

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 8 October 2018 at 6.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall

Present: Cllrs B Burn (Deputy Mayor), R Black, P Greenhough, R Lawson, G McCann, J Mutch, P Orme, N Patrick.

In attendance: Alison May, clerk to the town council, and 8 members of the public.

127a(1) Apologies for absence

Cllr L Woodhouse, Cllr R Drobny, Cllr D Hudson, Cllr T Reilly

127b(1) Absent without apology

None

128(2) Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllr Orme – planning application 18/00946/OUT

129(3) Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 10 September were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

130(4) Public participation

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

Councillors were given a presentation on the Community Housing Fund – ‘They learnt that community-led housing is about local people playing a leading and lasting role in solving local housing problems, creating genuinely affordable homes and strong communities in ways that are difficult to achieve through mainstream housing. In order to ensure that the schemes supported by the Community Housing Fund are truly community-led there has to be meaningful community engagement with consent throughout the development process. The community does not necessarily have to initiate and manage the process, or build the homes themselves, though some may do; the local community group or organisation owns, manages or stewards the homes in a manner of their choosing, and this may be done through a mutually supported arrangement with a registered provider that owns the freehold or leasehold for the property; the benefits to the local area and/or specified community must be clearly defined and legally protected in perpetuity’. They were also made aware that ‘Phase one of the fund will make grants available to eligible organisations to help cover the revenue costs of project-specific activities that will support development of community-led housing proposals, and the capital costs of local infrastructure projects that will result in housing developments that meet the criteria for being community-led’.

Members of the public raised the following matters:

- Re-routing of 2c bus – councillors were asked what the thought process was behind this. Cllr Greenhough explained that she had been liaising with the Over Wyre medical centre as it had tried in the past to have the route changed owing to the increasing number of patients requesting home visits, stating their inability to walk from Lancaster Road to the medical centre. She reported that it would make health care more accessible for young and old, quoting examples of people who had approached her requesting the change. She also said that Blackpool Transport had told

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her that if it had known there is a medical centre on the route it would have changed the route sooner. The public pointed out that the distance people walk from their home to the bus is often greater than from Lancaster Road to the medical centre. When challenged regarding the impact on the church, Cllr Greenhough replied that she had received a letter of support for the change. She also said that it was not yet clear what the timings would be and that the bus may run on the current route at weekends. She reiterated that the medical centre had written recently to request the change and that it was looking to make a waiting area in the foyer with a large time-table displayed; she didn't think the bus would enter the medical grounds. Cllr Greenhough also quoted the bus company as having stated that if they were to receive a request from Ben Wallace MP, that this would clinch the matter. She went on to report that Ben Wallace and Cat Smith had both written to Blackpool Transport requesting the change. When asked whether any thought had been given to putting a gate through from the back of the medical centre to the church she replied that it was a possibility, but would be a decision for the medical centre.

The clerk also reported that she had received a number of phone calls from members of the public objecting to the proposed change with one woman stating that she would if necessary block the road.

- Highways – County councillor Salter reported that the highways department was hoping to carry out the road repair works on Park Lane over the weekends in January.
- Community parking - County councillor Salter reported that further consultation was taking place in relation to permit parking on Preesall Hill as the county council wished to ensure that the introduction of a local parking zone would not push the problem parking elsewhere.
- Saracens Bus stop - County councillor Salter reported that he could confirm Cllr Hudson's report at a previous meeting that a bus bay would be created between the Black Bull public house and the Saracens, but only after completion of the resurfacing works.
- Problem housing – the clerk informed councillors of a report from Cllr Hudson that the problem housing matter on Elmwood Avenue was now being investigated by Wyre Council.
- Blueberry Stables planning application – councillors were asked how this application could be going ahead again when there is an injunction on the site to prevent building. In response it was stated that anyone can make a planning application on any plot of land whether there is an injunction or not. The two items are separate and if planning permission was granted then the injunction would have to be overturned prior to building works commencing.

*At the conclusion of the public participation (7.10pm) and at the request of the Deputy Mayor, councillors **resolved** to reconvene the meeting.*

131(5) Community Housing Fund presentation

Following on from the presentation by Wyre Council, Preesall councillors discussed the time frame (two years) for expenditure of the available monies and the need for this to be a community-led initiative.

Resolved: that the community should be made aware of the initiative and that a link to Wyre's information on the Community Housing Fund should be put on Preesall Council's website.

132(6) Review of 2018/19 budgeted projects

Councillors discussed the projects included in the budget for 2018/19, looking at what had already been achieved and the budget spent.

Resolved: to continue those projects already marked as ringfenced; discontinue the project for a poppy emblem on the war memorial gates and the car park project; ringfence the remaining funds shown on the spreadsheet for the other outstanding projects, some of which will be realised before year end and some that will be carried forward into 2019/20 and included in the draft budget.

133(7) Projects for 2019/20

Councillors put forward ideas for projects to be funded from next year's budget along with proposed costs where known.

Resolved that: an additional £10,000 be put into the budget for the provision of CCTV in the village; an additional £5,000 be allocated to preserving community facilities; £4,000 be allocated to purchase two up to date programmable speed indicator devices; £1,000 be allocated to flagging/making tidy the area over the sea wall near the Battle of Britain memorial; £1,500 be allocated to flagging (and possibly a noticeboard) and planters around the memorial bench at the bottom of Fordstone Avenue.

134(8) Arrangements for December meeting

Resolved: to host a supper after the December meeting and that the In Bloom and youth club volunteers should be invited as a thank-you for their hard work throughout the year.

135(9) Cycling on the sea wall

Councillors acknowledged that this was a topic that has been raised on and off for almost thirty years, with the majority of sea wall users being polite and considerate towards other users. The clerk made councillors aware that any consultancy would not be available via Lancashire County Council and would have to be carried out privately and paid for out of Preesall Council's budget.

Resolved: That the cost of employing a consultant to identify historical usage of the sea wall path would be both time-consuming and prohibitively expensive. It was believed that motorcycles and horses should not use the path on the wall, however other users should be able to politely and peacefully co-exist.

136(10) Council storage facility

Resolved: For the clerk to be given authority to purchase a container up to the value of £3,000 from Universal Containers and an additional £1,000 for appropriate groundwork on the site - subject to the necessary permissions being obtained from Wyre Council.

137(11) Public consultation on change of bus route

At the September meeting the council deliberated whether to conduct a public consultation exercise re a suggested diversion of the 2c bus and the clerk was tasked with obtaining details of how to conduct this. The clerk informed the council that the advice received was for the council to treat such an exercise with caution as it does not have the power to deliver the proposal and this would have to be made clear at the start. Ideally any consultation should be undertaken by Blackpool Transport as it controls what happens to the bus. Cllr Greenhough also made the council aware that she had already initiated a petition notice at the medical centre – in liaison with Dr Lynch and John MacPhee, and two others were to be found in the library and at a local cafe). Councillors expressed concern that alternative proposals had not been investigated further and that options had not been included in the petitions.

Resolved: that as action by members of the public was already well underway, the outcome of which was not in Preesall Council's power to deliver or reject, the council would not undertake a costly consultation exercise.

138(12) Trees on Park Lane

Cllr Patrick made the council aware of the problems with overhanging trees on Park Lane and her attempts to bring this to the attention of the owner of the land. Given the health and safety implications, it was decided that Cllr Salter and Cllr Orme would take this matter forward in their respective roles of county and borough councillor and report back at the November meeting.

139(13) Update from Battle’s Over committee

Cllr Orme updated councillors on the latest plans agreed by the committee and informed them that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 10 October.

140(14) Working group re crime prevention

Cllr McCann addressed the council with his fears regarding the impact that crime within the village may have on the willingness of shopkeepers to continue operating there .

Resolved: for a working group to be established to meet the police (and the powers that be at the Co-op following the recent break-in) to try to address the amount of crime in Preesall and the deterrent response needed. Members of the working group to be Cllr McCann, Cllr Greenhough and Cllr Patrick – it was acknowledged that Cllr Woodhouse may wish to be involved as the lead councillor for the Co-op.

141(15) Planning applications

Application Number: 18/00946/OUT

Proposal: Outline application for erection of one detached dwelling (for the occupation of one gypsy traveller family) with access, appearance and scale applied for (all other matters reserved)

Location: Blueberry Stables Lancaster Road Preesall Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire

Resolved: to object to the application on the grounds that the development is outside the settlement boundary; it would significantly increase the risk of flooding as well as being exposed to flooding; unsuitable access arrangements; negative impact on wildlife; land contamination from neighbouring property; insufficient evidence of need.

Application Number: 18/00876/FUL

Proposal: Application for the variation of condition 2 to amend approved plans on planning permission 17/00413/FUL to allow for alterations to car park, various external alterations and internal changes

Location: Parrox Hall Farm Park Lane Preesall Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire

Resolved: to unanimously approve the planning application.

142(16) Finance

Councillors **resolved:**

a) To note receipts at the meeting	
Current	293.75
Business Reserve	1.18
In Bloom	915.00

b) To approve the following payments:	Cheque	
Payroll	0329,0331,0333	2841.65
Clerk’s expenses (on behalf of council)	0330	12.70
Lengthsman’s expenses (on behalf of council)	0332	40.00
Fleetwood’s Charity School	Standing order	50.00
Carter’s Charity School	Standing order	50.00
Mrs J Wilson (In Bloom)	000028	57.94

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Mrs Y McCann (In Bloom)	000029	14.50
Mrs Y McCann (In Bloom)	000030	66.40

c) To note the following payments by direct debit	
Easy Web Sites (hosting fee, 9 x councillor email, SSL certificate)	49.20
O2 (mobile phone contract)	14.35
LCC (contributions)	815.10
LCC (deficit)	8.33

d) To note the statement of accounts for September 2018 circulated at the meeting

143(17) Verbal reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)

Best Kept Village – Cllr Orme informed councillors that an invitation had been issued by the organisers to attend the awards ceremony and that it was hoped that the council had been successful in the competition.

Gala – Cllr Orme stated that the AGM would be on 29 October at 7.00pm at St Bernard’s.

Health – Cllr Greenhough reported that EMIS diabetic eye screening was up and running at the medical centre.

Housing – Cllr Orme stated that the next step in respect of the problem property on Elmwood was for Wyre Council to write to the owner.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre Area Committee) – It was reported that the next meeting would be held on 31 October and would be attended by Cllr McCann.

Preesall Youth and Community Association – Cllr Orme reported that the association had inherited 24 additional chairs.

Planning Ambassador – Cllr McCann reported that the planning application at Selby’s pig farm had been rejected. He also reported that there was an update to the housing need supply for Wyre. The previous figure of 317 houses per annum had been reduced to 281 per annum, equating to a supply of 11.2 years.

Tourism – Cllr Black reported that the season was now coming to a close.

Wyre Flood Forum – Cllr Orme reported that more emphasis was now being put on self-resilience with owners being offered individual risk assessments. He also informed councillors that he had attended a demonstration of the new pumps for use in Wyre, this had been conducted at the boating lake in Fleetwood. Cllr Patrick reported that the next flood group meeting would be on 29 October at 6.30pm – P&KEYCC.

Wyre In Bloom – Cllr Mutch informed councillors that the plants had been removed from Lancaster Road and the beds had been re-planted with daisies. The beds at the library had been planted with cyclamen and ferns.

Xmas Fair – initial planning underway.

Youth – Cllr Patrick reported on a successful weekend at PGL with 23 young people. The older children at the youth group were planning a Halloween party for the younger children. A remembrance window display was also being created. On October 24 there will be a presentation of the remaining Co-op monies, giving a total of approximately £2,500.

144(18) Verbal report from Wyre Councillor (information only)

Advocacy would be holding a session the following week at the Youth Centre and a SEND meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 10 October.

145(19) Clerk's report (information only)

Councillors noted:

Lengthsman's report

In September the lengthsman has strimmed along the sea wall and started the annual exercise of clearing away fallen leaves and keeping gullies clear. He has also taken annual leave.

Environmental Enforcement Officers set to join Wyre Council's fight against offenders

A new squad of litter cops will be hitting the streets of Wyre in October and they will be dishing out even bigger fines.

Wyre council has listened to concerns and recognised that many customers and businesses have had enough and want more action to be taken to tackle issues such as littering and irresponsible dog ownership.

Under the new deal, the council working with District Enforcement will have more authorised officers patrolling the streets and public open spaces. It has also been agreed that the charge for fixed penalty notice (FPN) for those caught littering to be changed from previously £80 to £100.

District Enforcement will send Environmental Enforcement Officers armed with body cameras out to catch litterbugs, those who dump cigarettes, do not pick up after their dogs and do not have their dogs on a lead where required.

Councillor Simon Bridge, Portfolio Holder for Street Scene, Parks and Open Spaces, commented:

"Initially, District Enforcement will be designated to enforce littering, littering out of cars, dog fouling and breaches of other dog related Public Space Protection Orders.

"It is envisaged that other measures may be introduced as the partnership becomes more established.

"District Enforcement will manage the FPN process with regard to issuing, tracking, complaints resolution and financial management. Where it appears that an offender has failed to pay a FPN issued, the District Enforcement will compile a prosecution case file for the use of Wyre's legal team."

This is a pilot scheme which will run initially for 12 months with the scheme to be reviewed after this period. There will be no expense to the authority and any surplus will be invested back into the authority to tackle the 'cleaner greener' agenda of Wyre Council.

Deployment will be area based to allow the teams to work in areas identified by council officers that need attention with specific offences and objectives but will also allow District Enforcement to issue FPNs.

This will supplement the work of the current council officers with a remit for enforcement but allow them be more proactive to change behaviour and spend more time investigating other environmental offences such as fly tipping that require a longer time to investigate.

Environmental Enforcement Officers will be patrolling the streets of Wyre in October.

For more information on fixed penalty notices, visit www.wyre.gov.uk/fpn

Carnegie UK Trust

Two in five of the UK population live in towns. Carnegie UK Trust, as one of the largest policy and practice institutions in the UK to be based in a town, has for several years argued that towns matter to the wellbeing of the UK and Ireland. Yet towns struggle to secure attention in public policy – squeezed between rural and city interests, and they don't tend to have access to levers of change.

As a part of our activity to promote the flourishing of towns, we invited Duncan MacLennan (Professor of Public Policy in Policy Scotland at the University of Glasgow) and Heather McCauley to analyse the link between towns and the Brexit. We now have an analysis of the connection between the difficulties facing people living in towns and the decision to leave the EU; and the risks and opportunities that Brexit brings to towns.

We are pleased to send you a copy of '[Remaking British Towns after Brexit: Key Actions for Policy Makers and Planners](#)', a summary of learning and questions for decision-makers from this study. The full

report is available on the Carnegie UK website, ['New Powers, New Deals: Remaking British Towns after Brexit'](#).

This report highlights the role that place had in the vote to leave the European Union. Although we don't know the terms of the Brexit, we know that it's a time of considerable change, which needs a shift in policy towards towns taking back greater control of their futures. The report calls for a radical change in governments' policy to focus on towns and a coherent, community lead towns' revitalisation programme. We hope that this report will provide pertinent analysis and food for thought as you consider the possible implications of Brexit and the opportunities and strengths towns can draw upon in the future.

Please download the [full report](#) and if you'd like to know more about the work of Carnegie UK Trust in towns.

147(20) Mayor's report (information only)

None

148(21) Questions to councillors

None

149(22) Exclusion of the press and public

No longer needed

150(23) Items for next agenda

The next meeting will be held on 12 November 2018. Councillors were asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda by notifying the clerk **in writing by Thursday 1 November** at the latest. **A summary of the reason for raising the matter must be provided.**

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 8.50pm.