

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 July 2012
at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall.**

Present: Councillors C Lamb (Mayor), R Drobny (Deputy Mayor), R Black, G Carter, R Lawson, G McCann, P Moon, J Mutch, K Nicholls, D Nuttall, P Orme and V Taylor

In Attendance: Jan Finch, Clerk to the Town Council

A G E N D A

040. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

041. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Orme declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 11 on the basis that he is the Chairman of Friends of Preesall Park and Cllrs McCann and Taylor declared non-pecuniary interests in the same item as members of the committee. Cllr Taylor declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7 on the basis that the owners of the Knott End Cafe are relatives. Cllr Drobny declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 4 as a member of a Lancashire Police Authority panel.

042. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2012 be agreed as a true record.

At this point, Cllr Drobny proposed that item 16 Future of the Playing Field be taken before item 11 Friends of Preesall Park and VAT as a decision on item 16 could affect the discussion on item 11. The Mayor agreed to Cllr Drobny's request.

043. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (INCLUDING A VERBAL POLICE REPORT)

In the absence of a Police representative the Clerk read out a note. In June 2012 there were 15 reported crimes with 3 already detected. This compares with 16, 4 of which were detected, in the same period last year. There were 12 reports of anti-social behaviour last month, 5 of which were youth nuisance compared to the same period last year when there were 28 reports of anti-social behaviour with 12 relating to youth nuisance.

Councillors raised a number of concerns relating to drugs and asked the Clerk to write to the Police to outline their concerns. Cllr Taylor reported on a discussion with a senior police officer during which she raised concerns about the reduction in the number of communication hubs from 9 to just one, the fact that the Lancaster operators do not currently know where Preesall and Knott End are and this will only get worse with one centralised hub. She also reported that, while crimes appear to be down, there are real problems with the 101 service and she had reported the poor service she had received from that service to a senior police officer.

044. QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

The Mayor reported that the slide show by Mr Stringfellow will take place on Friday 7 September at Knott End Methodist Church and the proceeds will go to the Church.

The Clerk reported that Wyre Council's Tree and Woodland Officer had confirmed that the piece of land behind the library would accommodate the 6 bird cherries and an oak tree. Councillors

Resolved: that the Clerk should take steps to formally register the land on behalf of the Council.

A Jubilee finial has been ordered to fit onto the finger post near the Police/Fire Station and the Public Realm Manager has confirmed that he will supply new "arms" for the post. Councillors confirmed that the original post had arms pointing to Knott End, Lancaster and Blackpool.

The Clerk confirmed that NW Pre-Cast at Pilling would donate two concrete urns for the triangle of land opposite the Police Station but noted that LCC's traffic team would need to confirm that they did not impinge on sight lines. Councillors felt that the urns could be used elsewhere in the village and contribute to Wyre in Bloom and asked the Clerk to thank NW Pre-Cast on their behalf. Councillors

Resolved: that Cllrs Moon, Orme and Lamb identify the best arrangement of planters for the land so that the Clerk can identify suppliers and prices for consideration at a future meeting.

045. FESTIVE LIGHTING AGREEMENT 2012

Following the last meeting the concerns of councillors were put to Wyre Council. The Council had confirmed that clause 3.9 (which required that, should Preesall Town Council cease to exist or be unable to provide festive lighting in the future, any festive lighting in its possession must be given to another organisation nominated by Wyre Council) would be removed but that the 3 month's notice to terminate the Agreement could not be extended. A revised Agreement had been received and councillors

Resolved: that the Agreement be signed.

046. TOURIST INFORMATION POINT

The Clerk reported that a meeting between the proprietors of the Knott End Cafe and Alexander Holt of Wyre's Tourism team had resulted in agreement that a Tourist Information Point could be sited in the Cafe and Alexander Holt will now identify suitable racking. Once this is in place, the Council could apply for one or more brown tourism signs at a cost of approximately £1500 each. Councillors asked the Clerk to thank Jean and Steve Taylor for their agreement which will help to promote the area.

047. PROJECTS FOR 2013/14

Cllr McCann asked that councillors identify projects for 2013/14 and beyond so that a development plan could be produced. Councillors agreed to let the Clerk have their ideas to collate into a list with indicative costs for consideration at a future meeting.

048. QUALITY COUNCIL ACTION PLAN

Councillors noted the action plan showing the tests, the mandatory and discretionary requirements and progress to date. In relation to Test 4 (Communication and Engagement), councillors noted that 2 of the required 9 discretionary requirements were already satisfied and identified the remaining 7 that they wished to pursue. Councillors also agreed to provide evidence to satisfy the various tests.

049. ANNUAL REPORT

Councillors discussed the methods and costs of circulating the Annual Report to every household in the parish area or, as an alternative, making the Annual Report available in places such as libraries. Given the costs associated with printing and delivering the Annual Report to every household councillors

Resolved: that copies of the Annual Report be made available to the public in hard copy and on the website when it was developed and that the fact be publicised.

050. FUTUE OF THE PLAYING FIELD

In the light of the costs of maintaining the playing field Cllr Drobny proposed that the lease be relinquished to Wyre Council thus making a saving for the Town Council. There was a strongly held view amongst councillors that the Town Council should retain the playing field in order to safeguard it for young people and no councillor seconded the proposal. The proposal therefore falls.

051. FRIENDS OF PREESALL PARK AND VAT

The Clerk reported that the Council is able to reclaim VAT yet Friends of Preesall Park is unable to do so. HMRC has confirmed that, if FOPP provides a grant to the Town Council to purchase equipment for the redevelopment of the playing field and the Town Council has ongoing responsibility for the future care and maintenance of the equipment (and councillors have already resolved that this is the case) then the Town Council can reclaim the VAT. The Clerk confirmed that she is happy to carry out the small amount of additional work that this would create. Councillors

Resolved: that, on receipt of an earmarked grant from FOPP, the Town Council purchase equipment for the redevelopment of the playing field and reclaim the VAT to contribute to its further development.

052. CODE OF CONDUCT

Councillors noted the Regulations defining disclosable pecuniary interests and the fact that, from 1 July 2012, it is a criminal offence not to declare a pecuniary interest. New Registration of Interest forms were circulated to councillors for completion and return to the Clerk within 28 days. Cllr Orme, as a parish member of the Wyre Standards Committee, reported that that Committee had now been replaced with a committee of Wyre Council meaning that parishes no longer had a voice in the standards regime. However, NALC will continue to lobby for a parish input.

053. SPORTS PITCH MAINTENANCE

Cllr Orme reported that he had had further discussions with Wyre Juniors and the lining kit is no longer available. Councillors discussed the options and

Resolved: that a) the Council purchase lining equipment for Wyre Juniors to use and b) accept Cllr Orme's offer, on behalf of Friends of Preesall Park, that once grant monies were available, the cost of the equipment would be refunded to the Council.

054. WEBSITE

Councillors discussed the 3 quotations provided for the June meeting and, in the light of further information and clarification provided by the Clerk,

Resolved: that easy-websites be asked to develop the Council's website.

055. REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS

Two requests for donations had been received from national organisations seeking to raise funds for projects. Councillors

Resolved: that the policy of the Council be to not support any requests for donations from organisations outside the parish area and that it would consider any request for a donation from any organisation within the parish area.

056. LALC – AUTUMN CONFERENCE

Councillors noted that the Conference will take place on Saturday 22 September at the Leyland Hotel, Junction 28 M6 at a cost of £35 per delegate. Councillors

Resolved: that the costs of any councillor wishing to attend not be met by the Council.

057. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

12/00387/FUL

Proposal: Installation of plant equipment to service yard, new ramp to front and rear exits and new shop front

Location: Preesall Food Drink and News, Sandy Lane, Preesall

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

12/00371FUL

Proposal: Erection of first floor extension

Location: 6 Mill Street, Preesall

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

12/00372/LBC

Proposal: Listed building consent for erection of first floor rear extension

Location: 6 Mill Street, Preesall

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

12/00400/FUL

Proposal: Single storey extension to existing office and staff accommodation

Location: Willow Grove Caravan Park, Sandy Lane, Preesall

By a majority (1 councillor abstained) it was agreed that the Town Council has no objections to the proposal.

12/00318/LBC

Proposal: Demolition of existing building and erection of one five bedroomed and two four bedroomed detached dwellings

Location: Fernhill Hotel, 230 Park Lane, Preesall

It was unanimously agreed that the Town Council has no objections to the proposal. However, councillors asked that the cobbled wall to the Park Lane frontage not only be retained but also made good.

12/00018/CIRC

Proposal: Circular 14/90 application for proposed 33KV overhead lines replacement (variation to part of route, resubmission of 12/00017/CIRC)

Location: Preesall Electricity Substation, Park Lane, Preesall

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

Town and Country Planning (Appeals) (Written Representations) (England) Regulations 2000

Location: Knott End Golf Club Ltd

Proposal: Erection of two safety nets on the 18th hole

Application Number: 11/00822/FUL

Appeal Reference: APP/U2370/A/12/2172904/NWF

Appeal Start Date: 20.06.12

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision made by Wyre Council and will be determined on written representations. All the representations made on the application have been forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate and will be considered as part of the appeal. If Preesall

Town Council wishes to make comments or modify/withdraw any previous representations it must be done via the Planning Portal no later than 6 weeks after the appeal start date (ie by 31 July).

It was unanimously agreed that the Town Council make no further representations on this matter.

12/00441/FUL

Proposal: Erection of dwelling and detached garage (resubmission of 11/00820)

Location: GP Concrete Products, Gaulters Lane, Preesall

By a majority (1 councillor abstained) it was agreed that the Town Council has no objections to the proposal.

058. FINANCE

a) **Receipts** None

b) **Accounts for payment**

Staff costs	£1840.08
Clerk's expenditure on behalf of the Council	£ 56.90
HMRC	£ 96.87
Preesall Auto Discount	£ 53.60
Wyre Building Supplies	£ 15.41

c) **Statement of Accounts – June 2012**

Councillors noted that the bank statements had not been received and no Statement of Accounts could therefore be prepared

d) **Quarterly Budget Monitoring**

Councillors noted the Q1 budget monitoring and commentary and asked that a column showing year to date expenditure as a percentage of the budget be added.

059. PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

LCC is proposing to implement a Traffic Regulation Order in respect of a proposed disabled parking bay on Smithy Lane, Preesall. By a majority (2 councillors abstained)

Resolved: that the Council has no objections.

060. VERBAL REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES (INFORMATION ONLY)

Friends of Preesall Park

Cllr Orme reported that the redevelopment plans had stalled as a result of issues raised by Sport England.

Wyre Flood Forum

Cllr Orme reported that there continued to be problems with the cleanliness of beaches resulting from run off of manure. Cllr Taylor reported that there had been some flooding to homes on Cartgate as a result of the heavy rain two weeks ago but the gullies were clear and it was down to the volume of water.

Protect Wyre Group

Questions had been submitted for Halite's response although they had not previously responded to such questions. The first Issue Specific Hearing will take place at the North Euston Hotel on 24 July but it will be October before members of the public and interested parties would have a chance to expand on the points made in their earlier submissions.

Over Wyre Seniors' Forum

The next meeting will take place on 2 August.

Wyre in Bloom

The Mayor and Mayoress are judging gardens on 11 July.

Wyre Council

Cllr Moon reported that he had made representations to the Audit Committee outlining his concerns in respect of the replacement of the Rural Forum by the new approach to neighbourhood engagement. Cllr McCann reported that comments on the Core Strategy were being processed. He further reported That the North West Ring which connected the Walney windfarms and nuclear power stations might impact on the area if it came ashore at Stannah.

Lancashire County Council

Cllr Taylor reported on the closure of Head Dyke Lane following an accident and it was hoped to reopen the road at the end of the week. Cllr Taylor also confirmed that the consultation on the revised 20mph zones closes on 18 July. Cllr Taylor reported that there would be a Drugs and Alcohol Overview and Scrutiny Committee looking into how it affects individuals and families and its contribution to domestic violence.

061. CLERK'S REPORT (FOR INFORMATION)

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

Wyre Council – Affordable Housing Task Group

This meeting has been rearranged from 3 July to 12 July and Cllr Orme will therefore provide a verbal update to the August meeting.

Lancashire and Merseyside County Training Partnership – New Councillors and Clerks Workshops

The workshops are being run again in October. If any councillor is interested in attending either of the workshops please let me know so that a decision can be made at the August meeting.

Mayor and Mayoress of Wyre

A note of thanks for the hospitality shown at Mayor Making and Civic Sunday has been received from the Mayor and Mayoress of Wyre.

Donation to St Aidan's School

A letter of thanks for the donation of £100 has been received from the Headteacher.

Lengthsman's Report

It is a busy time of year for the Lengthsman keeping the area neat and tidy, applying weedkiller, particularly on paths and gutters where the road sweeper cannot sweep and on paths from estates, and continuing to cutting back shrubbery to ensure visibility and pedestrian safety. He has now replaced the chain and padlock to the playing field gate (a letter asking for the cost of the padlock to be paid to the Council has been sent) and the combination for the padlock remains the same (1959) to ensure access. One of the less pleasant duties was the removal of a dead sheep from the beach which Wyre Council subsequently collected for disposal.

LCC Depot

Awaiting response from LCC.

War Memorial Handrail

Following the resolution of the Council at its April meeting an Expression of Interest Form has been submitted to the War Memorial's Trust together with a quotation from QBC for the work.

Fleetwood High School has supplied a plaque commemorating the erection of the flagpole. The Mayor will write a letter of thanks to the school and the Clerk will arrange for it the plaque to be fixed in place.

Flags

It would be useful if councillors identify the dates/occasions on which they wish the flags to be raised so that the Lengthsman has an annual calendar to work to.

Publications Received

Lancashire Association of Local Councils Newsletter – June 2012

062. QUESTIONS TO COUNCILLORS

Cllr Carter asked Cllr Taylor if she had any information on the passenger information box and the notice board at the ferry slip. Cllr Taylor confirmed that the box had never worked and the Clerk confirmed that she was checking ownership of the notice board.

Cllr Drobny asked Cllrs Taylor, McCann and Moon whether they could use their good offices at Wyre Council to get the area more of a mention in Wyre tourism publications. The Clerk will write to Wyre Council.

Cllr Moon asked Cllr Taylor if she had any further information on the possible resurfacing of Park Lane. Cllr Taylor confirmed that the work was not in the programme for this year but the potholes would be filled. She confirmed that she would pursue this at the next 3 Tier Forum.

063. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Councillors were asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Town Council either at this meeting or by notifying the Clerk at least 10 days prior to the next meeting. A summary of the reason for raising the matter should be provided.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.15pm.