

Preesall Town Council COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Introduction

Preesall Town Council has developed a community engagement strategy which aims to set a standard for engagement with residents.

It recognises that it must provide services which reflect the needs of its residents and which endeavour to improve the quality of life. It aims to give local people a voice in the process of taking decisions which affect the community.

The Town Council believes that residents must be involved in decisions affecting them and have regard to the future development of the township.

Aims

To work more closely with residents, community groups and businesses.

To be inclusive in engaging with as many people as possible.

To actively encourage residents' involvement.

To listen to views and have regard to them in enhancing services.

To raise the profile of the Town Council.

Objectives

To improve communication to reach as many people as possible.

To inform residents of the role of Town Councillors.

To enhance the well being of the township.

How this will be achieved?

Communication

The Town Council newsletter in the Over Wyre Focus magazine will include topical articles, items for information concerning local government generally and items for consultation.

The Town Council Website will be updated regularly and will contain Agendas, Minutes, Council information documents and other information as required.

The Town Council Facebook page will be updated regularly with items of community interest, details of events and work being undertaken by the council.

Information leaflets will be produced as required and will be available locally.

Meetings are open to the public with an opportunity for residents to bring items to the council's attention. The Annual Town Meeting is an opportunity for residents to discuss issues and inform the Town Council of needs.

Surgeries are held at regular intervals by council and are advertised in the newsletter, on Facebook and on the website.

Consultation

Consultation on important issues will be key in obtaining precise information and views and will be undertaken by questionnaires, in the newsletter, on the website and by approaching local organisations.

Consultation will be as inclusive as possible and will seek to consult everyone including minority groups.

Support

To support local organisations and engage with them in meeting their own targets and aims.

To support local projects and participate in local events to raise awareness of the Town Council and its aims.

<u>Partnership</u>

Partnership with local organisations will ensure appropriate and acceptable outcomes.

Partnership will further the aims of the council to improve the environment and the quality of life for all residents.

Partnership will raise the profile of the Town Council and its work.

Partnership with Borough and County Council and Councillors will enhance the service the Town Council is able to provide.

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