

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 14 December 2015 at 6.30pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall

Present: Councillors P Orme (Mayor), R Black, B Campbell, P Greenhough, D Hudson, R Lawson G McCann, J Mutch, V Taylor and L Woodhouse.

In Attendance: Jan Finch, Clerk to the Town Council and one member of the public.

(15-16)157 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs R Drobny and T Reilly and the reasons accepted.

(15-16)158 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr McCann declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 13 (verbal report from Wyre in Bloom representative) as his wife is heavily involved in the group.

(15-16)159 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: That the minutes of the meetings held on 9 November 2015 be agreed as a true record.

(15-16)160 Public Participation (Including a Verbal Police Report)

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

A member of the public raised concerns about the possible installation of the Wyre Barrage, highlighting a number of environmental concerns.

Councillors noted the police report which showed that there had been 9 crimes in November compared with 9 in the same period last year and 14 incidents of anti social behavior compared with 11 in November last year.

Cllr McCann reported that, at a recent meeting of Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, the Police and Crime Commissioner had mentioned a possible increase in the Constabulary precept of 2%. He felt that people in Preesall and Knott End would not pay it but they would see no improvement in resourcing locally. Councillors agreed that Sgt Freaney should be asked to provide an update on the hybrid policing model with the next monthly report and the possibility of siting police officers in Preesall. Cllr Campbell agreed that it would make sense to have resources in different locations.

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

(15-16)161 Parish Based Public Transport Scheme Consultation

Councillors noted that LCC is consulting on a parish based bus service scheme and is seeking the views of town and parish councils on three key questions. Councillors raised a number of concerns if the Town Council were to run such a scheme and, in particular, the effect on the precept of having to raise the funds required and **resolved** to respond as follows:

Such a scheme would not be of interest at this point in time given that there is a regular public transport service but it would become of interest if that service were withdrawn; there is no demand for such services in our local area given the available public transport service but, again, there would likely be a demand if that service was withdrawn; the Town Council would need considerable financial and technical support from LCC to enable it to take control and ownership of our own public transport service in the area.

(15-16)162 Electoral Review of Lancashire: Draft Recommendations

The Local Government Boundary Commission has now produced draft recommendations for future electoral arrangements for Lancashire County Council in order to balance the number of electors in each division more evenly. As a result Preesall and Knott End are in Wyre Rural Central division which covers Pilling, Stakepool, Winmarleigh, Forton, Eagland Hill, Nateby, Great Eccleston, Inskip, Myerscough and Bilsborrow. As the recommendation does not affect Preesall and Knott End, councillors **resolved** not to comment on the draft recommendations.

(15-16)163 Bus Shelter – Saracens Head

Cllr Hudson reported that he had met separately with the owner of the Saracens Head and representatives from Wyre's Planning and Engineering departments. From a planning perspective, if a bus shelter is installed on private land, planning permission would be needed but if the land was owned by Preesall Town Council no planning permission would be required as the Council has permitted development rights (Part 12 of the General Permitted Development Order 2015). Councillors noted that the owner of the Saracens Head is prepared to donate the land (3 metres x 1 metre) as long as Preesall Town Council pays the legal fees and Wyre Council has offered a contribution of £2,000 and to put down the base for the shelter. Councillors **resolved**:

- a to accept the offer of Wyre Council to lay the base and contribute £2,000
- b to accept a 3m x 1m piece of land from the owner of the Saracens Head and to pay all associated legal costs
- c to purchase and install a suitable wooden bus shelter and
- d to build the cost shortfall into next year's budget but continue to seek other contributions for funding

(15-16)164 Traffic on Smithy Lane/Mill Street

Cllr Hudson reported that he had met with a police inspector who agrees that a problem exists and councillors discussed options to try to resolve the problem. Councillors **resolved** to ask LCC to conduct a site visit with a view to installing double yellow lines at the bottom of Mill Street to the junction with Park Lane and near the former Saracens Head.

(15-16)165 Playing Field Lease

Councillors noted that, following the decision at the last meeting to terminate the lease with immediate effect, Wyre Council had advised that there is no break clause allowing for termination prior to the lease expiry on 4th February 2017. As such the lease remains in effect until this date. Councillors **resolved** to accept this advice and leave the lease to terminate naturally.

(15-16)166 Proposed Wyre Barrage

Cllr Greenhough reported that she had attended a meeting in relation to the proposed barrage and gave a short summary of some of the points made by Natural Energy Wyre Ltd. Councillors **resolved** to invite a representative of the company to attend a public meeting organised by the Town Council so that residents can learn more about the plans.

(15-16)167 Planning Applications

15/00939/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of building to form 11 dog boarding kennels

Location: Head Dyke Farm, Head Dyke Lane, Preesall

By a majority (1 councillor abstained) it was agreed that that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

15/00942/FUL**Proposal:** Replacement conservatory to front**Location:** Rydal Dene, 215 Pilling Lane, Preesall

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

15/00906/FUL**Proposal:** Rear extension to existing workshop (within use class B2) with mezzanine floor over (re-submission of 15/00552)**Location:** Preesall Mill Industrial Estate, Park Lane, Preesall

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

15/00883/REM**Proposal:** Reserved matters application for the erection of single dwelling following outline permission 12/00528/OUT)**Location:** Land Adjacent to Wavertree, Hackensall Road, Knott End

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

15/00957/FUL**Proposal:** Erection of two dormer windows to the front elevation**Location:** 64 Parksway, Knott End

By a majority (1 councillor voted against and one abstained) it was agreed that that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

15/00967/FUL**Proposal:** Works to install a secure ATM room on the site of the former NatWest branch**Location:** NatWest Bank, Esplanade, Knott End

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

15/00966/ADV**Proposal:** Application for consent to display advertisement (ATM) with illuminated surround**Location:** NatWest Bank, Esplanade, Knott End

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

(15-16)168 Finance**a) Payments received:**

Wyre Council festive lighting grant	£2,442.31
LCC PROW payment	£320.00
Wyre Juniors (Inv 15/012)	£270.00
Reserve account interest (October)	£0.36
Reserve account interest (November)	£0.80
Refund (£4.83 charge on Bloom a/c and £5.00 refunded)	£0.17
Christmas Fair fundraising (In Bloom)	£220.25

b) Payments to be approved:

08/09 Staff Costs	£2221.43
08 Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£50.22
10 HMRC	£374.30

11	Harrison Drury & Co	£4,512.00
12	Glasdon Uk Ltd	£1061.52
13	Mr P K Orme (reimbursement)	£22.50
14	Wyre Building Supplies	£415.24
15	H Kirk Engineering (Fylde) Ltd	£558.00
16	Colin Cross Printers	£62.40
17	Preesall Auto Discount	£37.91
2905	Preesall Town Council	£16,432.44
31	Preesall Town Council (In Bloom Account)	£1,922.24

Payments by Standing Order/Direct Debit

Easy Websites (hosting fee)	£24.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	£14.30
LCC pension	£694.66

c) Statement of Accounts – November 2015

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for November which shows:

Current account (Natwest)	£16,432.44
Current account (RBS)	£9,833.58
Reserve account (RBS)	£23,666.16
In Bloom Account (NatWest)	£1,922.24
In Bloom account (RBS)	£0.17

d) Bank Account Update

All direct debits and standing orders on the NatWest current account have been terminated and set up successfully on the RBS account. The payments noted above (cheques 2905 and 31) will leave both the NatWest current account and In Bloom account with a zero balance and this will enable them to be closed.

Councillors **resolved** to note the payments by standing order/direct debit and the statement of accounts and to approve the accounts for payment. Councillors noted the update on progress with closing the remaining NatWest accounts.

(15-16)169 Verbal Reports from Subject Leads and Outside Body Representatives (information only)

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee)

Cllrs Orme and McCann reported that they had attended the LALC AGM and it appears that all parishes are facing the same problems with proposed service cuts.

Wyre Flood Forum

Cllrs Woodhouse and Greenhough reported that there had been a presentation on the proposed barrage.

Friends of Preesall Park

Cllr Orme reported that the Council's decision not to renew the playing field lease is causing problems with further developments on the playing field.

Wyre in Bloom

Cllr Mutch reported that it had been too wet to do outdoor work but they had had a successful stall at the Christmas Fair and had been planting crocuses. Cllr Orme reported that Cllr Moon had the plaque from the old swimming pool and Cllr Orme questioned whether the "Bloomers" could use it in the Jubilee Garden. Councillors agreed that it was not appropriate for the garden and asked that Cllr Moon keep it.

Preesall Youth and Community Association

Cllr Orme reported that, if planned cuts to the Young People's Service went ahead, they would have to look at alternative ways of keeping the centre running.

Christmas Fair

Cllr Orme reported that the Fair had gone ahead but it had been very wet. He reported that the bad weather recently had caused the lights above the Co-op had been smashed against the brickwork and the electricians had been called out almost daily to problems where water had entered some of the bulbs and caused the lights to go out. As the cost of replacing the lights would be significant and no budget provision had been made and regular call outs were adding to the cost councillors agreed not to replace the lights this year.

(15-16)170 Verbal Report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)

Cllr Taylor, in her capacity as a Lancashire County reported that there were a number of notices of motion for debate at the next meeting of the County Council. She urged everyone to write to LCC's Chief Executive, Jo Turton, to protest at the proposed cuts and how they would affect the lives of residents in Knott End and Preesall.

(15-16)171 Clerk's Report (information only)

Councillors noted the information contained in the Clerk's report in respect of:

Lengthsman's Report

In November the Lengthsman has been using his cow muckscraper to gather up wet leaves from around the village. He has fitted the handrail to the sea wall and this is now complete other than a general tidy of the area. He carried out emergency work to remove part of a downed tree on Cartgate in order to open the road. Once the tree had been removed he cleared the brash which couldn't fit on the trailer. He has done a thorough clean on the Esplanade after reports of a significant amount of dog fouling. In addition he has tidied the village in preparation for the lights switch on, assisted the electricians with the erection of the Christmas trees and assisted with operating the road closure for the switch on event.

Proposed Charge for Collection of Green Waste

Wyre Council is to introduce a £30 a year charge for one green bin with a slightly reduced charge for a second green bin as a result of a reduction in funding by Lancashire Council.

Dog Fouling and Littering from Cars

Wyre Council's Area Officer has confirmed that reports of dog fouling have increased and a zero tolerance policy is in place where anyone caught allowing their dog to foul and not picking it up will be fined. He has also confirmed that patrols in plain clothes will take place. Three local people have volunteered to help with issuing leaflets to dog walkers and additional volunteers would be welcome. For more information contact the Clerk. He has also confirmed that a number of local people have been fined for throwing cigarette ends out of car windows. The Street Cleaning Team are to carry out an extra sweep each day on the sea wall on a trial basis.

Storage of Christmas Lights

The electricians have notified the Clerk that the roof of the shed used to store the Christmas lights located in the garden of Mrs Audrey Nuttall has been leaking and Mrs Nuttall has confirmed that she would prefer the shed to be removed. The Lengthsman has confirmed that he could store the lights in his container and he will remove the shed. Given the age, state of repair and location of the shed it is unlikely that he will be able to take it down and remove it in a way that it could be rebuilt elsewhere.

Blood Donor Sessions

The NHS Blood and Transplant team will hold blood donor sessions in St Oswald's Parish Hall on Thursday 17th December between 1.45 pm - 3.45 pm and 5 pm - 7.30 pm to ensure hospitals have the

stocks they need to save and improve lives. To book an appointment call the Donor Line on 0300 123 23 23 or visit www.blood.co.uk

Green Dicks Lane Closure

LCC will close Green Dicks Lane from its junctions with Head Dyke Lane to a point outside Carr House Farm. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: Green Dicks Lane – Pilling Lane – B5270 Sandy Lane – B5270 Lancaster Road – A588 Head Dyke Lane and vice versa. The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow pre-patching works to be carried out. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0800 hours until 1800 hours on Monday 11th January 2016 until Friday 22nd January 2016, or until completion of the works within this period.

By-Election Costs

Notification has been received from Wyre Council that the cost of the by-election in October is £4,943.13. This will be deducted from the 2016/17 precept and provision will be made in the budget.

(15-16)172 Mayor's Report (information only)

The Mayor reported that he had attended a concert held by the Over Wyre Singers and had been invited to the Epiphany/Candlemas service at Blackburn Cathedral at the end of January. He reported that he had received a complaint relating to the Remembrance parade and that the event would be discussed at the January meeting when Bill Burn would attend.

(15-16)173 Questions to Councillors

Cllr Hudson reported that Cat Smith MP will be attending a meeting on 9 January 2016 at 11am to which all councillors are invited.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 7.45pm.