



**PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held  
on Monday 20 May 2019  
at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community  
Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall**

**Present:** Cllrs P Orme (Mayor), B Burn, 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; 4 members of the public.

**18a(1) Apologies for absence**

None

**18b(1) Absent without apology**

None

**19(2) Declaration of interests and dispensations**

Cllr Williams – planning application 19/00331/COUQ

Councillors discussed the rules regarding when a councillor needs to leave the room when an application is being discussed so as not to put themselves or the council at risk of having made a decision in which the applicant could allege bias. It was decided that facts relating to each application would determine whether a councillor needs to leave the room.

**20(3) Minutes of the last meeting**

It was asked whether the council has an opportunity to approve decisions to save community services, in particular the funds paid to Preesall Youth and Community Association. It was confirmed that budgets for community services are set by full council and that specific payments from this budget head are minuted items with a full council resolution.

Councillors **resolved** to note the minutes of the finance committee meeting held on 8 April 2019.

**21(4) Public participation**

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

- A member of the public questioned why an item had been put on the agenda regarding the return of the Sunday service of the 2c bus when this was already a known decision and quoted timings of the service from 23 June.  
*In response:* The item was placed on the agenda before the full decision was known.
- A member of the public stated that they and their neighbours were not in favour of the council adopting a policy to confer the title of 'Honorary Freeman/Woman' to worthy recipients within the community.  
*In response:* Comments are noted.

- A member of the public stated they believed it was important that every effort was made to keep the ferry running and asked that the council make every effort to get people to visit this side of the river.  
*In response:* Comments are noted.
- A representative from Knott End Light Railway Society provided councillors with a verbal update on the work to date. (Details were contained in the clerk's report to council, which can be seen at minute no.36. He also informed councillors that T shirts created by people with learning disabilities were available to be purchased from the society, and the group was considering an annual 'keep the home fires burning' event.  
*In response:* Comments are noted.

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

## **22(5) Planning applications**

**Application Number: 19/00355/FUL**

**Proposal:** Single storey side and rear extensions

**Location:** The Willows Hackensall Road Knott End-on-Sea Lancashire FY6 0AY

**Resolved:** that the council has no objections to the application (11 in favour, 1 abstention)

**Application Number: 19/00331/COUQ**

**Proposal:** Prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to form two dwelling houses under Class Q of the GDPO

**Location:** Agricultural buildings at Ashleigh Farm, Head Dyke Lane, Preesall Poulton-Le-Fylde.

**Resolved:** that the council objects to the application on the grounds of lack of evidence to show that the buildings have been used for agricultural purposes since 2013, therefore the council has doubts as to the applicability of a class Q application (9 against, 3 abstention).

## **23(6) Appointment of members to committees**

**Resolved:** that the following councillors be appointed to each committee:

- a) finance committee – Cllr Burn, Cllr Nicholls, Cllr Orme, Cllr Woodhouse
- b) civic events committee – Cllr Burn, Cllr Orme, Cllr Woodhouse, Cllr Woods
- c) personnel committee – Cllr Burn, Cllr A Cropper, Cllr T Johnson, Cllr A Tarpey-Black.

## **24(7) Appointment of members as subject leads and outside body representatives**

It was asked for it be noted that Cllr Drobny and Cllr Woodhouse would have limited representation for the immediate future as they were both waiting for operations.

**Resolved:** that the following councillors be appointed as subject leads:

Co-op -	Cllr J Cropper
Best Kept Village -	Cllr A Cropper; Cllr P Orme
Gala -	Cllr B Burn; Cllr A Tarpey-Black

- G & KE light railway - Cllr A Cropper; Cllr R Drobny
- Halite/Brine watch - Cllr T Johnson; Cllr L Woodhouse
- Health (all aspects) - Cllr A Tarpey-Black
- Highways - Cllr N Patrick
- Housing - Cllr K Nicholls; Cllr D Williams
- Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – Cllr P Orme; Cllr B Burn (it was emphasised that all councillors have a right to attend)
- Preesall Youth and Community Association – Cllr T Johnson
- Planning Ambassador - Cllr B Burn
- Tourism - Cllr T Johnson
- Wyre Ferry Management Board – Cllr Orme
- Wyre Flood Forum - Cllr A Cropper; Cllr T Johnson; Cllr N Patrick
- Wyre In Bloom - Cllr J Cropper
- Christmas Fair - Cllr K Nicholls; Cllr D Williams; Cllr K Woods (further discussions needed regarding the council’s involvement)
- Youth - Cllr N Patrick; Cllr A Tarpey-Black

**25(8) Council library surgery**

**Resolved:** that councillors would hold a surgery in the library once every two weeks, for one hour as opposed to two, from 11.00am to 12.00 noon. New councillors would be provided with an opportunity to shadow existing councillors and the clerk would draft a proforma schedule of attendance covering the next six months from June.

**26(9) Finance**

Councillors **resolved:**

<b>a) To note</b> the following receipts:	
Current account - VAT	2629.14
Reserve account	5.39
In Bloom	410.00

<b>b) To approve</b> the following payments:	Cheque	
Wyre Building Supplies Ltd (inv 202181,203651)	415	46.80
Towers and Gornall (inv. 2244)	416	474.00
Cartridge Save (inv. Y30707; Y30995)	417	81.78
In Bloom (Mrs Y McCann) green bins (inv dated 30/04/19)	038	100.00

<b>c) To note</b> the following payment made outside the meeting RSPCA, Stalmine branch, Mayor’s charity donation. Chq 414.	510.00
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<b>d) To note</b> the statement of accounts for April 2019 Current account - £145,425.06 Reserve account - £30,728.46 In Bloom account - £3,194.57	
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Signature.....

**27(10) Trees for Jubilee Garden**

**Resolved:** that the council would purchase two trees with dedication plates, up to the value of £150, to be planted in the garden at the rear of the library to celebrate the joint 77 years of service given to the council by retired councillors Jean Much and Rosina Lawson.

**28(11) Jubilee Garden signage**

It was explained that when the garden was laid out there had been an intention to place an information board there to explain to future generations who had created the garden and why certain trees had been planted.

**Resolved:** that the council would commission an information board. It was further **resolved** to set up a working group consisting of Cllr A Cropper, Cllr Drobny, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Orme and Cllr Williams to look at how to make the memorial stone more attractive.

**29(12) Freeman of the Township of Preesall**

The possibility of the council adopting a policy of awarding the title of Honorary Freeman/Woman to those who have rendered eminent services to the council's area was discussed, and it was emphasised that this need not be an annual award.

**Resolved:** that the council was in favour of providing some form of recognition for those who have gone above and beyond within the community. It was further resolved that the matter be put with the civic events committee for the finer detail to be worked out.

**30(13) 2c bus Sunday service**

As this item had been resolved since its inclusion on the agenda, it was agreed that the item be struck off the agenda.

**31(14) Audio and visual recording policy**

**Resolved:** that the council would adopt the audio and visual recording policy as presented, and for the clerk to create a form to be completed when obtaining parent/guardian consent for the filming of any children present at the meeting.

**32(15) Public Rights of Way delivery scheme**

**Resolved:** that the council would like to take up Lancashire County Council's offer of £250 for the strimming of public rights of way in 2019/20.

**33(16) OWSAC grant application**

Councillors discussed the details of OWSAC's grant application, the success of the last Christmas party and the merits of supporting a Christmas party in 2019.

**Resolved:** that a match funded grant of £325 be paid to OWSAC for its 2019 Christmas party - this being half the anticipated cost of the event – and for the organisers to raise the remaining £325.

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**34(17) Verbal reports from previous (2018/19) subject leads and outside body representatives.**

Previous leads/representatives were invited to give important updates/dates of forthcoming events.

Co-op – It was reported that a member of staff is having her hair cut off in August to raise funds for a cancer charity and that her hair will be donated to the Little Princesses Trust to make wigs for children who have lost their hair.

Best Kept Village – Judging will commence on 9 June

Gala – The Queen elect has a trailer; dignitaries have been invited and there will be a showman’s engine and a steam roller. The band concert raised £1,000 with proceeds to be split equally between Pilling Band and Preesall & Knott End Gala. Talent night was cancelled as not enough entrants. Fleetwood’s Charity School is looking for somewhere to store its trailer.

Health – The front room at the medical centre has now been set up for health and welfare events.

Housing – Help was being offered to an army veteran seeking larger accommodation.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – The spring conference is on 15 June at a cost of £35.

Preesall Youth and Community Association – part-tiling of the toilets is scheduled to commence soon.

Tourism – The Wednesday evening bikers have returned, with so many visiting that the bus was unable to turn around in the car park. The ferry café on the Fleetwood side of the river has re-opened, which in turn is attracting visitors to the ferry.

Wyre Flood Forum – The next meeting is on 23 June; the new pumps have been demonstrated on Sunnyside Terrace; Wyre have purchased a 50m stretch of barriers.

Youth - £2000 was spent on taking the younger children to PGL and it is now planned to take the older children to Alton Towers. There had been an issue with a disposable BBQ being used on the MUGA; arrangements are being made for the older children to organise their own BBQ.

**35(18) Verbal report from Wyre councillors**

Cllr Orme reported that the car park outside the youth centre is to be marked out with bays by Wyre council. In addition to normal bays there will be provision for the disabled, people with children and longer vehicles. He also reported that the MUGA would also be lined.

**36(19) Clerk’s report  
Lengthsman’s report**

The lengthsman has been making the most of the dry weather to clear out the ditch running north from Pilling Lane roundabout. He has also started cutting back the overgrowth along the pavement on the eastern side of Park Lane. He has started strimming pathways and weedkilling in order to keep the vegetation at bay. He continues to litter pick around the village, with the clerk having received a number of positive comments from members of the public as to how tidy the village is looking.

### **New banking arrangements**

The transfer of the council's banking from RBS to Clydesdale/Yorkshire is progressing. The final paperwork cannot be signed until the council's reserve account is closed and the funds are transferred to the current account. The clerk, Cllr Woodhouse and Cllr Orme are required to attend the bank in person to transfer these funds, this is planned for the end of May.

Councillors resolved in April for the council to open a second bank account with Metro Bank. The practicalities of this – the bank has asked that all signatories take their ID documentation into branch, with the nearest branch being Peterborough – mean that this is not a realistic option. The finance committee is to investigate other viable alternatives.

### **Microsoft Office**

Microsoft 365 is now up and running. There have been teething troubles, with some of the earlier documents printing out differently as a result of the formatting changes. When these are reviewed, they will be updated to be in line with the new software.

### **New accounting software**

Work has been put on hold until year end paperwork is completed and signed off. Once this is done, the clerk and a representative from Rialtas will meet in June to input April and May expenditure into the new software.

### **IPSO complaint**

Communications are continuing on this matter.

### **Update on Knott End railway project**

The following update had been provided by the railway group:

*'Things are proceeding nicely, after changes in the members out with the trouble causers. and armchair pilots, Things are getting better, slowly but surely, we are now recognised as members of the Narrow-Gauge Railways Association.*

*The group has now acquired liability insurance. We have 4 locomotives waiting to come to us, membership is growing, one enthusiast in Guernsey has offered a sponsorship of £7000 towards our project and will be meeting with us soon at Dawn's cafe, we are soon to go on television, and in July we have a stall on Tram Sundays event, Rob Drobny stepped down due to NPL Issues, yet NPL has been great with us and very supportive in our aim, we are also grateful to other railway societies who are being very supportive with advice and other help, later this year we aim to start clearing scrub weeds and dog mess.*

*Plus, we are in negotiations with the Territorial Army to help clear vegetation and assist in bridge repairs and drainage, they will see it as an exercise and will save money on our behalf.'*

### **Lancashire Association of Local Councils (LALC) conference**

This year's conference will be held on Saturday 15 June at the Hallmark Leyland Hotel from 9.30am to 4.30pm. The cost for attending is £35 for members. Agenda

items are: Welcome by President, Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Atkins; Update on national matters, Jonathan Owen CEO National Association of Local Councils; Refreshments; Colne Town Council Successful Blues Festival, organisation and avoidance of pitfalls; Lunch in the Restaurant; Guide Dogs Association Workshop, It's not just the dog!; Refreshments; Police and Crime Commission update and report on Community Champion Pilot; Closing Remarks.

In addition, Cllr Johnson suggested that the Community Bank in Preston might be a viable option.

**37(20) Mayor's report**

The Mayor reported that he had attended Garstang's Civic Sunday event and that the Deputy Mayor had attended Garstang's Mayor making ceremony. Councillors were reminded that 26 May is Preesall Town Council's Civic Sunday and he hoped to see councillors there.

**38(21) Questions to councillors**

None.

**Items for next agenda**

The next meeting will be held on 10 June 2019 - 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 May** at the latest. Items for the agenda 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 9.58pm