

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 12 February 2018
at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall**

Present: Cllrs G McCann (Deputy Mayor), R Black, B Burn, P Greenhough, D Hudson,
R Lawson, J Mutch, P Orme, N Patrick, L Woodhouse

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

216a(1) Apologies for absence

Cllrs T Reilly, R Drobny

216b(1) Absent without apology

None

217(2) Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllr Orme – item 15

218(3) Minutes of the last meeting

Cllr Mutch queried access rights on the sea wall – the clerk stated she would be providing an update at the next meeting. Cllr Mutch also queried whether the £5,000 for dredging was a one off payment – it was confirmed that it is.

Resolved: 1). That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 January and 22 January be agreed as a true record.

219(4) Public participation

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

- A motp spoke regarding the misinformation on Facebook regarding access to the Fairy Well and how they had been very upset by the inaccurate comments. They made the following comments to councillors:
 - 1: The stile is temporarily obscured for health and safety reasons, owing to building work and materials waiting to be removed. Fences are also to be repaired.
 - 2: The pathway has never been restricted and I fail to see the reason why this has been bandied about on Facebook and brought to the council's attention.
 - 3: This is a permissive pathway. It is not a public right of way and never has been. The stile was erected by my uncle, only because people repeatedly broke down fences.
 - 4: Residents have never been prevented from walking on the hill as long as they respect it and remember this is private land. Unfortunately there are many instances of abuse, including vandalism, littering, drug-taking, dog fouling, lighting of fires, trampling down grass ready for mowing, camping by illegal immigrants and children making dens, rope swings on unsafe trees, slides down a very steep banking and even attempts to make a BMX track in the woods.
 - 5: Legend has it that fairy wells are located around the far corner of the hill where as a result of excessive rain there have been two landslides. That part of the hill has become very dangerous – in fact the whole hill may be closed off for safety reasons. I do however know residents who dispute the whereabouts of the fairy wells and as children remember dressing fairy wells not on the hill but down Lindel Lane.
- This is private land and I ask that it is respected as such. I don't ask to tramp through your gardens.

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- Finally, I very much resent that this issue has been bandied about on Facebook without people having full command of the facts and not speaking to me first, causing unnecessary upset to me and my family and wasting council time. I demand an apology and ask that this statement be reported on Facebook.
- *In response:* The matter had been brought to the council's attention by a member of the public and therefore had to be investigated. It was not felt that the council needed to apologise, the misconception appears to have stemmed from Facebook exchanges over which the council has no control. It was reassuring that signs would eventually be put in place stating that it is a permissive path.
- A motp raised the issue of problems with other paths in the vicinity of the permissive path. The stiles were to be replaced by LCC over 12 months ago with metal swing gates. This has yet to be done. The stile at the Cartgate end of the path is also in need of attention.
- A councillor asked whether it would be possible for Wyre Borough Council to install a rubbish bin at the bus stop at the top of Fordstone Avenue (on the northside approach to the village).
- A motp asked whether there was an update regarding the future of the ferry.
In response: it was stated that as far as Wyre Council is concerned the ferry will be run under contract for eight years,
- A councillor raised the problems faced by the loss of the Sunday bus service at Easter and asked County Councillor Matthew Salter, present at the meeting, what could be done in respect of this service for the village. Cllr Salter responded that he had raised the matter with Keith Iddon, the Cabinet member at LCC and would update Preesall council once he had further information. Another councillor raised the possibility of access to s106 monies once the new housing off Rosemount is built.

At the conclusion of the public participation (7.30pm) and at the request of the Deputy Mayor, councillors resolved to reconvene the meeting.

220(5) Co-option to casual vacancy

Disappointment was expressed in respect of the successful candidate's details having appeared on Facebook before she had received her formal letter from the council offering her the co-option and before she had the opportunity to inform her family.

Resolved: to formally co-opt Nicola Patrick to the town council. Cllr Patrick thanked councillors for selecting her.

221(14) Footpath to Fairy Well

Resolved: that the matter could be discussed in Cllr Drobny's absence.

Councillors felt that the landowner in their earlier address to the council had been quite clear and precise in respect of the continued permissive access to the site of the Fairy Well and their intention to install signage stating that it is a permissive path. One councillor stated that they had commented on Facebook and apologised if they had said anything that had caused offence. Councillors volunteered to work with the landowner in monitoring and reporting any abuse of the path.

222(6) Mayor for the civic year 2018/19

Cllr Orme proposed and Cllr Black seconded Cllr Woodhouse and Cllr Greenhough proposed and Cllr Patrick seconded Cllr Hudson.

Resolved: to nominate Cllr Lynda Woodhouse as the mayor elect of Preesall Town Council for the civic year 2018/19. Cllr Woodhouse invited Cllr Burn to be the deputy mayor elect and he accepted.

223(7) Location for the Annual Meeting of the council and investiture of the mayor 2018

The mayor elect said that she would discuss the matter with the clerk and would check the availability of the library. The matter would be brought to the March meeting for council's resolution.

224(8) Arrangements for Civic Sunday 2018

The mayor elect to discuss the matter with the clerk. The date of Wyre Council's Civic Sunday has yet to be set, the clerk will liaise with Wyre and Garstang councils and bring a proposed date back to the next meeting.

225(9) Arrangements for Annual Town Meeting

Cllr McCann explained that the meeting is not a town council meeting and will not be set up as such. It will be convened by the mayor and the clerk will take minutes, councillors will not be present in their official capacity.

Resolved: that the Annual Town Meeting take place at 6pm on 9 April at Preesall Youth and Community Centre.

226(10) Appointment of internal auditor

Resolved: to appoint Kath Coleman, the clerk to Hambleton Parish Council as the internal auditor for the financial year 2018/19 at a cost of £150. The terms of reference for the internal audit were also agreed.

227(11) Best Kept Village Competition

Cllr Orme expressed disappointment at the results of the council's entry into last year's competition explaining that the judges had visited the township on the Friday night preceding the gala. The competition organisers have agreed to factor galas into their schedule for judging.

Resolved: That Cllr Orme take the lead in organising this year's entry into the Best Kept Village Competition and that the council would pay the entry fee of £25.

228(12) Halite

The benefits of having a specific council meeting with Halite were questioned; recent experience at Borough Council level had shown that no new information had been forthcoming. The need to work together as a community was emphasised and the hard work put in by the 'No Gas Storage' volunteers was acknowledged.

Resolved: not to invite Halite to a meeting of the council however, councillors would continue to attend the Halite Community Liaison Panel meetings and the No Gas Storage community meetings and work to address issues when they arise. Councillors with specific questions were asked to feed these back to the nominated representatives so that they could be raised at the next CLP meeting.

229(13) Potholes

The number of potholes was discussed and councillors were made aware that Cllr Patrick and County Cllr Slater had gone round the village measuring and photographing potholes. Those conforming to the measurements for repair had been reported to LCC highways and work had already commenced on repairing them.

Resolved: for the clerk to write a general letter to LCC highways making them aware of the state of the roads.

230(15) Council use of Preesall and Knott End Youth and Community Centre

Resolved: that unless other factors come into play, Preesall Town Council will have first call on the Youth and Community centre on Mondays.

231(16) Remembrance seats

Resolved: that the council will purchase two seats, one for Preesall and one for Knott End at a cost of £1573.50 for both, including delivery and bolt down kit. This would enable both communities to play a part in this year's commemoration of the end of WW1.

232(17) Permit parking

Cllr Hudson informed the council that a copy of the paperwork detailing the problems faced by Mill Street and Smithy Lane had been sent to Josh Mynott for him to share with Keith Iddon, the cabinet member for highways and transport. He also reported that he would be meeting later in the week with the County Councillor Matthew Salter.

233(18) Wyre Council additional funding

The reason for this being raised as an agenda item was questioned when the answer was available via the Wyre councillor. The £343,000 is new homes money which will enable Wyre to maintain reserves for future known expenditure

Resolved: that there was no need to send a letter to Wyre.

234(19) Visit by Mayor and Leader of Wyre Council

It was explained that the visit was actually a ward councillor meeting and would take place on 23 April.

235(20) Revised taxi licensing policy

Resolved: that the council would not comment on the revised taxi licensing policy, anyone wishing to comment should do so in their private capacity.

236(21) Planning applications

Application Number: 18/00039/FUL

Proposal: Erection of new dwelling

Location: Land Adjacent To Bennetts Cottages Back Lane Preesall FY6 0NG

Resolved: by a majority (2 for, 7 against, 1 abstention) that the council objects to the application on the grounds that it is too close to the flood plain and that it would exacerbate existing drainage problems.

Application Number: 18/00057/FUL

Proposal: Proposed front dormer.

Location: 22 Rosemount Avenue Preesall Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire FY6 0EY

Resolved: that the council has no objections to the application (all in favour).

Application Number: 18/00072/FUL

Proposal: Dropped kerb for vehicle access to driveway.

Location: Millhaven 297 Park Lane Preesall Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire

Resolved: that the council has no objections to the application (all in favour).

Application Number: 17/00933/OUTMAJ

Proposal: Outline application for up to 11 new residential dwellings with access applied for off Cart Gate (all other matters reserved)

Location: Springfield Cottage Farm Cart Gate Preesall Poulton-le-Fylde Lancashire

Resolved: by a majority that the council objects to the proposal (7 against, 2 abstention.) The reasons are the same it gave in November. It also believed that the flooding event on Cartgate on the 22 November should be emphasised.

237(22) Finance

Councillors **noted** that the finance committee met on 8 February 2018 to review the third quarter's financial transactions, approved February's monthly payments and considered the clerk's overtime hours, that had been notified to EWG.

a) Resolved to note the following receipts:	
Reserve account	1.39

b) Resolved to approve the following payments:	Cheque	
Payroll	243,244,248	2602.04
Clerk's expenses (on behalf of council)	243	59.50
Lengthsman's expenses (on behalf of council)	244	40.00
PRS electrical	245	4856.40
Preesall & Knott End Youth and Community Association (CCTV)	246	249.75
Wyre In Bloom	247	25.00
Preesall Auto Discount Centre (inv 797)	249	39.98
In Bloom team insurance	21	75.00

c) Resolved to note the following payments by standing order/direct debit	
Easy Websites (hosting fee)	24.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	13.80
LCC (contributions)	749.09
LCC (deficit) February	8.33

d) Resolved to accept the statement of accounts for January 2018	
Current account	57974.03
Reserve account	30682.74
In Bloom account	3599.31

e) Resolved to accept the third quarter budget monitoring	
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f) Resolved to approve the clerk's overtime payment for 70 hours during the 12 - month period, February 2017 to February 2018. This will be paid with the March salaries. (Documentation detailing the hours has been provided to the EWG).	
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238(23) Verbal reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)

Co- op – Cllr Woodhouse reported that she had introduced herself to the Co-op and that its next round of applications for funding would be at the end of March.

Gala – Cllr Hudson reported that the next meeting would be in two weeks time.

G & KE light railway – Cllr Woodhouse reported that the latest meeting of the group had taken place the week before and that the AGM would be held on 28 April 18.

Health – Cllr Greenhough reported that there was a new health governor for this area.

Housing – Cllr Hudson reported that he was still pursuing the problem of the neglected Preesall property. Cllr Orme said that he had spoken with the enforcement officer and it appeared that each side was waiting for the other. Cllr Hudson to contact Wyre to progress the matter.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – Cllr McCann said that he had attended the Garstang meeting where a report had been given by Gary Payne. He also reported that he had asked for the Wyre Area Road Safety committee to be re-instated.

Preesall Youth and Community Association – Cllr Pattrick reported that the youth club was very busy on a Tuesday night and that Fleetwood Town FC would be working with the children on the field from March. Cllr Orme reported that the centre had been used by the advocacy service who were pleased at having received three customers. He also reported that CCTV had now been installed in the building and was up and running.

Planning Ambassador – Cllr McCann reported that the local plan was still in the consultation stage.

Tourism – Cllrs Black and Woodhouse reported that they were waiting for confirmation of the ferry contractor before progressing with signage.

Wyre Flood Forum – Cllrs Orme reported that a meeting had been held re Sunnyside Terrace and that a number of improvements were planned.

Wyre In Bloom – Cllr Mutch reported that she and Mrs McCann had attended the Wyre in Bloom steering group and had been told the grant would be the same. The In Bloomers had been out dead heading and that collections were progressing well for the sponsorship of the tubs.

239(24) Verbal report from Wyre councillors (information only)

None

Cllr Black left the meeting at 9.30pm

240(25) Clerk's report (information only)

Lengthsman's report

In January the lengthsman cleared up detritus left by the high tides on the sea wall and ferry slipway. He also continued to cut back overgrown hedges and ensured grates were kept free of leaves and litter to allow the free flow of water.

Invitation for town and parish champion to meet the council

County Cllr Paul Rigby has agreed to meet councillors on Monday 5 March at 10.00am. The purpose of the meeting is to enable him to provide councillors with an insight into services from a county perspective. It is hoped this will promote a greater understanding of the county council operation and will also enable Cllr Rigby to see for himself the state of some of the roads in Preesall and Knott End.

Tentative enquiry re allotment land

Councillors will remember that before Christmas it was suggested that land to the rear of Jubilee Avenue/Ash Grove might make a suitable allotment site. In order to get a general feel for whether this might be something the owners of the land would consider I made tentative enquiries to Regenda to see if it would be open to consider this proposal should the council decide to make a formal request.

Regenda has replied that as the land in question is at the rear of one of its older persons schemes, with the properties being occupied by elderly and vulnerable residents it would not be able to agree to such a proposal. It cites concerns re footfall and traffic and its belief that such a change in use would be detrimental to existing residents.

Wyre Local Plan 2018

Personal Local Plan ID: 0610

On 23 January 2018 Wyre council submitted the Wyre Local Plan to the planning inspectorate for examination. Inspector Mark Dakeyne BA (Hons) MRTPI has been appointed to conduct the examination to determine whether the Wyre Local Plan is sound. Mr Tony Blackburn will be the programme officer who will assist the Inspector with the conduct of the examination.

All local plan documents, including submission documents and the evidence base, are available on-line at www.wyre.gov.uk/localplan Alternatively, you can see the documents by prior arrangement with the Local Plan team between 8.30 and 5pm Monday to Friday at the Civic Centre, Breck Road, Poulton-le-Fylde, FY6 7PU.

The Planning Inspectorate has published a procedural practice that explains the Local Plan examination process. You can view it online by going to:
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/531005/Procedural Practice in the Examination of Local Plans - final.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/531005/Procedural_Practice_in_the_Examination_of_Local_Plans_-_final.pdf)

For all Wyre local plan examination matters you should contact the programme officer via e-mail at tony.blackburn@wyre.gov.uk and telephone at 01254 260286. Please use your personal ID (above) in all Local Plan correspondence.

Lobby Day

Lobby Day<<http://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/lobby-day>> will be taking place for its fourth consecutive year on 20 March 2018.

Lobby Day is an annual opportunity for county associations and local councils to form stronger relationships with their MPs.

NALC would like to see local councils embrace this fantastic opportunity to engage with their MP(s) and promote the great work being done locally.

Safeguarding training

Online safeguarding training is available to all councillors. Anyone interested in taking part should contact the clerk for a link to the website.

241(26) Mayor's report (information only)

None.

242(27) Questions to councillors

None.

243(28) 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:

- a) discuss previous green paper items

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244(29)Items for next agenda

The next meeting will be held on Monday 12 March 2018. Councillors are asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda by notifying the clerk **in writing** by Thursday 1 March at the latest. A summary of the reason for raising the matter should be provided.

There being no other business the Deputy Mayor closed the meeting at 9.55pm