



PRESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 November 2020 at 7.00pm via Zoom video conference

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

In attendance: Alison May, clerk to the town council, and one member of the public.

113a(1) Apologies for absence – Cllr L Woodhouse.

113b(1) Absent without apology – none.

114(2) Declaration of interests and dispensations

Cllr Johnson – union interest (employment matters).

115(3) Minutes of the meetings of full council

Councillors **resolved** to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2020.

116(4) Minutes of the council's committees

Councillors **resolved** to note as a correct record the agreed minutes of the following committee:

Finance – 22 September 2020.

117(5) Public participation

Resolved: to adjourn the meeting to allow non-councillors to speak.

The member of the public didn't wish to speak.

Resolved: to reconvene the meeting.

118(6) Planning

Application number: 20/00972/FUL

Proposal: Erection of single-storey side and rear extension, rear roof lift with first floor rear balcony

Location: 18 Kingston Close, Knott End-on-Sea, Poulton-Le-Fylde, Lancashire FY6 0DJ

Resolved: to object to this application on the grounds of over-intensification.

Councillors also asked that if Wyre planning was of a mind to approve the application that a condition be made that the side glass panels of the balcony are opaque.

119(7) FinanceCouncillors **resolved**:

a) To note receipts in October	Amount
RBS current account	Nil
Unity	Nil

b) To approve the following payments:	Payment type	Amount
Payroll	BACS0040)	
	BACS0041)	1751.09
Clerk's expenses on behalf of council	BACS0042	186.17
848 Services Ltd (Inv.10302)	BACS0043	9.48
Blachere illumination (Inv.S152891)	BACS0044	1248.00
Wyre Building Supplies Ltd (Inv.0261834; 0261529)	BACS0045	55.90
Mr P Orme (Inv.D20700) Christmas cards	BACS0046	23.70

c) To note the following payments by direct debit	Amount
Easy Web Sites (hosting fee, SSL certificate)	46.80
O2 (mobile phone contract)	10.46
LCC (contributions)	524.78

d) To note the following payment made outside the meeting –
Chq 300040 – £34.00 to the Royal British Legion from Remembrance wreaths.
Payment to Christmas events c/ee allocated to this cheque in October to be made via BACS.

e) To note the statement of accounts as at 31 October.

CB1 RBS	£88,355.13
CB2 HTB Bond issue 39	£40,623.44
CB3 IB	Nil
CB4 UNITY	£40,672.93
CB5 HTB easy access	£10,001.00

120(8) Reports from committees and working groups

i) Finance committee – Quarter 2 budget monitoring

Councillors **noted** that the committee had

a) checked the documentation for July, August and September of the 2020/21 financial year to ensure that financial recording was in order and **resolved** that the documents accurately represented the balances brought forward from quarter 1 and the receipts and payments made in the second quarter of 20/21 reconciled with the monies held at the bank.

b) checked and resolved to approve the budget monitoring – no cost centre was overspent.

c) made recommendations regarding the first draft of the budget for 21/22 – discussed at agenda item 12.

**121(9) Review of policies, procedures, plans and awards
Volunteers policy**

Resolved: to approve the change and readopt the documents and for the clerk to work with the volunteer from Fordstone Avenue to ensure the relevant paperwork and risk assessment are in place for them to maintain the memorial bench area.

122(10) Audit for year ended 31 March 2020

The council thanked the clerk for her work in obtaining a clean audit.

Resolved: to approve and accept the annual return and certificate and for the Notice of Conclusion of Audit to be displayed for 14 days.

123(11) Appointment of internal auditor

Resolved: that Edwina Parry be appointed as the internal auditor for year ending 31.3.2021. The fee for the service will be £150. Councillors also approved the terms of reference for the internal audit.

124(12) Draft budget for 2021/2022

The first draft had been considered by the finance committee and was recommended to council for approval, subject to it being updated in January to reflect known expenditure at that date. Councillors were made aware that the budget note at 4440 should read £2500, the figure included in version one of the draft budget

Resolved: to accept the first draft of the budget and for it to be brought back to council once further monthly expenditure was known. Funding for binoculars on the sea front to be costed and brought back to the December meeting. The clerk to liaise with Wyre Cllr Orme regarding this year's baseline for budget setting.

125(13) Climate change

Resolved: that a working group be established to investigate steps being taken by other councils and to obtain advice from Wyre Council and Lancashire County Council. Membership to be Cllr Burn, Cllr Drobný, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Williams and possibly Cllr Woodhouse. Cllr Orme to attend on an ad hoc basis.

126(14) Flags

The council passed its thanks to Ms Patrick for her excellent work in creating the templates for the flag design.

Resolved: for the top line on the flag to read 'Preesall and'; for the middle to include the image of the crest with swags; for the bottom line to read 'Knott End-on-Sea'. It further resolved to provide a £20 voucher funded from the Mayor's Civic budget.

127(15) Pavement on Park Lane

Councillors discussed the dangers posed by the lack of pavement at the southern end of Park Lane. At a time when people are being encouraged to walk more, councillors believed it important that safe access be created.

Resolved: that the clerk write to Lancashire County Council requesting it consider installing a pavement to fill the missing gap between pavements at this part of Park Lane.

128(16) Request for assistance

Cllr Drobny stated that he wished to declare an interest – he knows someone at St Aidan’s who instructs in resuscitation.

Resolved: the council would support the request from the CPR group and would contribute to one billboard at a cost of £300 to be taken from the Local Services budget. The clerk to contact St Aidan’s to inform the school that the council would contribute to the cost of a board and see if it would like a second board, which could be funded from next year’s budget.

ITEMS 17 to 22 ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

129(17) Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives

Health (all aspects) – Cllr Johnson reported that the Covid rate is 333 per 100,000; down from 373 last week. There have been 2,863 know cases and 131 deaths.

Highways – Cllr Pattrick stated that she had raised the issue of the condition of the road from Ranch House corner to Sunnyside Terrace, plus the road outside Moon’s funerals, with LCC and had asked whether there were any plans to undertake works. A response is awaited.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – Cllr Orme had attended the Wyre committee. There had been an informative session on Covid and hospital capacity. Jan Finch had been elected as chair and David Sharples as secretary. David would be stepping down from the role in the next couple of years and anyone interested in replacing him should contact Cllr Orme. LALC’S AGM would take place on Saturday 14 November. The issue of stamp duty payable by parish and town councils had been passed to the NALC representative.

Wyre Flood Forum – there had been another flooding incident at Sunnyside Terrace. The Sunnyside action group would be meeting on 10 November.

Wyre In Bloom – The In Bloomers had planted spring bulbs.

Christmas Community Events committee – the sleigh is progressing well. Donations of sweets had been received from Preesall Co-op. Two plans are in place depending on lockdown rules.

Youth – Cllr Pattrick asked if the CCE committee would like the bagged-up sweets from the youth club that were not being used and was thanked for the offer.

130(18) Verbal reports from Wyre councillors

The garden room at the corner of Pilling Lane and Grasmere Avenue had been passed by Wyre Council.

131(19) Clerk’s report

Councillors were asked to note the information contained in the clerk’s report:

Lengthsman recruitment

An advert was placed in the Over Wyre Focus to readvertise the post. The closing date for applications is Monday 16 November.

Fordstone Avenue bench area

The new noticeboard from Greenbarnes scheduled for delivery in mid-October has been delayed as a result of a shortage of parts. The estimated delivery date is now w/c 9 November.

Park Lane telephone kiosk

Locks for securing the kiosk have been delivered. Cllr A Cropper has attempted to fit them and has reported that this is not a straightforward job as it requires the framework of the kiosk to be drilled.

Grant applications for scrutiny in November

No applications had been received by the closing date of 25 October.

Christmas lights

Two Christmas trees have been ordered – one for Fordstone Avenue and the other for the Methodist Church grounds. An additional 10 mini-trees have been bought from Blachere illumination. Four have already been requested (two at the ferry café and two at the Bourne Arms), two are earmarked for central Knott End, two are to replace known damaged trees from last year and two are spare.

Benches

Three of the failed benches on the riverside walk have been taken out and are in storage with the lengthsmen at Pilling in the hope that they can be repaired. These have been replaced by three of the 'stock' benches held by the clerk, of which two have been requested as memorials by members of the public. The remaining two are to be placed on the sea wall.

The missing bench on Cemetery Lane has also been replaced. Many thanks go to Stan – Pilling's lengthsmen – and to Pilling's Cllr Phillipott for their hard work in removing, building, moving and siting the benches on Preesall Town Council's behalf.

Councillors were also informed that a response had been received from LCC Trading Standards regarding the issues raised at the last meeting regarding the fines being issued by Sloanes. The allegations are to be looked at by Trading Standards.

132(20) Mayor's report

Cllr Patrick and Cllr Johnson would be attending the ceremony on 11 November.

133(21) Questions to councillors

*It was asked whether it is illegal to park on the pavement – the response was that a fixed penalty can be issued if a blockage is being caused. Complaints about a campervan parking outside a property on Maplewood Avenue had been reported to a councillor.

*There had been an issue on Sandy Lane with a bonfire that had been extinguished by the fire brigade and then relit, including the burning of a red bin – this would be reported to the enforcement officer at Wyre.

* It was asked why we still have the same mayor and if this should have been voted on. It was explained that as the May annual meeting couldn't take place the current

chair (who is the mayor) continues in office until such time as a new chair (mayor) is elected by council vote.

*The perception of an 'atmosphere' at some meetings was raised. It was acknowledged that this had not happened at the November meeting.

*Actions taken by the police task force over and above normal policing work had resulted in:

Arrests: 34

Search warrants: 27

Class A drug seizures: £5,500

Class B drug seizures: 1,100,000

Cash seizures: £16,000

Vehicle seizures: £25,000

Stolen plant recovered: £20,000

*It was asked whether a formal protocol was needed when councillors move out of the area. It was explained that councillors need to be resident in the 12 months prior to election, but once elected they are members of the council for four years regardless of where they live.

Cllr J Cropper would be standing down from the finance committee.

Cllr A Cropper would be standing down from the personnel committee.

134(22) Items for next agenda

The next meeting will be held on 14 December 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 3 December 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 21.20.