



PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 11th September 2023 at 7.00pm at Preesall and Knott End Youth and Community Centre

Present: Cllrs J Lewin (Mayor), T Johnson, S Dobbie, P Orme, C Rimmer, K Shepherd, K Woods, R Droby – PCSO Denise Creighton, Cllr M Salter and Mr K Bennett

Also present – Cllrs Elect H McMurray, J Jenkinson and K Tunstall

Cllrs Elect H McMurray, K Tunstall and J Jenkinson read out and signed the declaration of office, these were countersigned by Mayor Lewin, so co-opting the 3 new Councillors to Preesall Town Council.

61.1 Apologies

Nil

62.2 Declarations of interests and dispensations

Nil

63.3 Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting held on 10th July 2023 and the two Extra-Ordinary meetings held on 22nd July 2023 and the one on 30th August 2023

It was resolved that the minutes of the above meetings were approved as a true record, unanimously accepted by those in attendance at relevant meetings.

64.4 Public participation

Councillors **resolved** to adjourn the meeting to allow non-councillors to speak.

PCSO – Denise Creighton

PCSO Creighton started by issuing a request to invited to the Town Council Meetings, every attempt would be made to attend if possible.

She highlighted that the Containers in the area of the Sports field had been used by youths to climb up and complaints had been received by neighbouring properties due to the noise. It was suggested that anti-climb paint could be used to deter this activity.

Cllr Droby raised the point of dangerous parking close to the new takeaway with vehicles parked on yellow lines and bus stop, a near miss with a child running into road had been witnessed. PCSO Creighton suggested raising the issue with the Road Safety Partnership.

PCSO Creighton mentioned that she was working with Cllr McMurray through the Youth Club and were going to visit St Aidan's to support their work.

Concern was raised re the long delays with calls to 101 being answered, PCS Creighton suggested that calls were usually triaged. It was requested that PCS Creighton flag up the issue.

Veterans Bench had suffered vandalism and Cllrs wanted to ensure that action was taken to ensure the perpetrators were suitably punished.

Issue of speeding was raised especially around the school; Pilling Lane was particularly bad. A child being transported on front of motorbike with no helmet had been witnessed. PCSO Creighton suggested raising with Lancashire Road Safety Partnership.

Concerns raised re youths hanging around War Memorial, PCSO Creighton explained that although current staffing levels were lower than needed, recruitment for additional officers was in hand.

A hate crime had been reported to Police previously and no contact had been made with the victim. PCSO Creighton stated that this was unacceptable and would chase up.

Final point raised was regarding electric scooters on pavement with a potential for harm, it was agreed that this was not just children.

Council Matters

The Council sub-group had already met up. The Development Control Committee to set up meeting to consider but may be some time Town Council to be invited.

It was reported that additional Government money had been provided to increase bus services in rural areas. The new bus service was operational.

Following damage to and unsafe lamppost Cllr Johnson raised a concern re the LCC emergency number being diverted to 101 and then redirected to Control Room.

Attempted to contact WBC but was sent round in circles. Eventually Cllr Salter was able to help. Cllr Johnson suggested that both WBC and LCC should review their out of hours provision. Cllr Rimmer had reported the lamppost to Mrs Huddleston at Wyre, and it had been removed.

The issue of "No Right Turn" from Burned House Lane to Park Lane was raised. During LCC consultation re the roads in the area the "No Right Turn" had not been included therefore there is no prohibition in place.

Question was raised re the Average Speed Camera activation Cllr Salter reported that he was not aware of a date. Question re whether Mobile phone use was included, again not known. Concerns were raised the inconsistent placing of signs that would make the cameras unenforceable.

Concern raised re the lack of progress with new SpIDs – Cllr Salter to chase.

It was resolved that the meeting recommence.

65.5 Planning Applications

Nil

66.6 Reports from committees and working groups.

Quarry Application sub-group – It was reported that the group had met twice with a further meeting planned on 14th September to discuss Ecology. Possibly a further meeting before the deadline.

Personnel Committee due to meet, clarification was given re the Clerks contract.

It was requested that Cllr Orme pass on the regards of the Town Council to Andrea.

Finance – Cllr Orme reported that all bills were being paid, including payroll and a list of payments for both August and September were provided. Cllr Orme raised concerns regarding the Realtas system as, he felt, that it was over complicated for their needs. Regarding AGAR, report received from External Audit but will report fully at next meeting. Finance documents to be signed after the meeting.

Civic Events Committee – It was suggested that some of the new councillors may consider joining. It was suggested that this be done at the next meeting.

67.7 Kelly's corner

Wyre Council had provided document for Council to consider but, it was felt, that there were many errors/issues, including had details of previous Clerk, only a short lease – why?, Repairs and Maintenance – bench belonged to Town Council anyway, referred to restricted covenant – what was this?, signage issue with tense, not sure why this needed, Cllr Shepherd stated that there was no disabled access. There was no incentive for the Town Council to take this on. It was proposed that Cllr Orme take the document back to WBC and report back at the next meeting.

68.8 Barton Square

Concern raised re grouting; it was suggested that the Lengthsman be approached to work on it. Also, problem with bikes being parked on the tiles with the potential for damage it was resolved that the installation of chains between the bollards be investigated and considered at a future meeting. Query was raised re funding of project. Need to consider Health & Safety and ensure that a trip hazard is not introduced.

69.9 Town Council Notice Board outside The Saracens Head

Cllr Orme reported that the notice board had opening at top and was difficult to reach without climbing on nearby wall. Cllr Drobny suggested lowering the board but as it also leaked a new board really was required. It was resolved that the provision of a new Noticeboard be considered during the next precept calculation and funding allocated in 24/25.

70.10 Policy/Documentation review

It is resolved that the following all be readopted without changes.

- i Model publication scheme
- ii Training policy
- iii Data Protection policies, procedures and forms
- iv Grants policy
- v Complaints procedure
- vi Audio visual recording policy

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

71.11 Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives

No reports

72.12 Verbal reports from Wyre councillors

Cllr Rimmer – Reported that they had met with head of Wyre and that there was a new Initiative on Health stemming from a new Health Framework that works with the Health System, the full impact is not yet known. A further new initiative is to be introduced re the funding of new School uniforms.

73.13 Clerk's report

Cllr Orme reported that water bowser had been delivered and was with the lengthsman, the trailer had also been collected and was held by Cllr Orme. The Plantsman had started work and good reports were received from the In Bloom Committee. The Legacy fund was not yet in place. Possible consider a board for the Ferry Shelter to house timetable (possible noticeboard from Saracens once new board received). It was reported that Ferry was not using signs for when in operation, Cllr Salter asked to forward this request. Once 2 new shelter delivery date known the old ones will be removed a contractor has been appointed. Cllr Orme reported that he had received the paint and brushes from LCC for work on Promenade, Contractor in place to take work forward. Cllr Orme had applied for road closures for Remembrance and Christmas Lights switch on.

Need to raise concern on planning re the "Q" status.

Mayoral badges – company wanted picture of current badge.

Memorial Tree Hearts – Not yet ordered. Invite sponsorship from residents, advertise in Green Book/Facebook. Suggest donations could go to Mayors Charity, suggest go through Civic Events Committee.

The Lamp posts on the promenade, awaiting feedback from LCC.

Update on purchase of Garage – It was found that documentation held did not meet requirements. The Town Council have paid the vendors Solicitors fees to obtain the correct documentation.

The two seafront shelters were on hold whilst current 2 were finalised but needed to identify owners as this was not clear. Concerns were raised over their safety. It was resolved that Cllr Orme progress investigations on the other shelters.

Thanks were given to Cllr Orme for the support he was giving to Town Council during difficult times.

74.14 Mayor's report

Mayor Lewin thanked Councillors for their support. She reported that Emergency Services day was well received, attendees met afterwards in the Bourne Arms giving a chance to chat. Concern was raised re the lack of Town Councillors in attendance, but it was felt that a further similar event be held.

Cllr Johnson covered for the Mayor at Civic Sunday in Garstang. Cllr Johnson asked that consideration be given to the Deputy Mayor Regalia as it was felt that it was not up to the standard of other Councils.

75.15 Questions to councillors

Cllr Woods reported that a resident had offered up use of their land next to Mill to place an additional Christmas Tree using either Solar or Electric from their property. Further investigation was required and to be discussed at the next meeting. Need to also consider the timing of the lights turning on each evening, need to be in line with street lighting.

A course had been booked for the Clerk, but she was unable to attend, this was offered up to the new Councillors.

Lancashire Parish and Town Council Conference was to be held on 4th November in the morning with the LALC AGM in the afternoon.

Query re heritage boards – these were on hold following ill health of Wyre Ranger.

Update of Library List 10 to 11 Sat am

23/9 – Cllrs Orme and Rimmer

14/10 Cllrs Drobny and Dobbie

28/10 Cllr Orme

11/11 No surgery due to Remembrance Day

25/11 Cllrs Drobny and McMurray

9/12 Mayor Lewin

23/12 No surgery

It was reported that there are issues with the railings on Promenade, Mark O'Donnell was aware.

Re Commemorative Bench near Bourne Arms – Bolts were to be ground off. It was resolved that any costs incurred by the Veterans Group to repair the bench would be reimbursed by the Town Council.

76.16 Items for next agenda

The next full council meeting will be held on **9 October 2023** - councillors are asked

to raise matters to be included on the agenda and provide updates from working groups by notifying the clerk **in writing by Thursday 28 September 2023** at the latest. The item should specify the business which it is proposed be transacted, in such a way that the members who receive it can identify the matters which they will be expected to discuss i.e. it needs to specify what the proposal is and that a decision is required or whether the item is for information only.

There being no further business the mayor closed the meeting.