

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 12 December 2016 at 6.30pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall

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

In attendance: Alison May, Clerk to the Town Council, and 5 members of the public.

1(16-17)190a Apologies for absence

Cllr Greenhough – migraine

1(16-17)190b Absent without apology

None.

2(16-17)191 Declarations of interests and dispensations

None.

3(16-17)192 Minutes of the last meetings

RESOLVED: 1) That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November be agreed as a true record
2) That the minutes relating to the exclusion of the press and public be discussed in private session at agenda item 16
3) That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 November be agreed as a true record.

4(16-17)193 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 member of the public expressed his thanks to the clerk and the council for the provision of the Christmas lights and thanked the clerk for the provision of information regarding a request he had made earlier in the month regarding council expenditure. He also suggested that councillors consider their behaviour and the adverse publicity their ‘seemingly petty’ arguments had generated. In addition he asked that they think about the ‘not inconsiderable’ financial cost to the community of their actions.
- Tipping of garden waste to the rear of properties backing on to the sea wall
In response: some of the properties own the land and have just shortened their garden, therefore they are ‘tipping’ on their own land. A search would have to be made of the land register to ascertain who owns the land before any action could be taken.
- Celebration of diamond wedding – a request was made for the Mayor to visit the couple on the day and pass on congratulations.
In response: The Mayor has a pre-existing engagement, however, the Deputy Mayor said he would be delighted to attend and asked if the clerk would provide him with further details.
- The clerk asked what action had been taken in previous years when the Christmas lights failed.
In response: If the lights go out towards the beginning of the switch-on period then they should be repaired, if after Christmas then probably not.

Councillors had been provided with a copy of the latest crime statistics and Cllr Drobny suggested that he should have declared an interest as he was the person who had reported an alleged hate crime.

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

5(16-17)194 Councillor apology

It was noted that the councillor in breach of the Code of Conduct was absent from the meeting. The clerk reported that as the monitoring officer had now contacted those found to have breached the Code of Conduct with details of standards hearings to be held at Wyre Council, the councillor apology item need not be entered on the agenda until the outcome of the standards hearing was known.

6(16-17)195 Contract with Towers and Gornall

RESOLVED: To accept the contract with Towers and Gornall.

7(16-17)196 Meeting with railway enthusiasts

Cllr Woodhouse provided feedback on her meeting with the railway enthusiasts and their proposal to create a small light railway along the track bed of the disused railway between the bowling green at Preesall and Hackensall Road in Knott End. She proposed that members of the society be invited to a meeting of the council to provide an update.

RESOLVED: To invite representatives of the railway group to the February council meeting.

8 (16-17)197 Meeting with Inspector Smith

RESOLVED: To move this item to the January agenda.

9(16-17)198 Christmas lunch for the elderly

RESOLVED: To make a donation of up to £500 to the Christmas lunch group. This would be to ensure no financial loss to the organisers, with any payment made being subject to the provision of accounts by the lunch group for checking by the clerk in her role as responsible financial officer, in accordance with the council's grants policy.

10(16-17)199 Change to standing orders

RESOLVED: To accept the special motion signed by four councillors for the wording of standing order 9(e) to be amended.

11(16-17)200 Computer back-up

RESOLVED: To approve the purchase of an external hard drive by the clerk to back up the computer at a cost of up to £80.

12(16-17)201 Clerk's fee to register for CILCA

RESOLVED: To pay the clerk's registration fee of £250 to SLCC to sign up for CILCA.

13(16-17)202 Clerk's delegated responsibilities

Councillors were made aware that the delegated responsibilities of the clerk are contained in more than one document and that an opportunity to comment on an important document had been missed as the deadline for comments had fallen between two meetings. It was suggested that EWG look at the duties and report back to the council early in the New Year.

RESOLVED: That the EWG work with the clerk to produce a document consolidating the existing delegations and where necessary propose further delegations. These would then be brought back to the council for approval.

14(16-17)203 Fire service draft integrated risk management plan

Councillors discussed the request for comments to the proposed risk management plan and the need for councils to respond to such requests. Any comments on the document to be provided to the clerk by 4 January in order for a collated response to be returned.

15(16-17)204 Zurich annual seminar

RESOLVED: To meet the cost of the seminar if the clerk was willing to attend.

16(16-17)205 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) an item relating to an employment matter
- b) an item relating to a letter sent by the clerk.

17(16-17)206 Planning Applications

16/00866/FUL

Proposal: Replacement storage building (B8)

Location: Old Emmanuel Church, Lune View, Knott End-on-Sea

Grid Ref: SD335242 448545

RESOLVED: By a majority (7 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstained) to approve the planning application.

16/01049/OUT

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of 4 detached dwellings with access

Location: Fairways 35 Sandy Lane, Preesall, Poulton-le-Fylde

Grid Ref: SD336518 447938

RESOLVED: By a majority (8 in favour, 2 against) to approve the planning application.

16/01053/OUT

Proposal: Outline application for the erection of 1 detached bungalow with access

Location: Primrose House 5 Daggers Lane, Preesall, Poulton-le-Fylde

Grid Ref: SD336676 447421

RESOLVED: By a majority (3 in favour, 6 against, 1 abstained) to reject the planning application.

16/01054/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of land to form extension to existing employment site

Location: Carrfield works, Park Lane, Preesall, Poulton-le-Fylde

Grid Ref: SD336864 446409

RESOLVED: By a majority (9 in favour, 1 abstained) to approve the planning application.

18(16-17)207 Finance

- a) It was **resolved to note** the following receipts:

Epson refund	£ 30.00
Wyre Council festive light grant	£3400.00
Interest	£ 0.38

- b) It was **resolved to pay** the following

114/115 Staff costs	£ 1785.39
114 Clerk's expenditure on behalf of council	£ 138.90
116 HMRC	£ 210.12
117 Preesall Auto discount(inv. 631)	£ 2.25
118 Wyre Building supplies(inv. 5860 =£3.42;inv. 6554 =£14.50 inv 7256=£30.82; inv 7433 = £8.40; inv 7547 = £24.00)	£ 81.14
119 Viking (inv. 732281)	£ 43.33
011 Mrs Y McCann (in Bloom)(inv.2500)	£ 54.00

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 (employer contribution)	£ 418.06)	
LCC (employee contributions)	£ 112.64)	£ 530.70

c) It was **resolved to accept** the Statement of Accounts for November 2016 showing balances of:

Cash book £48199.56

Reserve £23676.33

In Bloom £3204.77

19(16-17)208 Verbal Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)

Youth – Cllr Orme notified councillors that he would be calling a public meeting early in the New Year regarding the provision of youth services within the village.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – Cllr Orme reported that he had sent a response to questions raised on how the committee operates, particularly where and when held,

Wyre Flood Forum – Cllr Orme reported that he had attended the meeting with LCC re its proposals to deal with the issue of flooding on Sunnyside Terrace. He had also raised the issue of dyke cleaning and general drainage.

Protect Wyre Group – Cllr McCann reported that he had seen an article in a national newspaper regarding the gas field in the North Sea which had also mentioned the proposed gas storage in Preesall.

Friends of Preesall Park – Cllr Orme reported that it was likely that funds would be forthcoming from the Tesco sale of plastic bags pot.

Wyre in Bloom – Cllr Mutch reported that the In Bloomers had received a silver gilt award at the recent event in Southport for their displays in the village. She updated councillors re the individual marks, areas of note and possible areas for improvement next year.

Planning ambassador – Cllr McCann thanked the public for attending the meeting regarding the proposed development at the top of Rosslyn Avenue. He reported that he would be acting as commentator when the application goes before the planning committee.

Christmas fair – Cllr Orme reported that the date for next year's Christmas fair would be Saturday 2 December. The sale of mince pies and hot drinks after the event had raised £11.

20(16-17)209 Verbal report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)

Cllr Taylor reported that she had been dealing with flooding issues throughout the division and that the drain cleaner had been in Knott End again. She had also dealt with the issue of fly-tipping at the top of St. Bernards Road having arranged for two settees to be removed.

21(16-17)210 Clerk's Report (information only)

Lengthsman's report

In November the Lengthsman continued his battle to clear away fallen leaves and to tidy up generally in preparation for the Christmas fair and lights switch-on. He painted the barriers in readiness for placing them around the Christmas trees and then assisted in putting up the trees and with the road closure on 3 December. He has also distributed documentation for the Council's extraordinary meeting when the clerk was on leave and continues to try to keep the esplanade and sea wall clear of dog faeces.

Christmas lights

Enquiries to the supplier of the lights have confirmed that the brackets when not being used to hold the Christmas trees can be used for flags. Other areas have used them in gala day celebrations, remembrance events and civic events, with a flag appropriate to the occasion being flown.

Arrangements need to be made to find a home for the trees to be stored when they are taken down in January.

Vacancy on Preesall Town Council

Notices will be posted on the noticeboards on 12 December making the public aware that a request signed by the required number of local government electors for Preesall South Ward for an election has been received by the Returning Officer at Wyre Council. Members of the public wishing to stand for election have until 4.00pm on Tuesday, 20 December 2016 to return nomination papers to the Returning Officer.

Freedom of Information

The Clerk has received three FOI requests this month, one from the press and two from members of the public.

Finance training course

The clerk attended an informative and well structured course on parish/town council finance procedures run by the Lancashire Association of Local Councils on the evening of 29 November in Penwortham.

Confirmation of updates to IT equipment

The sum of £30 has been received as cash-back for the purchase of the Epson printer. HP has acknowledged receipt of the trade-in and has confirmed it will pay £300 within the next 45 days.

Cllr Hudson passed on his thanks for the lights.

22(16-17)211 Mayor's report (information only)

Cllr Reilly said that he and his wife had a very enjoyable day at the Christmas lights switch-on and reported that the public's feedback on the lights had been very positive.

23(16-17)212 Questions to councillors

Cllr Drobny asked the Mayor why he had sent him an email asking whether he was in a car at a certain time and place and copied this to all councillors. He said that as this had been the date of his car accident it had caused him a great deal of distress. The Mayor, Cllr Reilly said that he did not know this was the date of Cllr Drobny's accident and therefore he didn't know it would cause distress. He said that his question was made in order to respond to a member of the public who had raised a concern.

Cllr Orme reminded Cllr Drobny of a comment he had made at a previous meeting regarding the quality of a course he had attended with SLCC and how it was better than any at LALC. He asked Cllr Drobny which LALC courses he had attended so that improvements could be made. Cllr Drobny reported that he had only attended the Good Councillor's course. Cllr Orme believed the previous criticism of LALC to be unfair based on one course and asked him to retract his comment.

Cllr Hudson made councillors aware of a Prince of Wales charity event on 23 May 2017 at Fleetwood Rugby Club. It was hoped that a 5-a-side football team could be sent from the village and councillors were asked to provide their support.

24(16-17)213 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 9 January 2017. Councillors are asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda by notifying the clerk in writing by Thursday 29 December 2016 at the latest. A summary of the reason for raising the matter should be provided.

The Mayor gave his apologies for non attendance and stated that the Deputy Mayor – Cllr McCann – would chair the meeting.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 19.50.