which we submit to Wyre Council. In 2021/22 our precept was £98916.

**Alison May, Responsible Financial Officer**

## **Your Councillors**

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