

## PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

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

**Present:** Cllrs L Woodhouse (Mayor), R Black, B Burn, R Drobny, P Greenhough, R Lawson, J Mutch, P Orme, N Patrick, Cllr T Reilly

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

#### **151a(1) Apologies for absence**

Cllr D Hudson, Cllr McCann

#### **151b(1) Absent without apology**

None

#### **152(2) Declarations of interests and dispensations**

None

#### **153(3) Minutes of the last meeting**

**Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 8 October were approved as a correct record of the meeting subject to it being stated that it was the deputy mayor who presided over the adjournment for the public to speak and 140(14) to read Cllr Greenhough.

#### **154(4) Public participation**

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

- A resident of Meadow Avenue asked whether there was any progress with the planning application to the rear of the properties.  
*In response:* Cllr Orme stated that legal complications had delayed the decision at Wyre planning, however, it was hoped that a decision would be made later this week.
- A member of the public expressed her pleasure at the diversion of the 2c bus providing her with easier access to the medical centre.  
*In response:* The mayor, Cllr Woodhouse, made it clear that the council was not responsible for the diversion.
- Residents from Pilling Lane voiced their opposition to the change of route of the 2c bus, especially as the change deprived other bus users of stops on Lancaster Road. It was asked how the lines between a councillor acting as a councillor and a member of the public could be so blurred and they expressed disgust that a single councillor could be allowed to make such a change. The issue of 42 days' notice to LCC to change a bus route was also mentioned, as for this to have happened the notice would have needed to be served in mid September.  
*In response:* The mayor, Cllr Woodhouse, once again emphasised that this was not a Preesall Town Council decision and referred to the minutes from August, September and October. Cllr Greenhough stated that she had made contact with Blackpool Transport and Ben Wallace's office via phone calls and had visited Cat Smith's office as a private individual. She went on to repeat the reasons she had given in October for this and said she was unaware of the details of the surveys in the village and had not seen the statements attributed to her by the Blackpool Evening Gazette.

Members of the public went on to challenge Cllr Greenhough's statement as some of it contradicted her response to them in October. They also asked about the clerk's inquiries into a community bus.

*In response:* the clerk stated that the possibility of a mini-bus was being looked into by Wyre Council and that Wyre would be seeking the opinions of community groups in the new year and hoped to work with Preesall Town Council on this. She also reported that a review by Lancashire County Council into the wider issues of community transport had concluded and that a report of the findings was awaited. Earlier attempts to recruit volunteer drivers had not proved successful. The member of the public stated they would be happy to volunteer.

*At the conclusion of the public participation (7.35pm) and at the request of the Mayor, councillors resolved to reconvene the meeting.*

#### **155(5) BKV plaque location**

Councillors discussed a number of possible options for the siting of the Best Kept Village plaque that had been awarded to both Preesall and Knott End.

**Resolved:** That over the next two to three weeks councillors would view sites in Knott End and Preesall and would bring their preferred options back to the council's December meeting. This would also include the possibility of constructing a different structure on which to place the plaque.

#### **156(6) Festive lighting**

Councillors considered the proposal to extend the Christmas lights along the Esplanade and in Barton Square at an approximate cost of £520 for each electrical feeder pillar installed.

**Resolved:** For the clerk to approach Lancashire County Council with a view to having feeder pillars installed at each of the two shelters on the Esplanade, the Battle of Britain memorial and the clock in Barton Square

#### **157(7) Christmas tree poppies**

**Resolved:** that the Christmas Fair organisers be given permission to install poppies on the Christmas tree in the grounds of the Methodist church and the one on Fordstone Avenue.

#### **158(8) Draft budget for 2019/20**

The clerk talked councillors through the first draft of the budget, which includes expenditure agreed at the October meeting and additional proposals for consideration.

**Resolved:** to accept the first draft of the budget and to include an additional £2,500 for the possible provision of a balloon-tyred wheelchair to facilitate disabled access to the beach.

**Resolved:** to establish a working group to look into the feasibility and costs of such a chair. Membership of the group would be Cllr Orme, Cllr Burn, Cllr Drobny, Cllr Greenhough.

#### **159(9) Pre-2019 election meeting**

**Resolved:** that as there will be elections in May next year the council will hold an additional meeting on Monday 29 April 2019 to ensure that the 2018/19 accounts are signed off by the existing council.

#### **160(10) Planning applications**

##### **Application Number: 18/00914/FUL**

**Proposal:** Two storey rear extension to create 10 additional bedrooms

**Location:** St Albans Nursing Home Lune View Knott End-On-Sea Poulton-Le-Fylde

**Resolved:** to object to the planning application (8 against; 2 abstentions) on the grounds that the existing sight lines leave much to be desired on this stretch of road. There is already parking on the carriageway (and pavement), which blocks the sight lines on Lune View and the intersecting roads. In addition, the development will mean additional residents, which in turn will mean additional visitors and additional staff. There are already problems with a lack of available parking in this area, which will be exacerbated if the development goes ahead. The removal of an established tree was seen as a negative environmental issue. The removal of the ground floor residents' lounge with sea views was also seen as a retrograde step that would not be good for the health and wellbeing of residents.

### 161(11) Finance

Councillors **resolved:**

<b>a) To note</b> receipts at the meeting - Reserve account	5.17
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<b>b) To approve</b> the following payments:	Cheque	
Payroll	0335,0337,0339	2841.65
Clerk's expenses (on behalf of council)	0336	47.83
Lengthsman's expenses (on behalf of council)	0338	40.00
Viking (invoice 655969; 657000)	0340	62.63
Michael Cook (invoice 29.10.18)	0341	450.00
Phil Orme (cert no 118954 25/10/2018)	0342	78.40
Wyre Building Supplies (inv 183590, 185283,185417)	0343	114.60
Zurich (34538363)	0344	67.86
Over Wyre Focus (inv.7380)	0345	124.20
David Ogilvie Engineering	0346	2067.60
Clerks additional expenses (Battle's Over)	0347	227.45
Screwfix A1935823060 – lighting £103.96		
Hambleton Hardware 47 kg gas bottle £123.49		
The Royal British Legion inv 2/18(PCN05)	0348	17.00
Simon Dickinson (14.10.18)	031	100.00

<b>c) To note</b> the following payments by standing order/direct debit	
Easy Web Sites (hosting fee, 9x councillor email, SSL certificate)	49.20
O2 (mobile phone contract)	14.83
LCC (contributions)	815.10
LCC (deficit)	8.33

<b>d) To note</b> the statement of accounts for October 2018	
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<b>e) To approve</b> the second quarter budget monitoring	
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### 162(12) Verbal reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)

**Co-op** – Cllr Woodhouse reported that she had met with the new manager and had received confirmation from the previous manager that more than £4,000 of funding had been provided to the youth centre. The next round of funding was now underway with the three new potential beneficiaries.

**Best Kept Village** – Cllr Orme reported that the village had won the best large village category, meaning that it would enter the champions class next year and for three years afterwards. The village had also seen other success with the Junipers and Knott End Working Men’s Club bowling green both attaining runner up status. Councillor Orme thanked the In Bloomers for the contribution they had made.

**G & KE light railway** – Cllr Drobny reported that he had now resigned as chairman of the group and that work on clearing brambles at the bottom of Hackensall Road was due to commence, to enable survey work to be undertaken.

**Halite** – Cllr Orme reported that the company was working through a list of issues and that a bond payable to Wyre before works commenced had not yet been paid.

**Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee)** – Cllr Orme reported that the AGM would be held on 17 November.

**Preesall Youth and Community Association** – It was reported that the new defibrillator cabinet had now been delivered and that there would be free training for all users of the park. Cllr Reilly asked to be included in the training.

**Tourism** – It was reported that the ferry is now operating on its winter timetable and that it was advisable to check the times of sailings as they would be affected by the tides.

**Wyre Flood Forum** – Cllr Orme and Cllr Pattrick reported that the next meeting of the group would be in December and that the local flood group has now set up a bank account.

**Wyre In Bloom** – Cllr Mutch reported that she was delighted to report that the group had achieved the gold award this year. Congratulations were passed to all those involved.

**Xmas Fair** – It was reported that all the stalls were now booked and there were plans for a santa’s grotto, and children’s rides on the grass.

**Youth** – Cllr Pattrick reported that the youth club had received £4,200 funding from the Co-op and that it was looking to do something with the older children next year, such as a trip to the pleasure beach and pizza.

#### **163(13) Verbal report from Wyre Councillor (information only)**

Nothing further to report.

#### **164(14) Clerk’s report (information only)**

##### **Lengthsman’s report**

In October the lengthsman has removed the bodies of geese from the ferry slipway, he has also installed a memorial bench on the sea front and has continued to clear leaves from gullies. He has also taken annual leave.

##### **Remembrance benches**

Two Lest We Forget benches have been delivered from Ogilvies. One will be sited w/c 5 November at the top of Hackensall Road, the other will be installed as part of a larger project at the junction of Sandy Lane and Fordstone Avenue.

##### **Phone images**

Councillors are asked not to include images within text messages as these are charged at a premium rate if a response is required.

##### **Community bus**

Inquiries into the current situation have revealed that Wyre Council is working with community groups on this initiative and the group in Hambleton seeking transport is still interested in using the services of a community bus. As reported earlier in the year, Wyre Council is prepared to fund the purchase of a mini-bus, however it would need to be operated by volunteer drivers. This has proved a stumbling block as

there is already a lack of volunteer drivers for the current community car transport scheme and attempts to gain more volunteers have not been as successful as hoped.

**165(15) Mayor's report (information only)**

The Mayor reported that she and the Deputy Mayor had thoroughly enjoyed attending the Best Kept Village Awards. She had also attended the remembrance service and the Battle's Over event on 11 November where it had been lovely to see so many people from the community attending to pay their respects. The Mayor also expressed her thanks to all those who had taken part in the Battle's Over event.

**166(16) Questions to councillors**

Cllr Reilly expressed thanks to the clerk and all those who had contributed to the event.

Cllr Orme asked Cllr Woodhouse to raise the issue of litter blowing into the playingfield from the Co-op in Preesall.

Cllr Orme made councillors aware that 24 November is tree charter day and suggested that the council should provide a tree to mark the occasion.

Cllr Orme said he wanted to make it clear that Cllr McCann had organised a piper for the remembrance service. Unfortunately the piper's wife had been taken seriously ill and he had cancelled on the morning of the event.

Cllr Orme stated that there appeared to be misinformation circulating in the village that the council had forgotten to book the band. The event has in previous years been held in the afternoon and the band has other longstanding commitments in the morning and cannot be in two places at once.

Cllr Orme also raised the issue that there were concerns regarding the council as a body not being as professional as it should be – the council needs to be seen to be above criticism.

The Mayor replied that the Remembrance Sunday event was particularly poignant, it was an act of remembrance and she hoped others were of a similar mind.

Cllr Orme said that it had been too wet to put the speaker out and by the time the rain finished it was too late.

Cllr Burn said that the event had seen the biggest turnout in 10 years. He praised the young man who spoke so eloquently about his great grandfather who had been awarded the Victoria Cross. He also stated that this was the first time that serving soldiers had read out the names of the fallen.

Cllr Drobny asked for donations to the Christmas appeal where anonymous families are provided with hampers and gifts for children.

Cllr Woodhouse reminded councillors that she would be holding her Mayoral charity fundraiser on behalf of the RNLI on Friday 16 November at the Working Men's Club in Knott End and hoped to see councillors there.

Cllr Burn expressed his concern at the reporting of the re-direction of the 2c bus and asked councillors to remember that when they are making comments in a personal capacity that this is made clear and that they do not represent themselves as a councillor.

**167(17) Items for next agenda**

The next meeting will be held at 6.00pm on 10 December 2018. Councillors are asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda by notifying the clerk **in writing by Thursday 29 November** at the latest. **A summary of the reason for raising the matter should be provided.**

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.07pm.