

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 11 February 2013 at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall.

Present: Councillors R Drobny (Deputy Mayor), R Black, G Carter, R Lawson, G McCann, P Moon, J Mutch, K Nicholls, P Orme and, after his formal co-option, D Hudson

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

172. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs C Lamb and V Taylor and the reasons accepted.

173. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllrs McCann, Mutch and Lawson declared non-pecuniary interests in item 14 (New Bank Account for In Bloom Activities) as a result of their involvement in the Knott End and Preesall In Bloom group.

174. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2013 be agreed as a true record.

175. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (INCLUDING A VERBAL POLICE REPORT)

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

The Clerk reported that she had received no information from the Police and that she had therefore expected PCSO Molloy to be at the meeting. Cllr Nicholls reported that there had been a spate of burglaries in the last few days which she would have raised with the Police if they had attended the meeting and asked the Clerk to raise the matter. Councillors expressed concern that they had not yet had the opportunity to meet the new PCSO.

Cllr Orme reported that a member of the public had asked if the agenda published on the notice board could be in a larger font size and this will be actioned.

Following concerns raised by a member of the public at the last meeting on the matter of horse riders using certain roads as a bridlepath and verbal abuse from two of the riders, Cllr Mutch handed a letter and petition from a member of the public to Cllr Moon.

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

176. CO-OPTION TO CASUAL VACANCY

Councillors **resolved** to co-opt Derek Hudson to the Town Council. Cllr Hudson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.

177. MAYOR FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2013/14

Councillors **resolved** to nominate Cllr R Drobny as the Mayor Elect of Preesall Town Council for the Civic Year 2013/14.

178. ARRANGEMENTS FOR CIVIC SUNDAY 2013

Councillors noted that a road closure licence will be required for the Civic Sunday procession, that the licence application must be made at least three months in advance of the date of the procession but that the Police have confirmed that, as long as the licence is in place, they will close the road in the

usual way. Councillors **resolved** that Civic Sunday take place on Sunday 9 June this year at St Oswald's Church and that all the arrangements (including the laying of a wreath) be as last year.

179. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Councillors **resolved** that the Annual Town Meeting take place on Monday 22 April 2013 at 7pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre.

180. LOCATION OF CIVIC AWARDS

Cllr Orme outlined his concern that there was no single location for the display of various civic awards such as the recent Britain in Bloom Silver Award. Some had been displayed in the library until its recent refurbishment but these appear to be lost and the library has refused to re-erect the Past Mayor's board. Councillors **resolved** to raise the missing awards and the local staff's refusal to display the Past Mayor's Board with LCC.

181. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Councillors noted that a former councillor had, for some years, entered the combined area of Knott End and Preesall in the competition on a personal basis and considered whether this should be something undertaken by the Town Council or whether it should be led by a group in the same way that the Wyre in Bloom entry is led. Councillors **resolved** that no entry be made this year but that the formation of a separate group of volunteers be encouraged in order to make an application next year.

182. FUTURE OF LCC DEPOT

Councillors noted that no response had yet been received from LCC on the question of sub-letting and that the Council has no current powers to provide business start up premises although this would change when the criteria for adopting the new General Power of Competence are met. Having considered the potential risks and costs councillors **resolved** not to pursue the matter further.

183. SPORTS PITCH MAINTENANCE 2013/14

Councillors noted that prices from two additional contractors had been obtained for comparison purposes and **resolved** to continue to retain Barton Grange Landscapes to cut the grass on a fortnightly basis from April to October at a cost of £1470 + VAT.

184. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING WORKSHOP REPORT

Councillors noted a report on the workshop attended by Cllr Carter and the Clerk and **resolved** not to pursue a Neighbourhood Plan.

185. NEW BANK ACCOUNT FOR "BLOOM" ACTIVITIES

Councillors **resolved** to open an additional bank account for "Bloom" activities and nominated Cllrs Mutch, McCann and the Clerk to sign the application form. Having budgeted for a new flower bed on the triangle of land opposite the Police Station and to continue to refurbish the garden behind the library, councillors further **resolved** in principle to make a donation to the "Bloom" Group to carry out the planting on its behalf, the amount being subject to agreement once planting plans and costs are known.

186. FESTIVE LIGHTS 2012

Councillors noted that there was a wide range of festive lights meterages, ranging from 10m to 150m, powered from the various businesses and **resolved** to make a differential donation rather than a standard donation to each business. Councillors further noted that Redman's, Jubilee Garage and Preesall Auto Discount had declined a donation and resolved to write to thank those businesses for their contribution to the community.

Councillors noted that One Stop's Head Office had agreed to refund the provision of new lights at that store to replace the ones discarded during the refurbishment.

187. PREESALL AND KNOTT END GALA 2013

Councillors resolved to agree to a request from the Gala Committee for use of the Playing Field from Tuesday 9 July to Tuesday 16 July 2013 on the following conditions:

- a) that a bond of £500 be required with the full amount being returned as long as the playing field is undamaged and in good order
- b) That the costs of any work required to reinstate the playing field or to return it to good order be deducted from the bond
- c) That councillors and a representative of the Gala Committee inspect the playing field immediately before and after the Gala to determine whether the bond should be returned in full or in part

188. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13/00055/FUL

Proposal: Installation of one 5KW wind turbine (15m to hub height, 5.6m diameter blades and overall height of 17.8m)

Location: Horseshoe Barn, Bourbles Lane, Preesall

By a majority (3 councillors voted against and one abstained) it was agreed that the Town Council has no objections to the proposal.

13/0049/FUL, 13/00050/FUL, 13/00051/FUL, 13/00052/FUL

Proposal: Retrospective application for the erection of a temporary CCTV camera

Location: Various locations in Preesall

Land adjacent junction of Agglesbys Road with Back Lane

Land opposite Higher Lickow Farm

Land adjacent Acres Lane

Land amid Cote Walls Farm and Wyre Way path

By a majority (two councillors abstained) it was agreed that the Town Council objects to the proposals on the grounds of impact on the countryside and loss of privacy of those using the adjacent roads and footpaths.

13/00081/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a pair of semi-detached two bedroom dwellings

Location: Land at Nicksons Lane, Preesall

By a majority (three councillors abstained) it was agreed that the Town Council objects to the proposal on the grounds that the scale of the development is inappropriate for the size of the plot.

189. FINANCE

a) Receipts:

Councillor donations (tree)	£20.00
Stalmine Parish Council (printing)	£13.86

b) Accounts for payment:

Staff costs	£1552.47
Clerk's expenditure on behalf of the Council	£45.59
Wyre Building Supplies	£46.99
Lancs & Merseyside County Training Partnership	£50.00
Barton Grange Landscapes (cherry trees)	£792.00

Fleetwood High School (printing)	£26.81
QBC (war memorial handrail)	£498.00

Festive Lights

Petals	£10.00
The Saracen's Head	£15.00
The Black Bull	£15.00
G Worrell (Square Deal)	£15.00
Julie Jenkinson (Post Office)	£15.00
Broomheads Estate Agents	£20.00
The New Village Steakhouse	£20.00
Claire Bradley (House of Cards)	£30.00

c) Payments by Standing Order for Noting

Easy Websites (hosting fee)	£ 36.00
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d) Statement of Accounts – January 2013

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for January which shows:

Current account	£13,296.01
Reserve account	£6,139.54
Mayor's Charity Account	Nil

190. VERBAL REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES (INFORMATION ONLY)

Wyre Flood Forum

Cllr Orme reported on the multi agency meeting with residents of Cartgate and Sunnyside which took place on 23 January. Work had already been undertaken on clearing dykes and the next step is for United Utilities to examine the culvert under the road. There is some funding available for communities who can put together a plan to prevent or mitigate the effects of flooding in a locality and a small group of residents has been established and is working with an Environment Agency officer.

Wyre in Bloom

Cllr Mutch reported that a meeting with the Over Wyre Gardening Club will be held to plan planting for the coming season.

191. VERBAL REPORT FROM WYRE AND LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLORS

On behalf of Cllr Taylor, the Clerk reported on changes to bus routes and timetabling resulting from the closure of the Hall Gate Lane/Burned House Lane/Park Lane junction for resurfacing. Councillors expressed their concern at the short timescales, the insufficiency of the information provided, the apparent lack of thought relating to school traffic, access for emergency services and the state of the available diversion routes and asked the Clerk to write to LCC in the strongest possible terms.

Cllr McCann reported that the Sea Change initiative was coming to an end and urged everyone to go and see the new Rossall Point structure which opens on 1 March.

Cllr Moon reported that he is working on a Scrutiny Task Group on Parks and Open Spaces and has highlighted Preesall Playing Field to identify what can be improved and what assistance can be provided. In relation to the horse riding issues raised by a member of the public at the last meeting, he reported that he raised the problem at Wyre and was informed that, on an unadopted road with no signage there is no enforcement power available. Officers of Wyre Council and LCC Highways will discuss the issue and provide a report to Cllr Moon.

192. CLERK'S REPORT (INFORMATION ONLY)

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

Lengthsman's Report

The Lengthsman has continued with litter picking and clearing up dog fouling and has identified a couple of properties on St Bernard's Road where there is furniture discarded in the front gardens. This has been reported to Wyre but, as there is no vermin present, they have no enforcement powers. However, the Street Scene Officer will attempt to resolve the issue through discussions with the residents on waste collection more generally. The Lengthsman also reported damage to the new bush shelter/notice board at Preesall and this was reported to Wyre Council for repair work. Pitch lining arrangements continue to be working well, although there are some minor clarification issues which need to be resolved and this will be done by the Clerk and the Lengthsman in conjunction with the appropriate team personnel.

War Memorial Handrail

The contractor has now installed the new handrail is ready for installation and the Lengthsman will paint it so that the grant application can be finalised. Smartwater is being made available to custodians free of charge to protect war memorials. This is applied to metal parts of the war memorial so that, if theft does occur, scrap dealers will be able to tell that the metal has been stolen. An application has been made and the Smartwater received.

Land Behind the Library

The trees have now been planted and a Green Partnership Award grant application has been made for £500 to pay for the four trees that have not been sponsored. The Town Council has been informed informally that the Land Registry is able to register the land in the name of the Council. It appears that LCC gifted the piece of land not required for building the library to the Town Council and this is contained in a document in LCC's ownership. Formal registration of the land is awaited.

Council Furniture

All details of the furniture, including dimensions and photographs, have been supplied to Parrox Hall together with a draft letter outlining the conditions on which the furniture is to be given to the Hall. The Clerk will continue to liaise with the Hall to complete the transfer of the furniture as soon as possible.

Lancashire Environmental Fund (LEF)

The fund was set up in 1998 as a not for profit organisation to support community and environmental projects within Lancashire with grants generated by the Landfill Communities Fund regulated by Entrust. Funds are provided by landfill operators SITA UK Ltd and Neales Waste Management and are enhanced by a 10% third party contribution from LCC. The Fund is an equal partnership between SITA UK Ltd, LCC, Lancashire Wildlife Trust and Community Futures. Representatives from each organisation serve on the Fund's Board and Project Assessment Panel to ensure that the best projects throughout the county, which provide environmental, community and social benefits, are supported.

193. QUESTIONS TO COUNCILLORS

None.

194. 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 other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 8.50pm.