



PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held
on Monday 13 January 2020
at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community
Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall**

Present: Cllrs P Orme (Mayor), A Cropper, J Cropper, R Drobny, T Johnson, K Nicholls, N Patrick, A Tarpey-Black, D Williams, L Woodhouse, K Woods.

In attendance: Alison May, clerk to the town council; 3 members of the public.

184a(1) Apologies for absence

Cllr B Burn.

184b(1) Absent without apology

None

185(2) Declaration of interests and dispensations

All councillors present at the meeting requested dispensation to discuss and vote on the precept up to the May 2023 elections.

Cllr A Cropper and Cllr Orme – agenda item 17, Cllr Orme agenda item 15,

Cllr Johnson - union interest (employment matters).

186(3) Minutes of the last meeting

Councillors **resolved** to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2019.

187(4) Public participation

*At the request of the Mayor, councillors **resolved** to adjourn the meeting at 7.05pm to allow non-councillors to speak.*

A member of the public explained that he flies his model aircraft from the beach at Knott End and in the past has taken his car and equipment on to the sands. He queried why vehicular access to the beach was no longer possible.

In response: Vehicular access was banned, other than for those with a special licence such as certain fishermen and the coastguard, in approx. 2003/4. Signage was put in place to explain this. Over the years the signs have decayed/been vandalised and disappeared. As part of a programme of sign replacement new signs have been put up. In order to have approved access it is necessary to gain permission from a number of bodies as the area is also one of significant scientific interest. It was also pointed out that if permission to take the vehicle on the sands was granted then additional insurance would be needed for off-road driving. The council explained that it was aware of another group seeking permission and offered to pass the enquirer's contact details to this group so as to share best practice. It was suggested that the member of public contact the clerk with his details.

A member of the public queried the date and contact details of the planned motorbike show. Details were exchanged and the date was confirmed as Sunday 26 July 2020.

A member of the public raised the issue of inconsiderate parking on Plantation Avenue and residents being blocked in and prevented from accessing their own vehicles. A meeting had been arranged for 14 January with the county councillor to visit the area and discuss the problem.

A member of the public asked the council to fly the Union flag on its flagpoles on Brexit day – 31 January 2020.

*At the conclusion of the public participation and at the request of the Mayor, councillors **resolved** to reconvene the meeting at 7.26pm.*

188(5) Planning applications

Application Number: 19/01123/FUL

Proposal: Proposed agricultural storage building

Location: Cockers Dyke Farm, 307 Pilling Lane, Preesall, Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire.

Resolved: that the council had no objection to the proposed application (10 in favour, 1 abstention)

Application Number: 19/01256/LAWE

Proposal: Lawful development certificate for the siting of an existing holiday static caravan

Location: Sandy Bay Caravan Park, 119 Pilling Lane, Preesall, Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire.

Resolved: to object to the proposal on the grounds that the council was unclear as to the accuracy of the declaration that a caravan had been on the site for a continuous period. Photographic evidence obtained on-line showed no caravan in position on a number of occasions. (all against the application).

189(6) Finance

Councillors **resolved:**

a) To note receipts in December	9.92
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b) To approve the following payment:	Payment type	
RHS In Bloom (28016510) insurance	00051	75.00
Mr B Wilkinson re Xmas lights	300020	30.00
To note the following payments:		
Payroll	BACS	3455.13
Clerk's expenses on behalf of council	BACS	125.58
848 Services Ltd (INV. 9002)	BACS	9.48
Fordstone General store (inv.15)	300018	144.00
Wyre Council use of park licence fee	300019	50.00
Payment made outside of meeting:		

Knott End and Preesall Bloomers – (bank account opening deposit)	00050	500.00
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c) To note the following payments by direct debit		
Easy Web Sites (hosting fee, SSL certificate)		46.80
O2 (mobile phone contract) – extra cost of £1.36 incurred phoning Viking		11.83
LCC (contributions)		981.07
LCC (deficit)		8.33

d) To note the statement of accounts for month ending 31 December 2020		
RBS current account	£59,915.90	
Unity current account	£46,193.94	
Hampshire Trust Bank	£35,000.00	
In Bloom	£3,092.87	

190(7) Finalisation of budget 2020/21

The clerk talked councillors through the latest version of the draft precept documentation. Cllr Orme explained that the Rivers Trust is looking at a tree planting scheme to hold water back on Preesall Hill and that a contribution from the council might be appropriate. The possibility of a Saxon settlement on the hill was raised and it was stated that this would be reported back to the trust. It was **resolved** that an additional £2,000 be added to the budget for environmental purposes and councillors noted that an additional VAT refund for previous election expenses would be claimed from HMRC.

Resolved: to set the precept for 2020/21 at £97,230, an increase of 0.25p per year per band D property.

191(8) Signage

Resolved: to purchase one sign from Lancashire County Council to fix on a vertical post as follows:

1 x direction sign 410 x 610mm £47.90

Green background (same as entrance to the village signs) with gold writing to include reference to pubs, shops, cafes, Library and the Jubilee Garden.

2 x sign-fixing clips 76mm £1.50 each

All prices shown exclude VAT, delivery and installation.

The sign would be manufactured from 3mm thickness aluminium with rails mechanically affixed to the rear.

192(9) High-visibility jackets

Resolved: to purchase 20 jackets of mixed sizes with Preesall Town Council printed on the back, with a budget of £60.

193(10) Business cards

Resolved: that the council would purchase business cards for use by councillors, the clerk and the lengthsman. To include the council's official contact details and web address – budget of £30.

194(11) Clerk's delegated authority

Resolved: to give the clerk delegated authority to authorise councillor training within the budget limits to make the process more efficient.

195(12) Flag flying

Resolved: to approve the diary for 2020, with the addition in 2020 only of the Union flag being flown on 31 January to mark Brexit Day. Cllr Orme and Cllr A Cropper to be responsible for raising and taking down the flags. The clerk was also tasked with finding out how much it would cost to approach the College of Arms to seek permission to fly the council's crest.

196(13) Policies and procedures

i) Operation London Bridge

Resolved: to adopt the protocol and:

1. Who will read the proclamation? The Mayor/Deputy Mayor
2. Where will it be read? Preesall Hill, outside Roundhouse and Knott End flagpole
3. Will there be invited guests or just a public gathering? Public gathering
4. How will we inform the public? Website, noticeboards, Facebook, notice at Battle of Britain memorial.
5. Who will read the opening words of the ceremony? The Mayor/Deputy Mayor
6. Where will we site the books of condolence? Knott End library
7. Where will flowers be laid by the public? Jubilee Garden Knott End
8. Where will we plant the memorial tree? Jubilee Garden Knott End
9. Do councillors want black armbands, ribbons or rosettes? Clerk to purchase armbands, councillor discretion to wear or not.
10. Union flag with a mourning cravat? No
10. Delegated authority to the clerk to purchase photographs/items as required.

ii) Review of Community Engagement Strategy

Resolved: to re-adopt the Community Engagement Strategy, unamended from last year.

iii) Revised disciplinary and grievance policies

Resolved: that the council would adopt both the disciplinary policy and the grievance policy as presented. In addition, it was further **resolved** that the personnel committee be given delegated authority to scrutinise and tailor the ACAS correspondence templates referenced at para 28 of the guidance for use as necessary.

197(14) Over Wyre joint council meeting

Resolved: that Cllrs Drobny, Johnson, Orme and Nicholls would represent Preesall Town Council at the joint meeting and that the suggested topic for discussion would be the establishment of wildflower meadows.

198(15) Buckingham Palace garden party 2020

Resolved: to nominate Cllr Orme to attend the garden party. Cllr Orme to provide the clerk with his identification details and whether he wishes to take a guest.

199(16) Environment proposal – hedgehogs

Resolved: that the council wishes to take part in the project proposed by Bickerstaffe Parish Council to help and protect hedgehogs and to take part in the award scheme. Fund raising could form part of the Mayor’s Charity next year.

200(17) Review of Wyre residents parking scheme

1. What are your views about the Resident Parking Permit Scheme? Please remember that the permit is currently purchased by a one-off fee which lasts for the lifetime of a vehicle.

It is a good idea for residents to be able to have a permit as they already contribute via council tax to the car parks. Some car parks have free parking, therefore £25 can be expensive as it would take some time to benefit from having the permit. Where car parks charge, people look for elsewhere to park i.e side streets.

2. Is the Scheme widely used?

None of the councillors has a permit, one did have one in the past and found it useful. Comments were made regarding it not being useable across all car parks.

3. Are there any ways in which the Scheme might be improved or brought more up to date?

It should be free for all residents.

4. What would be your views if people with Blue Badges were brought within the scheme, meaning that Blue Badge-holders would have to pay for car parking (which they do not have to currently if parked in a marked bay) even though an increased number of disabled spaces would be made available?

Blue Badge holders should not have to pay for a permit. If charges were introduced it could result in more Blue Badge holders parking on the highway.

5. Do you have any other comments about the Resident Parking Permit Scheme?

No.

ITEMS 18 to 22 and 24 ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

201(18) Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives

Best Kept Village – Next committee meeting is on Thursday 17 January

Gala – meeting on Wednesday. Queen elect has permission to fund raise.

KE light railway – the group is looking to clear the path. Landowners have no objection in principle.

Halite/Brine watch - A survey of the sea-bed to determine what species have migrated to the area would need to be conducted between 1 May and end of June.

Health – an update from 8 Jan PPG was circulated (annex 1). Cllr Johnson is to resume his contact with volunteer organisations providing health assistance. Cllr Orme to speak with health centre manager re VE day celebrations.

Highways – the sink hole on Coniston Avenue is still there, resurfacing outside Carter’s school will now take place in February. An update is awaited re the

extension of the resurfacing from the school through to the junction with Green Dicks Lane. Chasing 20mph signage for Pilling Lane. Disabled parking on Preesall Hill being looked at. Parking on yellow lines near Saracen's House still a problem and being reported to LCC.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – next meeting in two weeks.

Preesall Youth and Community Association – AGM on 27 January at 7.00pm

Tourism – Motorbike event being planned for 26 July.

Wyre Ferry Management Board – Ferry undergoing its winter service.

Wyre Flood Forum - Tree planting scheme being planned for Preesall Hill, information event re beaches from Cleveleys to Fleetwood, groins being maintained, but not dug out.

Christmas Fair – Event raised £225. Constructive criticism at meeting last night.

Hoping to have next meeting in February to discuss setting up a formal committee and open a bank account.

Youth – Still having problems with youths playing 'chicken' on Lancaster Road.

202(19) Verbal reports from Wyre councillors

Cllr A Cropper announced that he was the Deputy Mayor elect for Wyre.

The mobile caravan will be coming to the playing field car park with information on the new bins from April.

203(20) Clerk's report

Lengthsman's report

No report available

Banking

RBS has now confirmed that it does not hold the ID documentation for the new signatories even though this was presented, authorised and sent in by Nat West in Cleveleys. RBS states it cannot take any further action until councillors attend in person again with their documentation. It is proposed that forms are completed to remove signatories, but not to add additional signatories. This could then be done when the bank account transfers to the new bank, which hopefully offers a better service.

Training

LALC's training session is shown below – councillors are asked to let the clerk know if there are any courses they are interested in attending.

<u>Workshops for 2020</u>	
February 6th	Finance
March 5th	Chairmanship
April 2nd	Certificate in Local Council Administration (Session 1 of 6)
May 14th	Planning
June 18th	Effective Meetings
June 13th	New Councillors and Clerks - Module 1
June 27th	New Councillors and Clerks - Module 2

September 10th	Community Engagement
October 8th	Chairmanship
October 22nd	Finance

Training requested:

Cllr Patrick – 14 May, planning

Cllr Tarpey-Black – 13/27 June, New councillors

Cllr Johnson – 10 September, Community Engagement.

SPID

At the last SLCC meeting a presentation was made by Elan City re SPIDs, both fixed and solar powered. LCC has advised that the solar-powered SPIDs can only be in a fixed location. An example of a fixed solar-powered SPID is in place when entering Weeton village from A585 direction.

Flag of St George

Councillors are advised that Cllr Woodhouse has kindly donated a flag to the council's collection.

204(21) Mayor's report

None.

205(22) Questions to councillors

Cllr Nicholls asked whether there was any update on the zebra crossing, Cllr Patrick replied that she had not received an update from Cty Cllr Salter.

Cllr Woodhouse said she had attended the FOKEL meeting and wished to put herself forward as the council's representative for these meetings. It was suggested that she attend for now and that the role be formalised at the annual meeting.

206(23) Exclusion of the press and public

Pursuant to Section 1(2) and 1(3) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the council **resolved** to exclude the press and public to discuss:

- a) A financial matter referencing members of the public
- b) Confidentiality re item 25 – Councillors agreed that they would sign a declaration not to disclose details of the discussion at (a)
- c) Long term sickness absence of a member of staff.

207(24) Items for next agenda

The next meeting will be held on 10 February 2020 at 7.00pm - councillors were asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda and provide updates from working groups by notifying the clerk **in writing by Thursday 30 January 2020** 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 either 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 at 10.00pm.

Preesall Town Council meeting 13 January v1.0 Final

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