

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 January 2017
at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall**

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

In attendance: Alison May, Clerk to the Town Council, and 4 members of the public.

1(16-17)214a Apologies for absence

Cllr Black and Cllr Reilly

1(16-17)214b Absent without apology

None.

2(16-17)215 Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllr Taylor – normal dispensations as ward and LCC councillor, Cllr Orme as ward councillor

3(16-17)216 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED: 1) That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December be agreed as a true record

4(16-17)217 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:

- Three members of the Over Wyre History Society explained to councillors that the society would be interested in working with the council to develop a suitable commemoration for the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. They also asked whether the council held any documents from 1918.
In response: councillors said they would be delighted to work with the history society on this project and that as the clerk had the contact details of the members she would liaise with them to agree a suitable date and time for a meeting in the library to discuss this. The council reported that it does not hold documents going back to 1918 and suggested other possible avenues that could be explored such as the archives in Preston, North West Film archives, Fleetwood museum and the Evening Gazette.
- The council was also made aware of an incident where a member of the public had been reported for drink-driving – the police had not responded to this.
In response: It was asked whether a complaint had been made re the non-attendance and it was said that a complaint would be going in.

Councillors had been provided with a copy of the latest crime statistics.

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

5(16-17)218 Meeting with Inspector Smith

Cllr Hudson informed councillors that he had a lengthy discussion with Inspector Smith regarding the contents of the letter supplied by two schoolgirls within the community and their concerns regarding drug abuse. He also reported that Over Wyre would be getting a new CPO in the near future and emphasised the need for all crime to be reported no matter how trivial the offence may seem. Cllr Drobny reported that police time within Lancashire would be focused on rape, assault and burglary at the time the offence was being committed. Councillors discussed the issues arising from limited police presence and what action could be taken.

RESOLVED: Cllr Hudson to raise an agenda item for the next meeting suggesting the setting-up of a police forum with other parish and town councillors. The clerk to provide Cllr Hudson with the contact details of the other clerks within Wyre.

6(16-17)219 Flag flying

RESOLVED: 1) That the Flag Diary 2017 be approved subject to the inclusion of a flag to be flown on gala day.

2) For provision to be made in the budget to purchase an Armed Forces Day flag.

7(16-17)220 Review of Community Engagement Strategy

RESOLVED: To approve the Community Engagement Strategy subject to the last line of the first page being amended to replace the word 'councillors' with the word 'council'.

8(16-17)221 Appointment of Internal Auditor

RESOLVED: To agree the appointment of Kath Coleman as Internal Auditor for the year ending 31 March 2017 at a fee of £150.

9(16-17)222 Finalisation of budget 2017/18

RESOLVED: To accept version 3 of the draft budget as the final budget and to set a precept for 2017/2018 of £92588.

10(16-17)223 Parish and Town Council conference

RESOLVED: That Cllr Orme, Cllr McCann and Cllr Woodhouse attend the Parish and Town Council conference on 25 February 2017 at County Hall Preston.

11(16-17)224 Morecambe Bay Partnership

RESOLVED: That if the Morecambe Bay Partnership is approved the council would like to play an active part in the second round of Coastal Community Teams.

12(16-17)225 LCC pension fund changes

Councillors **noted** the actuarial valuation of the LCC pension fund.

13(16-17)226 Support for defibrillators

Councillors discussed the number and location of defibrillators within the village and whether they should be listed on the notice boards.

RESOLVED: 1) For the clerk to send a letter of support from the council to the Oliver King Foundation in respect of its attempt to secure legislation for defibrillators to be sited in every school in the UK.

2) That a notice showing the location of all defibrillators within the township be placed on the notice boards.

14(16-17)227 Explanation of democratic process in selecting councillors

Councillors discussed the current electoral process and the legitimacy of councillors who reside in one ward representing the electorate of another ward. Cllr Hudson asked whether it would be possible on co-option for councillors to stipulate that a candidate reside in the ward they wish to represent. A number of councillors voiced their opinion that it was one council working for the community as a whole and wards were merely an electoral tool. Before the procedure document could be agreed it was suggested that a definitive answer be obtained and the clerk was tasked with writing to the Electoral Commission for advice.

15(16-17)228 Planning Applications

16/01102/FUL

Proposal: Single-storey rear and side extension

Location: Ashness, Hackensall Road Knott End-On-Sea Lancashire FY6 0AX

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

16/01078/VAR

Proposal: Variation of condition 6 on planning permission 12/00696/FUL with respect of the area defined as domestic curtilage to allow for amended design, including internal configuration.

Location: Willow Trees CartGate Preesall Poulton le Fylde

RESOLVED: By a majority (6 in favour, 2 abstained) to approve the planning application.

16(16-17)229 Finance

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

Current account Interest	£	7.21
Cash back on old laptop	£	300.00
Reserve account interest	£	0.19

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

120/121 Staff costs	£	1785.39
120 Clerk's expenditure on behalf of council	£	19.69
122 HMRC	£	210.12
123 Preesall Auto Discount (inv.642)	£	13.94
124 FH&M Davies & Son (inv 05034)	£	462.00
125 Fordstone General Store (inv 18)	£	108.00
126 Wyre Building Supplies (inv. SI 0108313 £97.16; SI0108503 £27.35)	£	124.51
127PRS (net £3936.00) Inv12799	£	4723.20
129 Mrs Y McCann	£	14.98
128 SLCC (CILCA enrolment fee)	£	250.00

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 December 2016 showing balances of:

Cash book	£45671.84
Reserve	£23676.82
In Bloom	£3073.69

17(16-17)230 Verbal Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)

Housing – Cllr Hudson reported that he had been involved in discussions regarding a difference of opinion between neighbours where one was failing to maintain their property to such an extent that it was having an adverse effect on the adjoining property. He had made Mr McCarthy at Wyre aware of the problem and Mr McCarthy would visit both neighbours.

Health – Cllr Greenhough reported that she would be arranging further talks on health issues with the one on resuscitation having been well attended. She also reported that following a study by Dr Holmes

doctors would no longer be visiting patients in nursing homes and that they would be expected to be taken to the surgery.

Tourism – Cllr Woodhouse reported that the railway enthusiasts had now been offered another engine and will be attending the February meeting to give a talk to the council. She also reported that the Lancashire landings were scheduled for 13 May 2017

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – Cllr Orme reported that the next meeting would be in a couple of weeks.

Protect Wyre Group – Cllr Orme reported that the group had now been disbanded and the remaining funds had been given to the air ambulance. Cllr Hudson suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to Protect Wyre Group.

Friends of Preesall Park - Cllr Orme reported that they were 'in the hat' with two other organisations for funds from the Tesco plastic bags pot. Shoppers at Tesco are given a token with their shopping to select which organisation they would like to support. In respect of the communication from Wyre re the playing field lease he reported that ward councillors had not been involved in any discussions and that the arguments and reasons within the letter were flawed. He also reported that he was disappointed regarding the lack of police attention in respect of smoking and unacceptable behaviour at night.

Wyre Festive Lights Committee – Cllr Orme reported that he had received a phone call in respect of festive lights above the pet shop with the landlord wanting them to be removed.

Wyre in Bloom – Cllr Mutch reported that she had been asked by the In Bloomers to thank the council for the hot pot supper evening.

Planning ambassador – Cllr McCann informed councillors that he had sent photographs of flooding to the planning department regarding the proposed development off Rosslyn Avenue. Private engineering contractors employed by Wyre had visited the site and would be formulating their report. The transport consultant was also expected to make a visit.

Gala – Cllr Hudson asked the clerk for contact details for the gala. He also reported that the inclement weather last year had prevented some activities going ahead and it was hoped that this year they would be able to take part. Cllr Orme reported that this would be the 70th anniversary of the gala. Cllr Greenhough reported that the gala committee would try to obtain a grant towards the cost of the gala and asked for a letter of support from the council to assist with the application to Grantscape.

18(16-17)231 Verbal report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)

Cllr Orme reported that the housing development off Rosemount Avenue had not been signed off yet as the s106 payments were being revisited. He also reported that once the local stretch of the national coastal path is agreed that new beach signage would be provided to replace that removed when repair works to the sea wall were carried out last year. The council will be consulted as to the wording on the signs.

19(16-17)232 Clerk's Report (information only)

Lengthsman's report

In December the Lengthsman has fitted a bench on the sea wall kindly donated by a member of the public. He has continued to tidy up through the township and has taken the opportunity to have some leave over the Christmas period.

Vacancy on Preesall Town Council

Three candidates have now put their names forward for election to the vacancy on Preesall Town Council south ward. The candidates are Bill Burn; Kath Nicholls and Karen Woods. Those eligible to vote should have received polling cards, with the date of the election having been set for Thursday 19 January at Preesall Youth and Community Centre.

Register of Parliamentary and Local Government Electors

A revised copy of the full Register of Electors for Wyre Council is available for inspection at Wyre Council. A copy of the section of the register relating to each local area within the borough of Wyre may also be inspected (under supervision) at sub-post offices or public libraries within or nearest to such area.

Public footpath upgrade

A public footpath in Preesall which languished unmarked for many years has been upgraded with a new sign, a short enclosed path and a kissing gate at the Cocker's Dyke End along with a new kissing gate part way along the path.

Fostering Campaign

Could you do something incredible and be a foster carer?

Lancashire County Council is asking people to consider if they could help a child or young person achieve their dreams by becoming a foster carer.

The new campaign focuses on the need for new foster carers to help children in care reach their true potential. The county council has recently raised its allowances for new foster carers in recognition of their valuable role and rising costs. This means that newly approved foster carers can expect to receive between £241 and £415 to meet the needs of each child they care for.

Unlike some independent fostering agencies, the county council's fostering service is not for profit so it prioritises the needs of the children. This also means that an excellent package of support and training is available to support foster carers in their role.

If you have a spare room and want to make a difference to a young person's life, could you be a foster carer for your local authority?

Wyre Emergency Planning

I would like to draw your attention to the updated [emergency planning webpages](#). There are two sections in particular which will hopefully be of use to you and your communities:

Flooding – www.wyre.gov.uk/flooding

New flooding content including advice from multiple agencies on being prepared, during an incident and recovery plus details of community flood groups.

Winter – www.wyre.gov.uk/winter

Includes where to find out about gritting, school closures and weather etc.

Councillors noted the clerk's report and the issue of notices to election candidates as per Standing Order 21. Questions were asked as to whether there had been any breach of the code that would bring the validity of any current electoral candidate into question. Cllr Hudson informed councillors that he had volunteered to act as one of ten signatories for a candidate's paperwork within south ward. The clerk stated that she believed this did not constitute a breach of 21a but would have to make further enquiries re 21b. Councillors also asked whether there was any legislation that would override the Standing Orders. The clerk agreed to make further enquiries and report back to councillors.

20(16-17)233 Deputy Mayor's Report (information only)

Cllr McCann reported that he had received a personal apology from Cllr Greenhough and that he accepted that apology. He also raised the issue of the letter received from Wyre prior to Christmas in respect of the playing field lease and subsequent correspondence with Wyre. The clerk reported that she had spoken with the clerk at Hambleton and that a new lease had not, as indicated by Wyre, been signed by Hambleton, a draft contract was still awaited for parish council consideration. A discussion took place regarding the possible maintenance arrangements within any future contract and Cllr Drobny also raised the question of covenants within the existing contract. Given that the town council had no new information to consider since the original resolution not to renew the lease it was **resolved** for the clerk to respond to Wyre stating that as the information provided regarding the Hambleton lease wasn't correct and no new information was available in respect of Preesall the council felt there was nothing further it could discuss at this point.

21(16-17)234 Questions to councillors

Cllr Drobny stated that he had wanted to ask Cllr Taylor when new lamp posts would be erected along the esplanade given the 'fragility' of those currently in place.

Cllr Orme asked why mayoral Christmas cards had not been sent. It was reported that they had, with councillors having received a personal card from the mayor and mayoress rather than a civic one.

Cllr Hudson reported that he was still waiting for a response regarding permit parking on Mill Street and Smithy Lane and would be chasing this up in the next couple of weeks.

Cllr Orme reminded councillors of a previous resolution for a rack to be built to hold the memorial wreaths. It was agreed to put this on next month's agenda.

There being no other business the Deputy Mayor closed the meeting at 21.05.