

# PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 13 May 2013 at 6.00pm at St Aidans C of E Technology College, Cartgate, Preesall.

**Present:** Councillors C Lamb (Mayor), R Black (from Item 14), G Carter, R Drobny, D Hudson, G McCann, R Lawson, P Moon, J Mutch, K Nicholls, P Orme and V Taylor

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

### 240. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

### 241. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr McCann declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 13 (Finance relating to Wyre in Bloom) and Item 14 (verbal report from Wyre in Bloom representative) as his wife is heavily involved in the group. Cllr Mutch declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 13 (Finance relating to Wyre in Bloom) as she is a member of the group. Cllr Orme declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 7 (Use of Playing Field) as he works closely with LCC's Young Peoples' Service at the Youth and Community Centre and Item 8 (Playing Field Project) as he is heavily involved in the project.

Cllr V Taylor asked councillors to renew her dispensation, granted at the 10 December 2012 meeting until the elections in 2013, which allowed her as a member of Lancashire County Council to discuss and vote on any matters relating to that authority (other than issues relating to funding decisions) on the basis that it is in the interests of persons living in the area. The Council **resolved** to grant a dispensation for that purpose either until the next election in 2017 or until she ceased to be a member of Lancashire County Council, whichever is sooner.

### 242. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 2013 be agreed as a true record.

### 243. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (INCLUDING A VERBAL POLICE REPORT)

In the absence of a police representative the Clerk reported that, in April 2013 there were 8 reported crimes with 3 detected. This compares with 8 (4 detected) in the same period last year. There were 24 reports of anti-social behaviour last month, 11 of which were youth nuisance, compared to the same period last year when there were 2 reports of anti-social behaviour, both of which were youth nuisance. Cllr Hudson asked about an incident at the Saracen's Head and the Clerk agreed to take this up with the police.

### 244. 2012/13 BUDGET OVERTURN AND ANNUAL RETURN

Councillors had discussed the detailed budget overrun and analysis of expenditure for 2012/13 at the April meeting and there were no further questions on the detail. The Clerk referred to Box 9 in Section One (Accounting Statements) of the Annual Return and explained that the figure for total fixed assets had had to be restated following completion of the revised Schedule of Assets approved by the Council in March 2013. The previous Schedule of Assets had missed a small number of items and the Clerk had been advised by the External Auditor that the 2011/12 figure should be restated to reflect what the value of assets should have been at 31 March 2012.

The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit work had been completed and the report of the Internal Auditor would be presented to the June meeting of the Council. Councillors considered Section 1 (Accounting Statements) and Section 2 (Annual Governance Statement) of the Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2012 and **resolved** that the Accounting Statements and the Annual Governance Statement be approved.

#### **245. DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT**

Councillors considered and **resolved** to approve the Annual Report and to make it available to the public in hard copy and on the website.

#### **246. USE OF PLAYING FIELD**

Councillors considered a request from LCC's Young People's Service to use the playing field on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May from 4pm to 9pm to stage an event aimed at engaging young people aged 13-19 living in the area and **resolved** to approve the request without charge, subject to the condition that the field is returned to the same condition as before the event.

#### **247. PLAYING FIELD PROJECT**

The Clerk reported that Wyre Council has now committed to release s106 monies for the above project. If FOPP as a Community Association enters into an agreement that sets out the requirements for compliance with the s.106 agreement in order to release the monies the individual members of the group would be personally liable for complying with the terms of the agreement. Wyre Council has therefore asked if the Town Council would be willing to enter into the agreement and manage the monies.

Councillors considered that the Town Council has already accepted responsibility for the finished project and has already agreed that, on receipt of an earmarked grant from FOPP, it would purchase equipment for the redevelopment of the playing field and reclaim the VAT to contribute to its further development. Cllr Orme reported that the requirements for compliance relate mainly to financial probity and accounting requirements. Councillors **resolved** to enter into the agreement with Wyre Council which will enable payment of the s106 monies direct to the Town Council. The money will be earmarked for the use of FOPP and VAT can be reclaimed as described.

#### **248. YULETIDE FESTIVAL**

Councillors considered a request from the group organising this new festival that any monies raised be paid into the Council bank account this year and that the funds be earmarked for future festival use. If the festival is a success the group would formalise and open its own bank account next year. Councillors **resolved** to agree to the request.

#### **249. LAND REGISTRATION**

Councillors noted that the formal registration process for the land behind the library is now complete and the registration documentation has been received. Councillors further noted that Mrs Dawn Lamb has completed the work at no cost other than incidental costs associated with the registration process and **resolved** to provide Mrs Lamb with a small gift in recognition of her work on behalf of the Council.

#### **250. WYRE COUNCIL TASK GROUP – REVIEW OF KNOTT END TO FLEETWOOD FERRY**

Cllr Orme, the Council's representative, reported that the focus of the Task Group is to find out how the ferry could be better used. He had given evidence that the ferry needed to be more reliable and had given examples of when the ferry had not run as advertised in the timetable. Councillors agreed that the ferry was a vital transport link and **resolved** that Cllr Orme provide an update to a future meeting.

#### **251. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

##### ***13/00276/FUL***

**Proposal:** Proposed detached rear garage

**Location:** 38 Pilling Lane, Preesall

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

**13/00283/FUL (resubmission of 13/00055FUL)**

**Proposal:** Installation of one 5KW wind turbine (14.97m to hub height, 5.6m diameter blades and overall height of 17.8m)

**Location:** Horseshoe Barn, Bourbles Lane, Preesall

By a majority (2 for, 5 against and 4 abstentions) it was agreed that the Council objects to the proposal on the grounds of visual impact on the area and potential environmental impact on wildlife.

**13/00297/FUL**

**Proposal:** Replacement conservatory roof and walls and retrospective application for garage

**Location:** Aintree, Lancaster Road, Knott End

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

**252. FINANCE**

**a) Payments received:**

Wyre Council	£55,533.00
Stalmine Parish Council	£25.00
Kirkland Parish Council	£25.00
Catterall Parish Council	£25.00
Pilling Parish Council	£25.00
Claughton Parish Council	£25.00
Over Wyre Gardening Club (In Bloom donation)	£40.00
Wyre Council (In Bloom funding)	£915.00

**b) Payments to be approved:**

Staff costs	£1846.89
Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£78.78
HMRC	£236.93
Pilling Jubilee Silver Band	£250.00
Holdens Solicitors	£83.50
Viking Direct	£37.96
The Flower Shop	£30.00
Wyre Building Supplies	£16.99
Gillian Benson	£100.00
Fleetwood High School	£57.52
St Aidan's School	£325.00
Mrs Y McCann (In Bloom expenses)	£78.59

**c) Transfers to be approved:**

From Current Account to In Bloom Account	£300.00
From Current Account to Reserve Account	£14,000.00

**d) Payments by Standing Order for Noting**

Easy Websites	£ 36.00
---------------	---------

**e) Statement of Accounts – April 2013**

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for April which shows:

Current account	£62,885.90
Reserve account	£6,140.33
Mayor's Charity Account	Nil
In Bloom Account	£438.68

Councillors **resolved** to note the receipts, the payments by standing order and the statement of accounts and to approve the accounts for payment (including, in accordance with the powers conferred by S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the sum of £250.00 in respect of a donation to Pilling Jubilee Silver Band) and the transfers of funds.

## **253. VERBAL REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

### **Friends of Preesall Park**

Cllr Orme reported that the group hoped to cut the ribbon on Phase 1 on Gala afternoon.

### **Protect Wyre Group**

The Clerk reported that Halite has sent a pre-legal action letter to the government objecting to its rejection of the application. Such a letter must be sent before any legal action to provide an opportunity to settle the matter outside of court.

### **Wyre in Bloom**

Cllr Mutch reported that she had attended the recent meeting and was pleased to see that the donation from Wyre Council had been received. A group of eight volunteers had been out gardening recently.

### **Christmas Community Group**

Cllr Orme reported that plans are progressing for the festival.

## **254. VERBAL REPORT FROM WYRE AND LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Taylor reported that Lancashire County Council's Annual Meeting will be held on 23 May. Cllr McCann reported that Wyre Council's Annual Meeting had taken place last week.

## **255. CLERK'S REPORT**

Councillors noted the Clerk's report in respect of:

### **Lengthsman's Report**

Now that LCC has drilled drainage holes in the tarmac under the new raised bed opposite the Police Station the Lengthsman has stained the wood, lined the bed and arranged for soil to be delivered so that the bed will be ready to plant by the end of May. Dog fouling continues to be a problem and the recent warmer weather has seen an increase in grass and vegetation growth which is keeping the Lengthsman busy. His annual appraisal has now been carried out.

### **Council Furniture**

Following the last meeting the question of whether a small selection of the furniture might be displayed at Parrox Hall was raised with the Hall and a response is awaited. The Museum Service has no information on the furniture other than the photos previously emailed and the transfer documentation and they recommend an auction house such as Christies.

### **Health and Safety Documentation**

Gillian Benson (Clerk for Catterall, Pilling, Kirkland and Forton), Edwina Parry (Clerk for Garstang) and I have agreed to pool our health and safety documentation to identify best practice for us all to adopt a common approach. An initial meeting took place on 30 April.

### **Digital Crest**

A local sixth form provider has agreed to either redraw or digitize and sharpen the crest.

### **Pilling Band**

A letter of thanks has been received from the Band following notification of the decision to make a donation of £250.

### **Banking Problems**

Not only did NatWest Bank lose the application for the In Bloom account they have now lost the letter of complaint handed in at the Garstang branch. A copy of the original complaint together with a new complaint have been handed in and a letter sent to the Bank's Chief Executive, Stephen Hester. The complaint has been upheld and compensation of £77.60 will be made to the Council to cover travel, postage and the additional work resulting from the issues.

### **My Community Rights Advice**

This online information hub gives information on resources and ideas on how to make a difference in the community and also provides access to grant. It is funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government. Contact the service on [www.mycommunityrights.org.uk](http://www.mycommunityrights.org.uk) or on 0845 345 4564.

### **LCC – Consultation on Proposed Changes to the County Council's Planning Application Checklist, Associated Guidance and Application Form Relating to Minerals and Waste Developments and Associated Guidance.**

The County Council is reviewing its planning application validation check list and associated guidance, in view of changes and developments in the minerals industry that have occurred since they were first prepared and is now consulting on the proposed amendments. The consultation period runs from 1 May 2013–12 June 2013 and the consultation documents are available to view and download electronically from our website at:

[http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/atoz/a\\_to\\_z/service.asp?u\\_id=537&tab=1](http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/atoz/a_to_z/service.asp?u_id=537&tab=1). Alternatively they can be obtained from the Development Management Team on **01772 531929/01772 534181**. Details of how to make comments can be found on the website.

### **Litter Bin Outside Fish and Chip Shop**

Wyre Council has removed the bin which was hit by a car on the evening of Sunday 28 May. A replacement bin has been ordered which will be sited further back to prevent the problem in future.

### **Response from Police and Crime Commissioner**

Following the Council's invitation to the Police and Crime Commissioner to meet with them to hear, first hand, concerns in respect of policing levels, response times and resources available for civic events such as Civic Sunday, the Commissioner's Office has responded as follows:

"Following receipt of a number of invitations from individual Town/Parish Councils, we have approached the LALC to discuss the best way forward. It has been decided that the solution would be for the Commissioner to speak directly to as many Town/Parish Councils at the LALC AGM in November. We are therefore currently liaising direct with the Executive Secretary around the arrangements for the AGM."

Should councillors wish to further discuss this response an item can be placed on the June agenda.

### **Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farm**

DONG Energy can confirm that the date for the submission of the Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farm application for a Development Consent Order to the Secretary of State will now be late June 2013. This revised date will allow the Project team to fully incorporate comments received from statutory consultees into the application documents and will enable the submission of the best possible application. The Planning Inspectorate have been informed of this revised date and will shortly publish this on their website. This will also be communicated to stakeholders via the Project Website and via the Project Newsletter due for publication shortly.

### **Tourist Information Point**

The racking for the new Tourist Information Point at Knott End Café was ordered by Wyre Council in

February but the supplier first lost the order and failed to deliver by the required date. As the supplier has not responded to either emails or phone calls Wyre has cancelled the order and a new supplier identified. The racking has now arrived and will be installed shortly.

#### **256. QUESTIONS TO COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Hudson asked Cllr Taylor whether budget provision for the resurfacing of Park Lane was in this year's budget. Cllr Taylor responded that it was not.

There being no other business the Mayor thanked councillors for their contribution during his mayoral year and closed the meeting at 6.50pm.