

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 11 April 2016  
at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall**

**Present:** Councillors P Orme (Mayor), R Black, B Campbell, R Drobny, P Greenhough, D Hudson, G McCann, J Mutch, T Reilly, V Taylor and L Woodhouse.

**In Attendance:** Jan Finch, Clerk to the Town Council, Clive Grunshaw (Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner) and PCs Ian Rawcliffe and Craig Brown (Item 5) and 3 members of the public.

**(15-16)237 Apologies for Absence**

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

**(15-16)238 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**

Cllr McCann declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 15 (verbal report from Wyre in Bloom representative) as his wife is heavily involved in the group. Cllrs Reilly, Taylor and McCann declared non-pecuniary interests in Item 6 (Resignation of the Clerk) as members of the Employment Working Group.

**(15-16)239 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meetings held on 14 March and 30 March 2016 be agreed as a true record.

**(15-16)240 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 asked councillors if they were aware of a group of youths gathering in the shelter opposite the former NatWest bank. She stated that they weren't causing any problems but they do frighten old people who are walking down the Esplanade. Cllr Orme indicated that they are gathering at different places in the village and Cllr Hudson commented that the situation will not improve if the youth service is abolished.

A member of the public raised the problem of delays to buses which meant that it had taken her much longer than anticipated to travel to Cleveleys and back and asked whether anything could be done to better synchronise timetables. Cllr Orme indicated that she should contact Blackpool Transport. Cllr Woodhouse mentioned that the 24 is operated by a new company and it is possible that the drivers are not familiar with the route. Cllr Greenhough commented that she had heard that another bus company was looking at the 2C at times when it was not operating, particularly because of accessing medical appointments.

A member of the public asked if the public could know what had taken place at the Extraordinary meeting on 30 March and the Mayor indicated that it was a confidential matter.

Cllr Hudson stated that he was unaware of any ongoing discussions with LCC over bus service provision as he had put some suggestions to the Leader and Chief Executive in January and had received a letter from the Chief Executive in late March in which none of his questions had been answered. He had heard that Cllr Paul Hayhurst had £1.8m to allocate to bus subsidies and had emailed him but had had no response. He had asked specifically whether LCC had been in touch with Blackpool Victoria and Lancaster hospitals on the potential impact of removing the bus subsidy and whether LCC was aware that some clinics are held on Sundays. Cllr Greenhough indicated that the Clinical Commissioning Group had been in touch with Cllr Hayhurst to ask him to reinstate bus provision to feed the walk in centre at Fleetwood.

The Clerk indicated that she had not received the police report but PC Rawcliffe read out details of the crime and anti social behavior that had taken place in March. Cllr Hudson raised the issue of the drugs bust and Great Places' inability to take any action until the Police would release information on who the drugs belonged to. PC Rawcliffe indicated that he could not release any information while the investigation was ongoing and agreed to let Cllr Hudson have the information once the investigation was concluded.

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

**(15-16)241 Visit By Clive Grunshaw, Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire**

The PCC described his role as the public voice of policing – identifying public concerns and incorporating them into policing plans. Most people want to see more “bobbies on the beat” at a neighbourhood level but the police also have to support victims, tackle offending and reoffending by getting involved early to prevent problems and trying to turn round the lives of those who have got themselves into trouble, deal with domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation etc. He also oversees the budget which has seen a reduction of 25% (£75m) since 2010 and, by 2020, some £90m will have to be taken out. 900 officers and 700 support staff have gone and that leads to a disconnect between what people want and what can be delivered with the reduced resources. He has tried to free up resources by reducing the number of divisions and using more information technology so that officers have better tools to do the job and can map crime where it occurs. He has maintained the Neighbourhood Policing model and there is a new intake of PCSOs. He believes that things are not as bad as they could have been if the original funding formula had gone ahead which would have meant Lancashire being hit more severely than any other force than the Met. He looks forward with optimism to the future when he believes he will be able to make changes because they are the right thing to do and not just to balance the books. He wants to see early action to understand the circumstances of offenders and what has caused them to offend. He understands the concerns of people who do not see as many police officers as they used to but demands have increased with higher levels of homicide, rape, sexual offences and child sexual exploitation while officer numbers have reduced.

Cllr Hudson said that officers at the sharp end do a brilliant job but he criticised the reduction in policing levels Over Wyre and some of the recent decisions taken about who signs on where. He indicated that he had cause to ring 101 after the last Council meeting and, although the call handler was excellent, not one of the named officers for this area was available. He stressed that we are seeing serious crime in the area and things are reported but there is no evidence of arrests. On Wednesdays and Sundays there is at least one traffic vehicle in the area as a result of bikers but no police cover at other times. Mr Grunshaw stated that he regularly argues about the impact of the cuts and the fact that Lancashire has suffered more than other counties in the south. He indicated that decisions about who starts where and what resources are allocated where are operational decisions and out of his control. He believes he has tried to support rural communities through maintaining neighbourhood policing. Lancashire has been judged outstanding by HMIC and is one of the best performing forces in the country. He agreed that it is time to start investing back but he has to make the best of what is available now.

Cllr Reilly said that he understands the “threat, harm, risk” model and indicated that the local team were very good and he had no complaints about them but he indicated that the team had vacancies. This means that there is often no-one local to attend an incident and an officer has to come from Garstang or Fleetwood if it is deemed a high enough risk and sometimes no officer comes out. People feel that they pay the same amount but do not get the same level of service. He asked how often the “threat, harm, risk” model is reviewed. Criminals come over here as they believe it is easy pickings. Local people expect someone to turn up and the fact that no-one does or there is a long delay is not reassuring. The Lancashire Constabulary website shows 33 incidents and that is 33 individuals inconvenienced but he cannot see anywhere a response that shows these incidents have been dealt with. The elderly will not open their doors at night and people want reassurance through more visible policing. Mr Grunshaw stated that “threat, harm, risk” is reviewed every day. Officers look at what’s happening in each division

and that mapping allows resources to be targeted. He pointed out that there is a PCSO based in Preesall but resource allocation is not his decision. He agreed that everyone deserves to be supported and urged residents to dial 999 if they feel there is an immediate threat and 101 for other cases. He is aiming for proactive policing with early action and prevention.

Cllr Drobny stated that crime mapping only works if crime is reported. He was always told that if he saw a crime being committed to dial 999. He related three incidents where he had reported crimes being committed and no-one turned up. He believes examples like these lead to the general public losing faith and not bothering to report crime. Mr Grunshaw stated that he was concerned if issues are being reported and not recorded. He asked that, if it happened again, that Cllr Drobny contact his office. His job is to hold the Chief Constable to account.

Cllr Greenhough described the break in at the electricity sub-station and the fact that a witness had watched the crime in operation for some time without thinking he should report it. The public expect the police to protect them but won't help. Mr Grunshaw indicated his concern that someone watched a crime and didn't report it. He feels that everyone has a responsibility. Cllr Greenhough stated that Mr Grunshaw had spoken about the funding situation and asked what he was doing about it. Mr Grunshaw referred to his earlier comments on the role of the PCC. His role was to lead important strategic areas on the direction of policing priorities. Forces may complain about HMIC but they provide reassurance that the Constabulary is performing well. He is there to make sure policing is being delivered in accordance with the police and crime plan.

Cllr McCann spoke of the sort of crime that is a regular feature but a number of crimes are what he describes as inner city crime. He feels that there has been a shift in the seriousness of crime and wonders what is coming next. This has an impact on commercial services who might be deterred from doing business in the area. He expressed concern at the increase in the precept but no increase in the service. Mr Grunshaw indicated that even putting up the precept by the maximum could not make up for the cuts brought about by the funding formula. He indicated that Over Wyre would get the same response to a 999 call as anywhere else. The police are trying to tackle more organised crime through the use of technology such as ANPR cameras which can map vehicles around the county.

Cllr Campbell indicated that no-one likes cuts but that is the world we live in. He asked if there was any possibility of getting money from other sources such as insurance companies. Mr Grunshaw stated that you cannot have the private sector funding police officers as it compromises the integrity and independence of policing. However the Constabulary does collaborate with other organisations such as the Fire and Rescue Service and UCLAN on specialist services. Cllr Campbell indicated that he was not talking about sponsorship but if such organisations benefit from policing why not ask for a contribution.

Cllr Orme supported what other councillors had said but indicated a lack of confidence in the 101 service with no consistent response and the requirement to continually provide the same information which is frustrating.

#### **(15-16)242 Resignation of the Clerk**

Cllr Hudson commented that he was sorry to see the Clerk's resignation and praised her professionalism which had benefitted the Council. He proposed a vote of thanks and councillors unanimously agreed. Councillors noted the resignation of the Clerk on 31 March 2016 and that her last day of employment will be 30 April 2016. Councillors further noted that the Clerk will be entitled to 1.75 days annual leave for April and is owed a number of hours. Councillors **resolved** to accept the Clerk's offer to extend her notice to 4 May to incorporate the Annual Meeting of the Council on 3 May, to carry out the necessary actions on the following day and to prepare the agenda for 9 May meeting and to pay her for any outstanding holiday and hours. Councillors **resolved** to ask the Employment Working Group to look at the recruitment package for approval at a future meeting and Cllr Hudson indicated that membership and terms of reference of the Employment Working Group needed to be looked at in the near future. (Cllr Campbell left the meeting). Councillors further **resolved** to investigate the possibility of a locum Clerk to cover the

time until a new Clerk is recruited (Cllr Taylor left the meeting) and asked the Clerk to deliver all equipment and files to the Youth and Community Centre where they could be securely stored.

**(15-16)243 New Bus Shelter**

Councillors noted that the owner of the land has agreed the location but it appears that he will only allow the bus shelter to go ahead if there are double yellow lines outside his property from the junction of Back Lane down to the Black Bull pub. He believes that without the yellow lines people will still park in the bus shelter and at the narrow point of the road and the entrance to his house. Cllr Hudson has lodged two requests for double yellow lines with LCC but has not yet had a response and councillors **resolved** that the Clerk write to Lancashire Highways asking when the review will be carried out.

**(15-16)244 Effective Meetings Workshop**

Councillors **resolved** that Cllr McCann attend this workshop which will take place on Tuesday, June 14th 2016, 7pm – 9pm and that the Council meets the cost of £25.

**(15-16)245 Brown Tourism Sign**

Councillors noted that there are a number of questions on the online form which need input from them and councillors **resolved** to establish a working group consisting of Cllrs Drobny, Greenhough, Black and Woodhouse to identify the information required information and for this to be brought back to Council for approval.

**(15-16)246 Appointments to Outside Bodies and Subject Leads**

Councillors reviewed membership of outside bodies and subject leads and **resolved** that the following be appointed:

Housing – Cllr Hudson

Health – Cllr Greenhough

Tourism – Cllrs Black and Woodhouse

Youth – Cllrs Taylor and Orme

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – Cllrs Orme and McCann

Wyre Flood Forum – Cllrs Orme and Reilly

Protect Wyre Group – Cllr Orme

Friends of Preesall Park – Cllr Greenhough

Wyre Festive Lights Committee – Cllr Reilly

Wyre in Bloom – Cllr Mutch

Preesall Youth and Community Association – Cllr Reilly

Planning Ambassador – Cllr McCann

Christmas Fair – Cllr Orme

**(15-16)247 Request for Introduction of Resident Only Parking on Preesall Hill**

At the request of Cllr Hudson councillors **resolved** to defer this item to the next meeting.

**(15-16)248 Application to LCC to Reinstate Traffic Wardens in Knott End**

Cllr Hudson referred to complaints by residents that drivers are parking irresponsibly and the area did not appear to have been visited by traffic wardens. Councillors **resolved** to write to LCC to remind them of their responsibility to enforce on street parking. Councillors noted that there is a problem with all day parking on the car park owned by Wyre Council near the butcher's which means that shoppers are forced to park elsewhere, many of them in the Working Men's Club car park. Councillors **resolved** that a letter be sent to Wyre Council asking them to take steps to limit the duration of parking in this location.

**(15-16)249 Planning Applications**

**16/00244/FUL****Proposal:** Change of use of existing building to self-storage facility (B8)**Location:** Head Dyke Farm, Head Dyke Lane, Preesall

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

**16/00258/LAWE****Proposal:** Certificate of lawful development for existing boundary wall and gates**Location:** Beech Cottage, 2 Daggars Lane, Preesall

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

**(15-16)250 Finance****a) Payments received:**

Sponsorship (In Bloom)	£180.00
Current account interest	£1.23
Reserve account interest (March)	£0.80
Precept*	£74,468.87

\*Precept set at £75,412. Election expenses of £4943.13 should have been deducted by Wyre Council at source. Wyre deducted £943.13 and invoice paid by cheque 55 repaid the outstanding £4000.00

**b) Payments to be approved:**

47/48 Staff Costs	£2238.73
47 Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£47.96
49 HMRC	£374.10
50 LALC	£618.16
51 Viking	£79.15
52 Fleetwood High School (printing)	£56.54
53 Wyre Council	£15.00
54 Wyre Building Supplies	£5.28
55 Wyre Council	£4,000.00
56 Mrs E Parry (internal audit)	£110.00
57 Lancs County Training Partnership	£25.00

**Payments by Standing Order/Direct Debit**

Easy Websites (hosting fee)	£24.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	£16.62
LCC pension	£694.66

**c) Transfers approved**

Transfer from Current Account to In Bloom Account	£500.00
Transfer from Current Account to In Bloom Account	£397.63

**d) Statement of Accounts – March 2016**

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for March which shows:

Current account (RBS)	£3,225.65
Reserve account (RBS)	£23,669.31
In Bloom account (RBS)	£2,803.69

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

#### **(15-16)251 Verbal Reports from Subject Leads and Outside Body Representatives (information only)**

##### **Housing**

Cllr Hudson reported that he was still waiting for the Police to inform him about the drug issue so that he can report to Great Places. He is keeping an eye on development in Hambleton to see if there may be affordable housing available for people in Preesall and Knott End.

##### **Health**

Cllr Greenhough reported that a local GP is retiring and places at the retirement party needed to be booked at the medical centre.

##### **Youth**

Cllr Orme reported that the AGM of the Preesall Youth and Community Association was being arranged. He had not yet started plans for a youth council and he urged everyone to register their comments on future youth service provision on the LCC website.

##### **Wyre Flood Forum**

Cllr Orme reported that there had not been a meeting but a related issue had arisen. FOPP reinstated the dyke along the back boundary wall of the playing field but the dyke is now blocked further down at Willowgrove Park. The Park's owners had asked permission to temporarily remove two fence panels and access the playing field with a tractor to clear the dyke. They also asked permission to place two skips on the car park for the waste. Councillors **resolved** to agree to the requests on the understanding that they would make good any damage to the field or the car park.

##### **Friends of Preesall Park**

Cllr Orme reported that the AGM would take place shortly. He had had productive discussions with Wyre Council who had agreed that further development could take place and Wyre would take on ongoing maintenance once the lease had expired as long as the Lengthsman continued to litterpick, do any routine maintenance on the playing field as he does now and act as "eyes and ears". Councillors **resolved** to agree to the request. Cllr Orme reported that the BMX track would be installed shortly. The Shaping Your Neighbourhood grant will be paid direct to the Council and FOPP will pay the remainder as a grant to the Council.

##### **Wyre Festive Lights Committee**

Cllr Reilly reported that he had attended a recent meeting. Although there will be no increase in funding the Council will receive a grant for festive lighting this year.

##### **Wyre in Bloom**

Cllr Mutch reported that the Bloomers had ordered the summer plants and were now meeting weekly once again.

##### **Planning Ambassador**

Cllr McCann reported that there had been a High Court decision in relation to greenbelt and he had asked Wyre Council to provide a workshop on the implications. It appears that there is an issue relating to turning down applications while the Local Plan is being developed.

Councillors noted that Wyre Council is setting up an Overview and Scrutiny task group to look at the issue of the ferry and **resolved** that Cllrs Greenhough and Hudson be the Council's representatives.

#### **(15-16)252 Verbal Report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)**

Cllr Orme had nothing to report.

## **(15-16)253 Clerk's Report (information only)**

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

### **Lengthsman's Report**

In March the Lengthsman has continued to reclaim pathways where soil has encroached and cleaning gullies where the roadsweeper is prevented from cleaning owing to parked cars to ensure the free flow of water. He has reported that dog fouling continues to be an issue and has taken a few days leave.

### **NHS Blood & Transplant**

The mobile collection team will visit St Oswald's Parish Church Hall on **Thursday 21st April** to collect life saving blood donations from local donors. The team will be at St Oswald's between 13:45 - 15:45 & 16:45 - 19:30. Appointments and further information can be booked at [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk) or by calling 0300 123 23 23. A limited number of people without an appointment can be seen on the day. Regular donors are urged to keep their appointment but if it is no longer required it should be cancelled to give others the opportunity to become a lifesaver. Every unit of blood collected could save or improve the lives of up to three people. More donors are needed in Preesall.

### **Additional Support for the Preparation of Neighbourhood Plans**

The Department for Communities and Local Government has agreed to increase the level of funding available to local councils and other groups preparing a neighbourhood plan from £8,000 to £9,000 from 1 April 2016. All groups writing a neighbourhood plan or neighbourhood development order are eligible to apply for up to £9,000 in grant. Groups facing a range of complex issues are able to apply for further support from the programme. DCLG hopes that some groups will use this funding to obtain more information on their evidence base, but this is not mandatory.

### **Government Rules Out Introduction of Fee-Charging for FOI Requests**

Ministers have ruled out the introduction of up-front fees for freedom of information requests after receiving a report from Independent Commission. The Report says public interest extension to time limit should be replaced, and expresses the provisional view that legislation should be extended to those who are providing public services under contract.

### **Early Diagnosis Dementia Campaign**

On Monday 14 March, Lancashire County Council launched a new county-wide campaign to raise awareness about the early signs of dementia. The campaign is supported by the Alzheimer's Society and will encourage people to visit their GP at the earliest signs and get properly diagnosed so that they can receive the right treatments and support to help them live well with the condition. There are currently over 10,000 people in Lancashire who have been diagnosed with dementia, but it is estimated that the actual figure of people with the condition is much higher. This means that thousands of people who could have dementia are not accessing treatments and support to help them live well with the condition. For more information [www.lancashire.gov.uk/dementia](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/dementia)

### **Changes to RBS Banking Conditions**

From 29 July 2016 RBS will only offer free banking to charities and community organisations with an annual turnover of £100,000 or less. They will monitor turnover from this date and if it goes above £100,000 in any 12 month period they will contact the Town Council before starting to impose charges.

### **Meeting with Halite**

Halite advise that they are in commercially sensitive discussions and would be unable to share any information with councillors at this point and are advised not to undertake such a meeting while possible legal challenges are still being pursued. Keith Budinger stated that Halite would be happy to meet the Council once these issues were resolved.

### **Wyre Borough Council Tree Preservation Order No: 012/2015/TPO**

Wyre Council has confirmed that the order relating to trees at Lancaster House, 241A Park Lane was signed without modification on 29<sup>th</sup> March.

### **2C Bus Service – Response from Blackpool Transport**

Bob Mason, Service Delivery Director for Blackpool Transport has provided the following response to the Council's letter. "As you may be aware every journey on service 2C between Poulton and Knott End received tender subsidy and as a result of the withdrawal of funding by LCC we have taken the decision to still operate to/from Knott End with the commercial risk sitting with Blackpool Transport.

We did closely analyse every journey and can confirm that the evening and Sunday services are very poorly patronised.

I am aware that Chorley Borough Council have themselves via LCC funded some evening services and it might be worth you contacting Wyre Borough Council to see if they would be prepared to do the same?

I have looked at the question of a less frequent and even charging higher fares but this would not be feasible due to the cost of operation and also the issues this would cause to our fares structure, ticketing and possible knock on to the LCC concessionary scheme.

I am sorry I cannot be of further help at this time."

### **Preesall and Knott End Gala**

The Gala will take place on 9 July and the Gala Committee have asked to use the playing field from Monday 4 July to Tuesday 12 July 2016. Councillors will be asked to determine, at the May meeting, whether to require a bond and whether to impose conditions. Last year councillors granted the request subject to the following conditions:

- a) that a bond of £500 be required with the full amount being returned as long as the playing field is undamaged and in good order
- b) That the costs of any work required to reinstate the playing field or to return it to good order be deducted from the bond
- c) That councillors and a representative of the Gala Committee inspect the playing field immediately before and after the Gala to determine whether the bond should be returned in full or in part

### **Preesall War Memorial**

Historic England is considering the above war memorial for addition to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest ('The List'), as part of their response to the centenary of the First World War. War memorials are among the most tangible and precious reminders of the sacrifices made by communities during the First World War, and the government is committed to seeing all the nation's memorials placed in a good state of repair by 2018. As part of this, Historic England, acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, has resolved that over the period 2014-18 it will greatly increase the number of memorials which are listed. The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has a duty to compile and maintain the List, and Historic England acts as the Government's statutory adviser on the historic environment with responsibility for listing. It therefore falls to them to assess whether Preesall War Memorial holds special architectural or historic interest, before making a recommendation to the Secretary of State as to whether the memorial should be on the List.

Listing helps to mark a building's significance and celebrate its special architectural and historic interest. It brings specific protection so that its special interest can be properly considered in managing its future. Listing does not mean, however, that no alterations can be made - in fact in the vast majority of cases applications to make changes to a listed building are approved. They are now beginning their assessment of the memorial and, when it is complete, they will send a copy of the consultation report. This report will set out the factual information on which Historic England will base their recommendation. At that stage the Town Council will be invited to make comments about the architectural or historic interest of the memorial and all representations made will be considered before the assessment is

finalised and a recommendation made to the Secretary of State. Historic England will notify the Town Council of the Secretary of State's decision in due course.

### **Trees on Playing Field Boundary**

Wyre's Tree Officer has arranged for the trees to be pruned in order to prevent any third party liability claims.

### **Town Guide**

Cllr Woodhouse noted that some of the information in the Town Guide and on the website had been taken from a particular publication and she will contact the author for permission to reproduce it with an attribution.

### **Tiles**

Cllr Greenhough reported that she and other councillors had kept in touch with Adrian Cross at Pilling Pottery and he will re-lay the new foundation and then the tiles once the weather improves.

### **Wyre Barrage**

Mr Bob Long had agreed to attend a public meeting and the Mayor is looking at suitable dates and venues for the meeting.

### **State of Roads**

A senior Highways engineer from LCC had responded to the Council's letter demanding action stating that they are putting together a list of roads damaged by flooding to be sent to their Asset team in order to apply for funding from the Department for Transport for flood damage repairs. They will put forward Sandy Lane from the 4x4 garage to Cartgate and the whole of Lancaster Road. There has been no flooding on Fordstone so that will not go on the list although any potholes reported will be inspected and a decision made on whether they require filling. Some repairs are also required around 267/269 Park Lane as a result of flooding. Councillors agreed that a letter be sent to the Head of the Ambulance Service asking for support to get the roads resurfaced.

### **(15-16)254 Mayor's Report (information only)**

The Mayor reported that he had attended the recent LALC Executive and CCllr Dereli had asked for LALC's support in relation to bus subsidies and services. LALC had written to the Secretary of State for Transport who had replied that £1.86 million was ringfenced for bus subsidies. This should be in addition to the £1.8 million taken out of the proposed cuts in order to continue some bus subsidies. In response to a question to LCC on where the money had gone LALC was informed that it had been spent on bus stops etc.

### **(15-16)255 Questions to Councillors**

Cllr Woodhouse asked if the Council flew the St George's flag and was informed that it does.

Cllr Hudson asked Cllr McCann about the introduction of smart meters and was informed that they are being rolled out but the company dealing with the publicity did not wish to attend a meeting as they are based in London.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.45pm.