

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 December 2013 at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall.

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

In Attendance: Jan Finch, Clerk to the Town Council.

(13-14)147 Apologies for Absence

None.

(13-14)148 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr Hudson declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 13/00840/FUL as he knows the applicant.

(13-14)149 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2013 be agreed as a true record.

(13-14)150 Public Participation (Including a Verbal Police Report)

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

In the absence of a police representative the Clerk reported that, in November 2013 there were 12 reported crimes compared with 12 in the same period last year. There were 13 reports of anti-social behaviour last month compared with 17 in the same period last year. The Clerk read a commentary provided by the Police on the crimes and antisocial behaviour in November.

The Clerk reported that, in response to Cllr Hudson's request that the Police use an unmarked car in an attempt to reduce drink driving in the run up to the festive period, PC Cross had replied that this is not possible owing to national legislation. Cllr Hudson asked that this be raised again as he has seen an unmarked car used for this purpose on police TV documentary programmes. Cllr Hudson referred to the commentary provided and asked whether the Police have a special unit to deal with malicious communications. He also pointed out that the Police had closed the road for the tree lighting ceremony in Hambleton and asked why, if they can do this, they are no longer able to close the road for the Civic Sunday procession.

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

(13-14)151 Draft Budget for 2014/15

Councillors noted that, as the revised council tax base was not known at the time the agenda was published and the local government finance settlement (which may contain limits on the percentage increase town and parish councils may propose) will not be published until later in December, the draft budget will be considered at the January meeting.

(13-14)152 Use of the Playing Field – Request from Wyre Juniors

Councillors considered a request from Wyre Juniors to use the playing field for a sponsored event on 14 March 2014 to raise funds for the Club. Councillors **resolved** to agree to the request.

(13-14)153 Footpath 51

Cllr Orme reported that he had asked for this to be on the agenda as the footpath had been closed for 6 months by Lancashire County Council due to the potentially dangerous condition of a brick arch bridge along the footpath. He had reported it via LCC's Contact Centre to find out whether it could be dealt with by the Parish Lengthsman scheme but had subsequently reported it to an LCC officer at the Town and Parish Council Conference and the works had been completed within a week. Councillors **resolved** to thank LCC for their prompt response.

(13-14)154 Planning Applications

13/00840/FUL

Proposal: Erection of outbuilding consisting of garage, workshop and store

Location: The Hill, Mill Street, Preesall

By a majority (3 councillors abstained and Cllr Hudson took no part in the discussion or decision) it was agreed that the Council objects to the proposal on the grounds that the development is overly intensive for and would visually impact on the area.

13/00810/FUL

Proposal: Single storey rear extension, replacement pitched roof to existing front dormer and garage

Location: Langdales, Lancaster Road, Knott End

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

13/00805/FUL

Proposal: Hipped roof with a side dormer above existing flat roof garage, rear dormer extension and hipped roof to rear conservatory

Location: Newfield, Lancaster Road, Preesall

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

Appeal

13/00595/FUL

Proposal: Erection of one detached dwelling and double garage

Location: Land Adjacent to Avondale, 44 Rosslyn Ave, Preesall

Councillors noted that an appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision made by Wyre Borough Council. Councillors **resolved** not to make comments or modify/withdraw its previous representation.

(13-14)155 Finance

a) Payments received:

Cllr Drobny (tiles for self and Cllr Moon)	£30.00
Cllr Hudson (millennium tile)	£15.00
Christmas Fair (stall hire)	£20.00
Stalmine Parish Council (Inv 13/0020)	£15.61
James Thompson Auctioneers (furniture)	£812.75

b) Payments to be approved:

Staff costs	£1978.41
Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£103.43
HMRC	£395.96
Glasdon	£1320.25

Fleetwood High School	£38.26
F H & M Davies	£336.00
PRS Electrical Contractors Ltd	£4,800.00
Preesall Auto Discount	£32.00
C&C Supplies Collinson Ltd	£180.00
Glasdon (Inv 653310) (In Bloom)	£471.70

Payments by Standing Order/Direct Debit

Easy Websites (hosting fee)	£36.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	£22.00
LCC Pensions	£835.48*
Carter's Charity School	£50.00
Fleetwoods Charity School	£50.00

*Payment of £417.74 approved at 11 November meeting but direct debit set up too late to collect the payment in November. Instead the November and December payments (£835.48) will be taken in December.

c) Statement of Accounts – November 2013

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for November which shows:

Current account	£33,168.58
Reserve account	£20,145.29
Mayor's Charity Account	£240.00
In Bloom Account	£828.32

(13-14)156 Verbal Reports from Outside Bodies (information only)

Wyre Flood Forum

Cllr Orme reported that the next meeting of the Forum would be held on 12 December.

Christmas Community Group

Cllr Taylor congratulated Cllr Orme on the success of the Christmas Fair which had been a success.

(13-14)157 Verbal Report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)

There was nothing to report this month.

(13-14)158 Clerk's Report (information only)

Councillors noted the information contained in the Clerk's report **(enclosed)**

Lengthsman's Report

The Lengthsman has planted the 420 hedge plants received from the Woodland Trust in the library garden as it had not been possible to enlist Community Payback to help with the planting. Thanks go to Brian's father for helping him. The hours spent on this mean that he has a significant number of hours owed to him which he will take back over the coming winter months. He also took a well deserved week's leave in the middle of November.

Jubilee Garden Marker Stone

The marker stone was installed on 13 November and the In Bloom team has been asked to look at the area and determine whether they would prefer to plant in front of it or whether it needs a small amount of turf to fill in.

Library Garden Access Path

The access path has now been installed.

Parking Restrictions in Knott End

LCC has confirmed that the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) relating to 1 hour on-street parking opposite the library dates from March 2009 and has not been reduced as a result of the recent "lines and signs" work.

Electoral Review of Wyre

The Boundary Commission has now published its final recommendations for Wyre. None of the recommendations affects the Town Council area.

Finger Post Arms

LCC has confirmed that the arms are of similar design to those on the fingerpost signing Mill Lane, A588 and Moss Side Lane at Stalmine and that the cost means that the old cast iron arms can no longer be provided. LCC has further confirmed that there are no plans to replace the arms.

Welcome Signs

Following a site meeting with Mark Howorth, LCC Highways, the preferred locations (given other signage and the width of the verge) are to replace the old "parish" signs erected some time ago by Wyre Council. Confirmation is being sought from Wyre Council that they have no objections to replacing the signs on Hall Gate Lane and Head Dyke Lane.

Height Restriction Barriers

Wyre Council has confirmed that it will provide and install height restriction barriers to the car park entrance to prevent unauthorised entry/camping on the car park/playing field. The Town Council will have control over when the barrier is locked in place and will be therefore be in a position to act on information received.

Future of Local Audit: Draft Regulations Consultation

The Government is currently consulting on secondary legislation which is required to give effect to the new local audit arrangements set out in the Local Audit and Accountability Bill. The main proposals affecting town and parish councils are the creation of a sector led body to appoint auditors and the exemption from audit of most bodies with a turnover under £25,000. The Clerk will respond to those sections of the consultation relating to town and parish councils.

(13-14)159 Mayor's Report (information only)

The Mayor reported that he had thoroughly enjoyed the successful Christmas Fair.

(13-14)160 Questions to Councillors

None.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 7.30pm.