

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 October 2017
at 7.00pm at Preesall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Preesall**

Present: Councillors T Reilly (Mayor), B Burn, R Drobny, P Greenhough, D Hudson, G McCann, J Mutch, P Orme.

In attendance: Alison May, clerk to the town council, and 5 members of the public.

110a(17-18)1 Apologies for absence

Cllr R Black, Cllr R Lawson, Cllr L Woodhouse

110b(17-18)1 Absent without apology

None

111(17-18)2 Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllr Drobny – police matters

112(17-18)3 Minutes of the last meeting

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 17 in both open and closed session be agreed as a true record.

113(17-18)4 Public participation

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

- The council was asked what is being done to introduce CCTV in the village.
In response: the council has been putting funds into the annual budget to pay for this for a few years now and additional funding will be looked at for the 2018/19 financial year. The main issue is that data protection legislation means that security of the recorded information is paramount and there has to be a data controller for the recorded images.
- A member of the public reported that individuals were cycling on the pavement.
In response: the police have a legal duty to take action in such circumstances.
- Representatives from the Co-op in Preesall and Knott End addressed the council regarding their current and planned activities to improve the lives of those within the community. They cited examples such as working with the Salvation Army to raise money from donated clothes, donating 'stay bright' safety discs to schoolchildren for the winter months, poppy knitting for Remembrance Sunday, a planned pumpkin carving event and the possibility of donating mince pies and mulled wine to the festive lights switch-on.
In response: councillors expressed their thanks for the support and information and suggested that an item should be put on the next agenda to agree how the council can work collaboratively with the Co-op.
- Wyre Cllr Moon suggested that when councillors considered the St Aidan's planning application that they consider reaffirming their comments from a previous application that any development should also include provision for bus/coach parking to alleviate the problems on Cartgate at peak times.
In response: this is part of a wider problem in respect of parking in the area.
- Cllr Hudson raised the issue of drink-driving within the area and the safety risk this creates. It was suggested that this be included as an agenda item at the next meeting.

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

114(17-18)5 Flagpole at Battle of Britain memorial

Councillors discussed whether to purchase a 4m or 6m flagpole with an internal halyard and decided that the existing 6m flagpole at the war memorial has proved to be fit for purpose.

Resolved: that subject to the requisite permissions being obtained (including planning permission) a 6m flagpole with internal halyard be purchased from the Hampshire flag company.

115(17-18)6 Council representation at Halite meetings

Cllr Orme, in his role as a Wyre councillor, attended the first Halite community liaison panel meeting on 2 October at the North Euston Hotel, Fleetwood. Cllr McCann stated that he would be attending future meetings in his role as planning ambassador.

Resolved: that Cllr Hudson would represent Preesall Town Council at future Halite meetings.

116(17-18)7 Permit parking on Preesall Hill

Cllr Hudson reported that a response from LCC highways was awaited and that he wished to postpone this agenda item until after a response had been received.

117(17-18)8 LCC highways

Cllr Hudson reported that a response from LCC highways was awaited and that he wished to park this agenda item until after a response had been received.

118(17-18)9 Wyre local plan

Resolved: that the council would hold an extraordinary meeting to discuss the contents of the Wyre local plan.

119(17-18)10 Renewal of mobile phone contract

Resolved: for the clerk to renew the mobile phone contract with Carphone Warehouse on a sim only deal with 500 minutes of talk time, 500 texts and 500MB of data per month at a cost of £11.50 per month plus VAT.

120(17-18)11 Review of grants/donations since October 2016

Councillors discussed the funding provided since October 2016 from the grants and donations budget and decided that they wished to differentiate between donations made on an historical/longstanding basis, those made in order to save local services and other requests for assistance requiring a full grant application to be submitted. They also considered (based on the information to date) the amount to be put into the budget for 2018/19 to cover any future requests for funding.

Resolved: 1) that the grants/donations policy be amended to differentiate between the different types of funding provision and the different rules to be applied.

2) for the following to be included in the 2018/19 budget:

- a) £100 (£50 each) donation to Carter’s Charity School and Fleetwood’s Charity School
- b) £500 donation to the In Bloom team
- c) the remaining grant budget from 2017/18 to be topped up to £10,000.

121(17-18)12 Review of 2017/18 budgeted projects

Councillors discussed the projects included in the budget for 2017/18, looking at what had already been achieved and the budget spent.

Resolved: to ringfence the remaining funds shown on the spreadsheet for all outstanding projects, some of which will be realised before year end and some that will be carried forward into 2018/19 and included in the draft budget.

122(17-18)13 Projects for 2018/19

Councillors discussed those projects needing additional funding before they can take place and potential new projects.

Resolved: that £4,000 be put into the budget for the provision of CCTV in the village; that funding for WW1 commemoration be increased to £4,000 after taking into consideration the purchase of a flagpole and remembrance bench; that provision be made to purchase two street benches; that a 'heritage trail' along the disused railway be created to run alongside the railway enthusiasts' proposed narrow-gauge railway.

123(17-18)14 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.

124(17-18)15 Civic Christmas cards

Resolved: that civic Christmas cards would be sent.

125(17-18)16 Christmas Fair and lights switch-on

In order for the Christmas Fair to continue in 2017 the council was asked to support the event and provide insurance cover to the new team.

Resolved: that Preesall Town Council would sponsor the event, subject to the limitations imposed by its insurer Zurich, namely that a full risk assessment be in place for the event and that all stallholders should hold their own public liability insurance.

126(17-18)17 Police forum proposal

Clerks in Pilling, Stalmine, Hambleton and Out Rawcliffe were consulted to ascertain whether an appetite existed within those councils to re-establish a police forum. The responses received showed that at this point in time it was considered unlikely that the police had the resources to take part in such an event and that their manpower was better spent fighting crime.

Resolved: that no further action be taken.

127(17-18)18 Standing order 19

Resolved: that the SO19 should not apply to elections but does apply to contractual situations where services are provided and to employment. The wording of the standing order is to be amended to include an additional sub-paragraph clarifying its use.

128(17-18)19 Royal Air Force centenary celebrations

Councillors were asked whether they wished to take part in the 'Royal Air Force In Bloom' project to commemorate the centenary of the Royal Air Force.

Resolved: that the council would work with the local In Bloom team and dedicate one of its flower beds to display the Royal Air Force colours.

129(17-18)20 Planning applications

17/00818/FUL

Proposal: Single storey side and rear extension

Location: 3 Grasmere Road Knott End-on-Sea Poulton le Fylde Y6 0DW

Resolved: to unanimously approve the planning application

17/00838/FUL

Proposal: Erection of an agricultural storage building

Location: Land adjacent to Bibby Farm 169 Pilling Lane

Resolved: to unanimously approve the planning application

17/00848/FUL

Proposal: Extension to provide a new multi-purpose dining hall/maths teaching accommodation with server and ancillary kitchen

Location: St Aidan's CofE Technology College Cartgate

Resolved: to approve the application subject to the requirement for suitable parking to be created for buses/coaches (7 in favour, 1 against)

17/00856/FUL

Proposal: Retrospective application for the retention of a detached building to be used partly for domestic and partly for home business (beauty therapy)

Location: 27 Hillside Avenue Preesall Poulton le Fylde

Resolved: to approve the application (4 in favour, 2 against, 2 abstained)

Planning appeal

17/00069/FUL – Rear of former Saracens Head Hotel, 200 Park Lane

Resolved: that the clerk make a written submission to the planning inspectorate reiterating the council's objections to this development.

130(17-18)16 Finance

a) It was resolved to note the following receipts:	
Reserve account interest	0.24
Current account interest	10.63

b) It was resolved to approve the following payments:	Cheque	
Payroll	208,209,210	2602.04
Clerk's expenses (on behalf of council)	208	22.96
Lengthsman's expenses (on behalf of council)	209	40.00
Cartridge Save (inv 74871)	211	23.98
Viking (inv 535212)	212	42.84
Fleetwood's Charity School	Standing order	50.00
Carter's Charity School	Standing order	50.00
Preesall Auto Discount Centre Ltd (inv 7520)	213	91.31
Wyre Building Supplies (inv: 138988, 141477)	214	117.96
FH & M Davies & son	18	40.32

c) It was resolved to note the following payments by standing order/direct	
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debit	
Easy Websites (hosting fee)	24.00
O2 (mobile phone contract)	14.33
LCC (contributions)	749.09
LCC (deficit) August	8.33

d) It was resolved to accept the statement of accounts for September 2017 showing balances of:	
Current account	77213.10
Reserve account	30678.80
In Bloom account	3973.98

e) Following the death of Cllr Taylor the council's bank mandate required changing in accordance with current RBS rules. Councillors **resolved to approve** the completion of form RBS50047 which was signed by two existing signatories.

Cllr Drobny left the meeting at 9.30.

131(17-18)22 Verbal reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)

Housing – Cllr Hudson reported that the property in need of repairs on Parkway was much improved and he had been thanked for his assistance. A similar problem in Preesall is likely to take longer as the elderly owner lives some distance away. He also updated councillors regarding the visit he and the clerk had made to Going Places housing association.

Health – Cllr Greenhough made councillors aware of a private American-backed health company – PDS Medical operating in the area. She stated that the company has a call centre on Vicarage Lane, Blackpool staffed by non-medical clerical operatives from where they issue prescriptions, there is no medical centre. They have signed a contract with the CCG to take on patients and have two doctors from Fleetwood and one from Blackpool and will be recruiting more doctors (possibly on an agency basis) who will conduct home visits. She stated they are not protected by the Care Quality Commission because they don't have a medical centre.

Youth – Cllr Orme reported that the youth club is going from strength to strength with the additional Friday night session now taking off. The youngsters will be engaged in Parliament Week and the local MP will be making a visit.

Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Wyre area committee) – Cllrs Orme and McCann will attend the next meeting on 25 October where David Thow will be address them on the local plan.

Wyre Flood Forum – Cllrs Orme informed councillors that Cartgate was still not sorted out. Experienced staff have now moved on which is causing problems.

Friends of Preesall Park – Cllr Orme stated that he might be putting an item on the next agenda regarding phase three of the playing field development.

Wyre in Bloom – Cllr Mutch reported that the team is looking for volunteers to help plant 10,000 crocus bulbs kindly donated by Garstang and Over Wyre Rotary Club.

Planning ambassador – Cllr McCann reported that the Government is looking to change its objectively assessed need calculation, but that this would not impact the current draft local plan.

Christmas Fair – Cllr Orme thanked the ladies who had volunteered to run this event.

Gala – Cllr Hudson will be attending the AGM on 23 October.

132(17-18)23 Verbal report from Wyre councillors (information only)

None

133(17-18)24 Clerk's report (information only)

Lengthsman's report

September has seen the lengthsman focus on cutting back overgrown hedges, shrubs and overhanging branches around the villages. He has strimmed along the Esplanade and adjacent paths. He has also boarded up the Youth and Community Association door after it was vandalised on two occasions.

Viability of a direct phone link to police

At the last meeting the clerk was asked to investigate the possibility of a direct phone link between councillors and the police. The response received is that there is no landline phone number that is available for ringing direct to an officer or staff member who would be able to answer at the time they ring, unlike 101. Each officer has a mobile but it is used only when they are on duty. Anyone who doesn't want to ring 101, as their call is non-urgent and not requiring an officer within an expected timeframe can ring 01995 607869 which is the Garstang, Over Wyre and Poulton neighbourhood team voicemail, however it is accessed every 24 hours or so. So if councillors want a quicker response or an immediate response as a crime is in progress they need to ring 101 or 999 respectively. If they want to speak with a member of the team to make arrangement to have a face to face meeting then they are welcome to use 01995 607869, leave their details and await a call from one of the team.

Request for more visible policing in Preesall and Knott End

A response to the letter sent to the Chief Constable requesting more visible policing in Preesall and Knott End has been received. The gist of the reply is that the police are working to very tight budgets and that it is no longer possible to have an officer deployed permanently from Preesall and Knott End. That said, the police do provide 24/7 cover and there is still a concerted effort to keep people safe.

Knott End Co-op proposed community event

The manager of the Co-op is hoping to attend the October council meeting to update councillors regarding a proposed event the Co-op is hoping to sponsor in the run-up to Halloween. In other parts of the country pumpkin carving has become a popular event and the Co-op is looking to trial this in 2017, with pumpkin carving lessons and a display of the finished pumpkins.

Rural health survey

Rural residents are more concerned about declining healthcare services than any other issue, according to the preliminary results of a wide-ranging survey. Health topped the list of the topics of most concern to rural residents – ahead of public transport, rural housing and rural crime.

The survey of 1,901 people was conducted on behalf of Rural England Community Interest Company and in partnership with the Rural Services Network. Believed to be the largest of its kind for many years, it highlighted a range of issues, with health services of most concern to respondents. Full findings are due to be published later this autumn.

The aim of the survey was to canvass rural opinion with a view to creating, for the first time, it is believed, a statistically valid representative panel of people to highlight the need for the adequate provision of rural public services and other policy issues affecting rural areas.

134(17-18)25 Mayor's report (information only)

None

135(17-18)26 Questions to councillors

Cllr Burn reported on his having attended the communications training course and asked whether the council could do anything more to engage with the public. It was agreed that the council is proactive with both Cllr Orme and the clerk holding sessions at the library, the website, notice boards and regular chats

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with members of the public on a one to one basis. Cllr Hudson suggested the possibility of quarterly meetings with Wyre and LCC councillors as happens in Poulton. It was pointed out that these only take place because there is no town/parish council. Cllr Orme made councillors aware that he and Cllr Moon were considering setting up a monthly meeting and if this was a success, the town councillors may wish to join in at a later date.

Resolved: to extend the meeting by 15 minutes

136(17-18)27 Exclusion of the press and public

Resolved: Pursuant to Section 1(2) and 1(3) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to exclude the press and public at 10.00 to:

- a) discuss an employment matter
- b) discuss the request for payment from Harrison Drury
- c) discuss the county court claim made against the council – the clerk will update councillors re progress to date.

137(17-18)28 Items for next agenda

Closer working with Co-op on projects to benefit the township; complaints re drink-driving; FOPP phase three of playing field development.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 10.11.