

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

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

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

In attendance: Alison May, clerk to the town council, and 6 members of the public.

249a(1) Apologies for absence

Cllrs T Reilly, P Greenhough

249b(1) Absent without apology

None

250(2) Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllr P Orme and Cllr N Patrick– item 13

251(3) Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: 1). That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February be agreed as a true record.

252(4) Public participation

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

A presentation was given by a representative of the Environment Agency. Nikki Beale outlined a six-point plan of action for Sunnyside Terrace, where houses were badly hit by floodwater. It was also revealed that the county council is doing survey work on tides, rainfall and other related matters to ensure improvement measures are effective. A tree that is partially blocking the dyke will be removed and de-silting work will be carried out within two months. In addition, EA will carry out its own routine maintenance and investigations into the outfall.

Ms Beale said there was a commitment to maintain the pump at Cockers Dyke, off Pilling Lane, however it could not cope with the volume of rain on the evening of the November floods and that although reserve pumps are available, they are not in the immediate area.

Cllr Orme reported that investigations into Grange Pool were also being conducted and that the Pilling Lane problem could be tracked back to problems with the dyke system on the Meadow Avenue estate, something that would be picked up once the Sunnyside Terrace problem was resolved.

Members of the public raised the following concerns:

- The lack of sandbags, as the ones kept locally for the protection of Sunnyside Terrace had been taken by others from outside the area. Also that water not only comes in through the back and front, but up through the floorboards.
- The availability of the old Internal Drainage Board plans. *In response* Ms Beale said that these were not something she had seen. It was reported that county and EA are making new plans.

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- Loss of Catch 22 bus service – LCC had asked Blackpool Transport if it would take on the service. The response was that it is not commercially viable and may destabilise the Monday to Saturday service.

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

253(5) Injustice to Lancashire communities re flooding

Resolved: To support the proposal by Churchtown Flood Action Group to request the 15 Lancashire MPs to convene a meeting to discuss problems specific to this area.

254(6) Provision of waste bin on Park Lane

Resolved: For the clerk to send a letter to LCC requesting a waste bin at the northbound bus stop on Park Lane opposite Fordstone Avenue.

255(7) Civic Sunday 2018/19

Councillors were informed that the church is unable to accommodate Civic Sunday on 3 June owing to a prior event. It was proposed that the event be held at the same time as the ‘volunteer’ service to be held at the church.

Resolved: That Civic Sunday be held on 8 July. The Mayor will lay a wreath at the war memorial, but there will not be a procession.

256(8) Annual governance review

Having considered a number of internal control documents, councillors:

Resolved:

- a) that the minor changes proposed to Standing Orders and the Financial Regulations be approved
- b) that no changes be made to the Risk Management Plan, Risk Register and Annual Town Meeting Standing Orders
- c) that the Schedule of Assets as at March 2018 be approved, with all assets having been checked and accounted for.

257(9) Declaration of acceptance of terms of office

Resolved: For all councillors to re-sign the Code of Conduct form and in doing so reaffirm that they are bound by official standards relating to their conduct and their willingness to abide by the code.

258(10) Insurance quotations

Resolved: For the clerk to renew the council’s insurance with Zurich on a five-year deal at a cost of £413.50 per year, based on the existing items insured with the council accepting the risk for the other assets held. It was also agreed that the Fidelity Guarantee would be increased to £250,000 at no extra charge.

259(11) Councillor ID

Resolved: For the clerk to investigate the provision of identity cards to all members of the council, and for any photographs taken to be used in the library and on the council’s website.

260(12) WW1 commemoration

Resolved: That the proposed works at the war memorial (in the form of a commemorative plaque attached to the brick wall to the rear of the existing flagpole and a paved area either side of and to the rear of the flagpole to provide public access to the plaque) be approved at a maximum cost of £2,000.

261(13) Donation to Preesall and Knott End Youth and Community Association

Resolved: To make a donation of £6,000 to P&KEY&CA in order for the centre to remain open for a further 12 months and provide accommodation for community initiatives and the youth club, on the understanding that full accounts for the association will be provided to the clerk when they are signed off by the accountant in May.

262(14) Sunday bus service

The termination of the Catch 22 bus service from Easter Sunday was discussed. Councillors considered the potential alternative of the council looking into providing a very limited transport link between Preesall and Knott End and the Poulton transport hub. Proposed costs to the public for the very limited service, of at most two trips per Sunday, were £10 return per passenger (no bus pass subsidy).

Resolved: that the financial commitment for the council towards costs of between £1,040 and £5,200 over a six-month period was outside the scope of the town council.

263(15) Grant application from gala

Resolved: To make a grant of £400 to Preesall and Knott End Gala towards the training costs of two additional road closure marshals. Without the additional marshalls councillors acknowledged that there was a possibility that road closures for the gala and civic events would be put in jeopardy.

264(16) SLCC

Resolved: To renew the clerk's membership of SLCC on 1 April 2018 at a total cost of £185 for 2018/19, with the cost being shared 50/50 with Stalmine Parish Council (£92.50 each).

265(17) Bowland Pennine mountain rescue

Resolved: Not to make a contribution of public money to an organisation that is not of benefit to the majority of residents in the township.

266(18) Healthwatch Lancashire

Resolved: That the council agreed to its details being on the Healthwatch Lancashire database.

267(19) Planning applications

Application Number: 18/00106/FUL

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension

Location: 1 Derwent Close Knott End-On-Sea Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire FY6 0QF

Resolved: that the council has no objections to the proposal

Application Number: 18/00139/FUL

Proposal: Proposed single-storey front extension to enlarge ice cream sales area

Location: 3 Ramsay Court Knott End-On-Sea Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire FY60EA

Resolved: that the council has no objections to the proposal

Application Number: 18/00160/FUL**Proposal:** Erection of a covered midden/store for private equine use**Location:** Sand Lea 211 Pilling Lane Preesall Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire**Resolved:** that the council has no objections to the proposal**Application Number: 18/00170/FUL****Proposal:** Proposed rear decking and ramp.**Location:** Lynwood Lancaster Road Knott End-On-Sea Poulton-Le-Fylde**Resolved:** that the council has no objections to the proposal**Application Number: 18/00184/FUL****Proposal:** Change of use of former bank to 1 dwelling**Location:** Former National Westminster Bank Esplanade Knott End-On-Sea Poulton-le-Fylde**Resolved:** that the council has no objections to the proposal**268(20) Finance**Councillors **resolved:**

a) To note the following receipts:	
Current account	20.00
Reserve account	1.18

b) To approve the following payments:	Cheque	
Payroll	251,252,253	3258.63
Clerk's expenses (on behalf of council)	251	11.35
Lengthsman's expenses (on behalf of council)	252	40.00
Wyre Building Supplies (inv.1549970;155809)	254	39.31
Thornton Facilities Management (inv.27191)	255	11.05
Preesall Auto Discount (inv.806)	256	40.96
E-On (inv. H15832EA83)	257	10.19
SLCC 50/50 with Stalmine	258	92.50
Preesall & Knott End Gala grant	259	400.00
Zurich Municipal insurance	260	413.50
P&KEYCA (post-dated for payment in April)	261	6000.00

c) To approve the following payments by standing order/direct debit	
Easy Websites (hosting fee)	24.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	13.80
LCC (contributions)	1049.53
LCC (deficit) March	8.33

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d) To accept the statement of accounts for February 2018	
e) To approve the payment made outside the meeting: Cllr Burn fee for chairmanship course cheque 250	25.00

269(21) Verbal reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)

Co-op – Cllr Woodhouse reported that the manager was keen to get involved with community events. The next round of community funding would be open for applications in April.

G & KE light railway – Cllr Woodhouse reported that the group would be publicised on Radio Lancashire this week.

Highways – Cllr Hudson reported that LCC highways had asked for details on the double yellow lines on Park Lane and was looking to conduct a site visit.

Cllr Drobny left the meeting at 8.40pm.

Cllr Hudson reported that some progress was being made in respect of permit parking on Preesall Hill and that he would keep the council updated on progress.

Housing – Cllr Hudson reported that there seemed to be some confusion as to the suitability of the land, an update from the area representative of Regenda was awaited. Cllr Orme reported that the planning inspectorate had turned down the application for 70 houses off Rosslyn Avenue.

Wyre Ferry Management Board – Cllr Orme reported that the board hadn't met yet but members were still hopeful that the ferry would be running by Easter.

Cllr Drobny returned to the meeting at 8.44pm.

Wyre Festive Lights Committee – Cllr Drobny reported that he had bought an illuminated reindeer that he was donating to the next season's lights.

Wyre Flood Forum – Cllr Orme reported that an action plan was now in place.

Wyre In Bloom – Cllr Mutch reported that collections for the tubs were taking place and preparations for planting were continuing despite the bad weather.

270(22) Verbal report from Wyre councillors (information only)

Cllr Orme reported that Wyre had approved the budget for the next financial year at an increase of £5.63 per band D property, equating to 11p per week.

271(23) Clerk's report (information only)

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

Lengthsman's report

In February the lengthsman has cut back the trees at the war memorial on Lancaster Road and has started a spring tidy, collecting litter from hedgerows and clearing the seafront of debris following the high tides. He has also taken annual leave.

Winding-up of Wyre area road safety committee

The last meeting of the committee was on 2 September 2015, with meetings not being possible owing to authority representatives being unable to attend. Consequently, a refund of the £20 sponsorship given by the Town Council has been made.

Police feedback

Insp. Jonathan Smith has responded to the council's concerns expressed in November about drink-driving over the festive period. He reports that the West Division, of which Wyre is an integral part, carried out the most breath tests in the county in December 2017 on drivers not involved in collisions. Some 2,707 roadside tests were conducted for reasons other than a collision.

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Insp Smith adds that another 540 tests were carried out after collisions in the same month, with 48 proving positive. This, he says, is the highest number of drink-drivers caught per division that month. He adds: "I hope your members can take some comfort from the low numbers of drunk drivers who test positive at the wheel and feel reassured about the problem of drink-driving in our part of Lancashire."

Phone tariff price increase

O2 has announced that from April the mobile phone tariff will increase in line with the current 2.6% Retail Price Index.

Electricity price increase

E.On, the council's electricity provider, has contacted the council to report that its electricity prices are to rise in April, from 15.75p per kWh to 17.90p. If the firm does not hear from the council on or before April 8, the increase will be effective from the following day.

New data protection requirements

When the General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR") is introduced on 25 May 2018, data controllers such as councils and parish meetings will have new obligations to:

- (i) keep an internal record of all personal data breaches
- (ii) report them within 72 hours to the ICO in certain circumstances and
- (iii) notify an individual affected by a personal data breach in certain circumstances.

Data processors will also have a new obligation to notify the data controller of a personal data breach without delay. A GDPR toolkit has been produced by NALC featuring an action plan checklist that sets out the actions councils should take to be compliant with the GDPR. It will be helpful to start by carrying out a data audit to see how much personal data is stored and processed around the local community. New information is being provided weekly on the impact GDPR will have and once full guidance is in place the clerk will ensure councillors are brought up to speed.

Scam phone calls

Unsuspecting members of the public are being targeted again by a company stating that it is BT. Anyone receiving an unsolicited call is advised to take a note of the number and use the following web page to check the caller's identity: <https://who-called.co.uk/>

Review of local government ethical standards

The Committee on Standards in Public Life is undertaking a review of local government ethical standards.

Robust standards arrangements are needed to safeguard local democracy, maintain high standards of conduct and protect ethical practice in local government.

The terms of reference for the review are to examine the structures, processes and practices in local government in England for:

- maintaining codes of conduct for local councillors
- investigating alleged breaches fairly and with due process
- enforcing codes and imposing sanctions for misconduct
- declaring interests and managing conflicts of interest
- whistleblowing
- assessing whether the existing structures, processes and practices are conducive to high standards of conduct in local government
- making any recommendations for how they can be improved
- noting any evidence of intimidation of councillors and making recommendations for any measures that could be put in place to prevent and address such intimidation.

The review will consider all levels of local government in England, including town and parish councils, principal authorities, combined authorities (including Metro Mayors) and the Greater London Authority (including the Mayor of London).

Anyone with an interest may respond to the consultation questions. The committee welcomes submissions from members of the public. However, the consultation is aimed particularly at the following stakeholders, both individually and corporately: local authorities and standards committees, local authority members (for example, parish councillors, district councillors), local authority officials (for example, monitoring officers), think tanks with an interest or expertise in local government, academics with interest or expertise in local government and representative bodies or groups related to local government.

272(24) Mayor’s report (information only)

None

273(25) Questions to councillors

Cllr Orme reported that consultants had been appointed to monitor Halite activity. The borough councillor will have direct access to the consultants and it will be up to the public to raise questions with that councillor who will then feed this through to the consultants.

274(26) 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 and
- b) discuss a potential breach of the press and media policy inc green paper information. This was postponed by councillor agreement until the next meeting.

275(27) Items for next agenda

The next meeting will be held on Monday 9 April 2018. It will be preceded by the Annual Town meeting. Councillors were asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda by notifying the clerk **in writing** by Thursday 29 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 9.15pm.