

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 March 2015 at 7.00pm 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, T Reilly and V Taylor.

In Attendance: Jan Finch, Clerk to the Town Council

(14-15)206 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs R Drobny and K Nicholls and the reasons accepted.

(14-15)207 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

Cllr McCann declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 20 (verbal report from Wyre in Bloom representative) as his wife is heavily involved in the group. Cllr Orme declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 10 (Shop Preesall) as he has a business in the village.

(14-15)208 Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

(14-15)209 Public Participation (Including a Verbal Police Report)

The Clerk had circulated the crime figures and narrative provided by Sgt Freaney which showed that, in February 2015, there had been 14 crimes compared to 10 in February last year and 12 incidents of antisocial behaviour compared to 9 in the same period last year.

Councillors highlighted a small number of incidents in the narrative and asked that Sgt Freaney provide further information and updates.

Councillors discussed the crime figures and types of crime in the township and agreed to ask Sgt Freaney to meet with them to discuss the situation.

Cllr Greenhough raised the issue of the police seeking volunteers and reported that she had been told that the available roles were limited.

Cllr Black and Cllr Reilly raised the issue of temporary traffic lights at Preesall Park and the delays they are causing and asked how long they would be there.

(14-15)210 Deputy Mayor for the Civic Year 2015/16

Cllr Orme, the Mayor Elect, announced that he had invited Cllr McCann to be his Deputy Mayor and that Cllr McCann had accepted.

(14-15)211 Annual Governance Review

Having considered a number of internal control documents, councillors **resolved:**

- a) that no changes be made to Standing Orders, the Risk Management Plan and the Annual Town Meeting Standing Orders
- b) that the minor changes proposed to Financial Regulations and to the Risk Register outlined in the paper entitled Annual Governance Review be approved
- c) that the Schedule of Assets as at March 2015 be approved

(14-15)212 Appointment of Internal Auditor for Year Ending 31.3.15 and Approval of Internal Audit Terms of Reference

Councillors **resolved** to appoint Edwina Parry as the Internal Auditor for year ending 31.3.15 at a fee of

£100 and further **resolved** to agree the terms of reference for the internal audit.

(14-15)213 Insurance 2015/16

The Clerk provided two quotations for insurance cover for 2015/16 and an analysis of cover. Councillors noted that Aon had quoted a price, including the MUGA and Youth Shelter, of £431.42 and the current provider (Zurich) a price of £589.37 if a long term agreement was entered into. Councillors noted the difficulties which had been experienced in obtaining a quotation from Aon, the fact that they had not met the deadline set by the Clerk and questioned how efficient they would be in dealing with a claim based on this experience. Councillors **resolved** to continue to insure with Zurich for 2015/16 on the basis that they have a good reputation, were clearly efficient and the policy was clear and easy to understand despite being more expensive. Councillors further **resolved** to enter into a long term agreement.

(14-15)214 Town Guide

Councillors **resolved** to accept an offer from Dean Fraser to produce an official town guide free of cost, noting that guides are funded by advertising support obtained from local businesses, that the Town Council is offered 20 pages for editorial and photographic content with the inclusion of 6 colour photos as well as a colour image on the front cover, that the Council is indemnified against all costs associated with publication, that 500 copies of the Guide are supplied free of charge and that a pdf of the Guide can be provided for downloading from the Council's website.

(14-15)215 Shop Preesall

In the absence of Cllr Drobny this item was deferred to the next meeting. Councillors **resolved** to ask Cllr Drobny to provide a written report for the April meeting.

(14-15)216 Playing Field Lease

In the absence of Cllr Drobny this item was deferred to the next meeting. Councillors **resolved** to ask Cllr Drobny to provide a written report for the April meeting.

(14-15)217 Footpath No 1

Cllr Taylor reported that Wyre Council is now taking action against dog fouling on the private property and that only the residents can ask for the footpath to be diverted and that there would be costs involved.

(14-15)218 "Raising the Profile" Working Group

Councillors noted that the working party met on 28 February and **resolved** to approve the draft action plan produced by members.

(14-15)219 Social Housing Issues

Cllr Hudson reported on the useful meeting held with Mark Broadhurst, Head of Housing for Wyre Council, on 26 February and councillors **resolved** to await Mr Broadhurst's response to a number of questions raised at the meeting.

(14-15)220 Young Mayor

Cllr Orme reported that Garstang Town Council has a Youth Council and a Young Mayor to represent the views of young people in the area. Councillors **resolved** to investigate the matter further and asked that a report detailing the findings be brought to a future meeting.

(14-15)221 WW1 Commemoration

Cllr McCann referred to the Council's previous decision to commemorate the end of WW1 in 2018 and proposed that a working party of councillors and interested parties be formed to generate ideas for the commemoration. Councillors **resolved** to agree to the formation of a working party and to publicise it in Green Book.

(14-15)222 Conversion of Business Properties

Cllr Greenhough reported that she was awaiting further information and councillors **resolved** to defer this

matter to the June agenda.

(14-15)223 Planning Applications

15/00099/LAWE

Proposal: Lawful development certificate for existing use of land as domestic curtilage

Location: 110 Pilling Lane, Preesall

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

15/00068/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of agricultural building to B2 (car repairs) including provision for MOT testing

Location: Land and Building on West Side of Park Lane and North of Park Lane Garage, Park Lane, Preesall

By a majority (2 councillors abstained) it was agreed that the Council has no objections to the proposal.

(14-15)224 Finance

a) Payments received:

Stalmine Parish Council (14/0012)	£17.64
Reserve account interest (Dec-Feb)	£2.51

b) Payments to be approved:

Staff Costs	£2000.39
Clerk's expenditure on behalf of Council	£19.29
HMRC	£285.58
Preesall Auto Discount	£46.73
Wyre Building Supplies	£56.44
Thornton Facilities Management Ltd	£11.05
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	£41.40
E.ON	£8.14
Mrs J Wilson (expenditure reclaim) (In Bloom)	£48.92
F H & M Davies & Son (In Bloom)	£30.24

Payments by Standing Order/Direct Debit

Easy Websites (hosting fee)	£24.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	£22.58
LCC pension	£611.66

c) Statement of Accounts – February 2015

Councillors noted the statement of accounts for February which shows:

Current account	£16,075.97
Reserve account	£20,159.50
Mayor's Charity Account	£nil
In Bloom Account	£1,460.63

Councillors **resolved** to note the payments by standing order/direct debit and the statement of accounts and to approve the accounts for payment.

(14-15)225 Verbal Reports from Outside Bodies (information only)

LALC

Cllr Orme reported that lobbying is going on at a national level for town and parish councils to have statutory consultation rights on vehicle licence applications. The Lancashire Local Access Forum will shortly be consulting on making the coastal path in Lancashire a multi use path. Wind farm developers have to take out a bond for restoration of the environment when the wind farm is redundant but it does not include access.

Wyre in Bloom

Cllr Mutch reported that the WI is adopting the flower bed on Lancaster Road to celebrate the WI's centenary. Beds are being tidied and planning is underway for summer planting. The volunteers now have tabards to advertise who they are. All the money has been collected from sponsors and a fundraising coffee and cream scone event will take place.

Wyre Festive Lights Committee

The next meeting is on 17 March and Cllr Reilly agreed to attend.

(14-15)226 Verbal Report from Wyre and Lancashire County Councillors (information only)

CCllr Taylor reported that the reorganisation at LCC would take effect from 1 April. LCC is filling 99.9% of potholes of the right depth in the target time. Some potholes are, however, not deep enough to meet the criteria for filling. Cllr Hudson asked if the rest of Park Lane might be resurfaced and CCllr Taylor responded that this was unlikely.

Cllr McCann reported that Wyre Council's Local Plan will be out to consultation in late 2015. There will be a request that village plans be produced.

(14-15)227 Clerk's Report (information only)

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

Lengthsman's Report

Through February the Lengthsman has carried out fencing work around the playing field. He continues to mark the pitches for Wyre Juniors who are recharged for his time as well as the usual tidying up work.

Special Constables

The Police have a range of methods to attract Special Constables. They are using social media, radio and the Constabulary website and have issued posters. They are happy to promote opportunities at local events such as school careers evenings and college and university open days and are happy to respond to individual enquiries. Sgt Freaney would be happy to try to arrange something locally if there is interest in such an event.

Footpath – Saracen's Head

LCC has stated that there is a minimum width for new footpaths but not for historical footpaths as they are not covered by the current regulations. Resources are not available to widen the footpath.

Bus Shelter – Saracen's Head

Wyre Council has agreed to approach the developer to ask whether the bus shelter could be located on their land as part of the development of the site.

Community Clear Up Day

A national Community Clear Up Day is to be held on 21 March to encourage community groups and neighbourhoods to litter pick or tidy up a park, open space or hot spot. More details and downloadable artwork is available online <http://thegreatbritishhighstreet.co.uk/clearupday> and you can also register an event here <http://keepbritaintidy.org/CommunityClearUp/1883>

Civic Sunday

Civic Sunday is confirmed on Sunday 14 June. St Oswald's Church and Pilling Band have both confirmed availability and a road closure application will be made to enable the parade to go ahead.

Jewson Community Grants

Jewson is giving away between £1,000 and £100,000 to help build better communities. Please see the link below which provides further information about some community funding from Jewson's. More information is available from <http://www.buildingbettercommunities.co.uk>.

Lancashire Local Access Forum (LLAF)

The Forum has published its 2014 Annual Report and is keen to promote its work. It appears likely that Coastal Access, including the new England Coast Path, will be developed in Lancashire over the next few years and there will be an important role to be played by the LLAF. There is an opportunity for anyone with an interest in the coast and access to Lancashire's countryside to get involved and there are vacancies on the Forum. Anyone interested should contact the Secretary at Lancashire Local Access Forum – Secretariat, Democratic Services, County Secretary & Solicitor's Group, Office of the Chief Executive, Lancashire County Council, P.O. Box 78, County Hall, Preston PR1 8XJ or democratic.services@lancashire.gov.uk

(14-15)228 Mayor's Report (information only)

The Mayor reported on that morning's Commonwealth Day flag raising event and praised the involvement of young children from primary and nursery schools. He reported that he and the Deputy Mayor had visited the foundry making the Lowry statues and will be returning on 2 April when Granada TV will be filming.

(14-15)229 Questions to Councillors

Cllr Black asked Cllr McCann who is responsible for disabled access for kerbs and shops/cafes. Cllr Hudson asked Cllrs Orme, Taylor and McCann about the legal position in relation to the non passporting of council tax support grant. They replied that the Minister expects it to be passed on but will not make it mandatory.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 9pm.