

PRESALL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 10 December 2018
at 6.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall**

Present: Cllrs L Woodhouse (Mayor), R Black, R Drobny, P Greenhough, R Lawson, G McCann, J Mutch, P Orme, N Patrick, Cllr T Reilly.

In attendance: Alison May, clerk to the town council, and 8 members of the public.

168a(1) Apologies for absence

Cllr D Hudson, Cllr Burn.

The clerk read out a letter from Cllr Hudson that stated his intention to stand down as a councillor from 1 January 2019, citing family reasons.

168b(1) Absent without apology

None

169(2) Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllr Orme and Cllr Patrick declared an interest in chq 359 because of their involvement with the youth and community association.

Cllr Orme declared an interest in agenda item 12 as he is on the committee looking into this at Wyre.

Cllr McCann declared an interest in chq 32, payable to a member of his family.

170(3) Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 12 November were approved as a correct record of the meeting subject to Cllr Reilly being added to the list of attendees and Cllr McCann being removed.

171(4) Public participation

*At the request of the Mayor, councillors **resolved** to adjourn the meeting to allow non-councillors to speak.*

- A member of the public asked whether any consideration had been given to asking the working men's club whether it would be possible to use its parking spaces
In response: the car park is private for use by members and visitors to the club and is used by the club for bowling events. Use by the public in general would give rise to issues of insurance for the club.
- A member of the public made councillors aware of difficulties she was experiencing as a result of the change of route of the 2c bus.
In response: councillors advised that this was not a council matter and that as the change of route was being tested by Blackpool Transport any comments should be past directly to the company.

*At the conclusion of the public participation (6.15pm) and at the request of the Mayor, councillors **resolved** to reconvene the meeting.*

172(5) Best Kept Village plaque location

Councillors presented their preferred options for the siting of the plaque. Two options were identified as possibilities – Barton Square and a central location between Preesall and Knott End.

Resolved: that the plaque should be located in a central location and an item be added to the next agenda for a decision on where this should be and how the plaque should be hung.

173(6) Signage at village entrance

Cllr Drobny advised councillors that he had not had time to take photographs of the type of signage he was proposing and asked for this motion to be deferred to the next meeting.

Resolved: to defer this item until January 2019.

174(7) Accident statistics on Park Lane/Cemetery Lane junction

Councillors heard that County Cllr Salter had already raised the problem of the number of accidents at this spot with Lancashire County Council Highways and that County Cllr Iddon had viewed the road earlier in the year.

Resolved: that the clerk write to LCC Highways voicing the council’s concerns over the safety of the road and ask Cllr Salter whether he had received a response.

175(8) Additional parking in Knott End

Cllr Greenhough stated she had been approached by a woman associated with the post office asking whether the council could write to BT regarding the possible provision of additional parking at the telephone exchange. Councillors raised concerns as to the security implications, given that this is the central telecommunications point for the area.

Resolved: that the clerk write a letter to BT asking if it would be possible to use the land at the telephone exchange for car parking.

176(9) Halite representation

Cllr Woodhouse and Cllr Greenhough both put themselves forward for the position as the council’s representative when dealing with Halite and explained why they thought they would be suitable for the role.

Resolved: that the council would appoint one representative to the Halite community liaison panel and for Cllr Woodhouse to take on that responsibility.

177(10) Reports/feedback from committees/working groups

Members of the Battle’s Over committee **resolved** that the final minutes of the committee held on 26 November were an accurate record of that meeting. Councillors noted the minutes and **resolved** to approve the closure of the committee.

178(11) Volunteers

Cllr Orme proposed that the council should provide a light lunch or similar event for community volunteers next summer (perhaps in conjunction with the churches 'volunteers service' held in early July).

Resolved: that Preesall Town Council would provide a lunch/similar for volunteers in the community.

179(12) Public toilet survey

Councillors worked through a number of specific questions about the provision of public conveniences as part of the review being conducted by Wyre Council. They agreed that they did not want to see an increase in the charge of 20p and that consulting businesses and community organisations regarding making their toilets available for public use was a possibility as it would be easier for some to offer this service than others.

180(13) Planning applications

Councillors were informed by the clerk that SLCC's solicitor had advised that councillors should leave the room when a planning application was being considered on the road where they reside, or where they have an interest. A query was raised as to what should happen on a long stretch of road where a councillor could be many houses away from the applicant's property. The clerk said she would seek clarification.

As application 18/00804/FUL is on the same road as Cllr Greenhough's residence she was advised to leave the room before councillors discussed it. Cllr Greenhough decided that she would leave the meeting and not return.

Application Number: 18/00804/FUL

Proposal: Erection of first floor rear balcony

Location: 19 Kingston Close Knott End-On-Sea Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire FY6 0DJ

Resolved: to object to this application (7 against, 2 abstentions), on the ground that this development would create a lack of privacy for the neighbouring property as it would look directly into their window.

Cllr Reilly vacated the room to allow councillors to discuss the following application:

Application Number: 18/01084/FUL

Proposal: Proposed ground floor side extension and conversion of attached garage to ancillary living accommodation.

Location: Saw Mills 206 Park Lane Preesall Poulton-le-Fylde Lancashire FY6 0NW

Resolved: that the council has no objections to the proposal (7 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention)

Cllr Reilly returned to the room.

Application Number: 18/01106/FUL**Proposal:** Single storey rear extension**Location:** 7 The Heathers Knott End-on-Sea Lancashire FY6 0FD**Resolved:** that the council has no objections to the proposal (8 in favour, 1 abstention)

As no paperwork was available for the following application the council was unable to make a decision.

Application Number: 18/01159/FUL**Proposal:** Two storey side and rear extension and single storey rear extension**Location:** Avondale 44 Rosslyn Avenue Preesall, Lancashire FY6 0HE**181(14) Finance**Councillors **resolved:**

a) To note receipts at the meeting	
Current account	3500.00
Reserve account	5.05

b) To approve the following payments:	Cheque	
Payroll	349,351,353	2841.65
Clerk's expenses (on behalf of council)	350	109.44
Lengthsman's expenses (on behalf of council)	352	40.00
Preesall Auto Discount (Inv. 869 and 881)	354	110.47
Wyre Building Supplies Ltd (Inv. SI0136564 £13.00;SI0186565 £18.00;SI0186902 £80.94;SI0186914 £65.15; SI0187189 £128.00;SI0188235 £31.08; SI0189323 £30.30;SI 0189595 £69.800)	355	436.27
Jill Simister (Xmas lights)	356	15.00
Brandon Wilkinson (Xmas lights)	357	30.00
Blachere Illumination	358	1069.20
Preesall Youth and Community Association	359	2165.00
Colin Cross Printers	360	91.20
Mrs Y McCann	032	72.47

c) To note the following payments by direct debit	
Easy Web Sites (hosting fee, 10x councillor email, SSL certificate)	51.60
O2 (mobile phone contract)	14.35
LCC (contributions)	815.10
LCC (deficit)	8.33

<p>d) To note the statement of accounts for November 2018 Current Account - £85696.06 Reserve Account - £30703.05 In Bloom Account - £4378.91</p>	
--	--

182(15) Verbal reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)

Co-op – Cllr Woodhouse – Fundraising continues, thanks were expressed for all the hard work that had been done throughout the year.

G & KE light railway – Cllr Drobny reported that he had now resigned as the vice-chairman of the group because of the landowner - NPL's - involvement with Halite gas storage.

Halite – Cllr Orme reported that the bond payable by Halite to Wyre Council had still not been paid.

Highways – Cllr Pattrick reported that she would soon be looking at the potholes on Mill Street.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – Cllr McCann reported that great concern had been expressed at the national conference regarding the lack of sanctions available to standards committees and the consensus was that something needs to be done to overcome the problem.

Planning Ambassador – Cllr McCann.

Wyre Festive Lights Committee – Cllr Reilly reported that he had received positive comments regarding the new trees.

Wyre Flood Forum – Cllr Orme that the next meeting would be on Thursday 13 December.

Wyre In Bloom – Cllr Mutch asked Cllr Orme if the In Bloom award had been placed in the library and he confirmed that it had, she then stated that it should have been shown to the council first. She also reported that the In Bloomers would be taking a break over the festive period.

Xmas Fair – Cllr Orme reported that the bad weather had reduced the number of visitors to the fair and once again the issue of keeping people off the road and behind the barriers had proved difficult.

Youth – Cllr Pattrick reported that a cheque for £4,200 had been received from the Co-op for the youth club and that in the new year the age groups would be split to tackle behavioural problems.

183(16) Verbal report from Wyre councillor (information only)

Cllr Orme said he had nothing further to report but was happy to take questions.

184(17) Clerk's report (information only)

Councillors noted the information contained in the clerk's report:

Lengthsman's report

In November the lengthsman has cleaned the steps at the war memorial and tidied the area in preparation for the remembrance service. He has also worked with councillors and volunteers to prepare the stage, erect barriers and assist in crowd management for the Battle's Over event. He has installed a remembrance bench on Hackensall Road and been involved in the removal of wildlife from the beach.

Christmas lights

Additional mini-Christmas trees have been put up in Preesall and Knott End at each of the care homes, the Black Bull and the Youth and Community Centre, along with new festoon lighting in Preesall and in the trees outside the library in Knott End. The clerk has also worked with the volunteers arranging the Christmas Fair to ensure the lights switch-on follows smoothly after the fair.

FOI and Subject Access requests

Two written requests for information under FOI were received in respect of the 2c bus, both of which were answered within the required time frame.

One Subject Access request has been received for information covering a four-year period. In order to ascertain whether any of the information requested exists it is necessary for me to conduct a complete search of all emails/recoverable emails, word documents, spreadsheets, removable media and paper records for the four-year period. This is proving to be extremely time-consuming. I have informed the individual that it is unlikely that I will be able to provide a reply within one calendar month. The rules allow up to two calendar months' extension.

Fly the Red Ensign certificate

This year the 'Fly the Red Ensign for Merchant Navy Day' campaign was again a great success. Grateful thanks have been passed to the council on behalf of Seafarers UK for its support of this important initiative to raise public awareness of our island nation's dependence on past, present and future Merchant Navy seafarers.

The council has been provided with a 'certificate of commemoration' and it is hoped this will be framed and displayed in a public place.

Next year Merchant Navy Day, 3 September, falls on a Tuesday. There are no restrictions on when a Red Ensign can be flown ashore in the UK. Seafarers UK hopes that the council will be able to organise a flag-hoisting ceremony on the Tuesday - and have it flying all week.

New legal guidance

New regulations covering the accessibility of public sector websites and mobile applications came into force on 23 September and apply to local councils, county associations and NALC. The requirement to meet accessibility standards does not apply for existing websites until 23 September 2020, to new websites published on or after 23 September 2018 until 23 September 2019, and for apps, 23 June 2021. While a step in the right direction for accessibility, it has been described as something that may pose a challenge for the sector and NALC is raising this with the Government, including requesting support.

Lancashire County Council winter

The county's 45-strong fleet is as ready as it can be for the coming winter with 29,000 tonnes of salt in stock and gritters based at operational depots ready to go whenever needed. Local forecasts for each area of the county are received, which allow the team to take the appropriate action.

Every effort is made to keep traffic moving on priority roads and the team members are open about the fact they cannot grit every road in Lancashire. However, they treat all the A roads, all B roads, and some C roads, which adds up to around 1,500 miles of road – around a third of the total in Lancashire.

Even if the team had the resources needed it couldn't grit the roads quickly enough to make a real difference. No council does this.

It is important people understand there are limitations to the service provided. That is why residents are asked to take steps to make sure that when severe winter weather strikes they are prepared and able to manage.

We need your support to help manage public expectations and help communicate our winter policies and procedures, and the circumstances in which we implement them.

Our advice to the public is to stay alert to road conditions during the winter – the key thing to remember is that just because a road has been gritted it doesn't mean it won't be icy. It takes time and the action of tyres to mix the salt with the ice and make it work by lowering the temperature at which the water freezes. Road conditions can vary considerably over quite a short distance and it's vital to use your judgement and drive according to the conditions.

- Website - www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter

Search for #LancsWinter

- Twitter - www.twitter.com/lancashirecc
- Facebook - www.facebook.com/lancashirecc

United Utilities Priority Services Register

United Utilities is the water and wastewater company that serves more than 7 million customers in more than 3 million homes right across the North West, and we have been doing a lot over the past couple of years to improve our services in giving more support to those who need it most.

We all need a little bit of extra help at some stage in our lives. This could be due to age, ill health, a disability, mental health problems, financial worries or even language barriers. By registering for our free Priority Services scheme, customers could benefit from additional free services from us, to support their particular needs, including:

- A free phone number connecting them to a dedicated, externally trained team, to listen, help and support
- Nominate a carer, family member or even a friend to speak to us on their behalf
- A knock and wait service, so if they have mobility needs we'll always wait, allowing them enough time to answer the door
- We'll notify them of any planned interruptions to their water supply
- Bills and letters could be printed in braille, large print or even on coloured paper
- Add a password to their account as added protection from bogus callers
- Translation services if English isn't their first language
- Help and advice if they're struggling to pay their water bill

For customers with internet access, there's even an online accessibility tool, changing the look of our website to suit their needs. All they have to do is click on the 'Accessibility Help' button on the bottom right of each page of our website.

This is where we need your help as offering the service is the easy part. As the onus is on the customer to register, if we don't know they are experiencing difficulties, we can't help. We are already working with many charities and organisations to help us promote the scheme, including Rural England, Age UK, MIND, Macmillan Cancer Support, Citizens Advice, Disability Awareness, Autism Together, Lancashire Fire Service and Silver Line. We feel it's also extremely important to target our customers that live in rural areas in our region, however, getting information out to them can sometimes be difficult, so knowing your important role within

these communities, we hoped our **Parish Councils could also help** us in encouraging those people that need additional support, to register for Priority Services. You don't even have to be the account holder to join and registration really couldn't be easier. You can either:

- Visit our website unitedutilities.com/priorityservices and complete a simple online form
- Call our friendly Priority Services team direct on 0345 072 6093
- Also, when someone registers with us, with their consent, we could also add their details to a similar free scheme with Electricity North West (who manage the electricity network in our region). If eligible, this would provide additional support if there was ever a loss of power too – so two for the price of one!

185(18) Mayor's report (information only)

The Mayor reported that she had held a fundraiser for Fleetwood RNLI and had raised £1,906 for the charity, and thanked all those who had donated and been involved. She also stated that she had attended the presentation of the cheques by the Co-op, had opened the Christmas Fair and had attended the lights switch-on which had been fantastic.

186(19) Questions to councillors

Cllr Drobny thanked the Mayor and Cllr Lawson for their donations to the Christmas appeal. He also reported that gift vouchers had been received from the butcher and the baker, with a number of families scheduled to receive hampers and gifts for children.

187(20) Items for next agenda

The next meeting will be held on 14 January 2019. Councillors were asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda by notifying the clerk **in writing by Thursday 3 January** at the latest and provide a summary of the reason for raising the matter.

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 7.39pm.