

# PRESALL TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 11 September 2017 at 7.00pm at Presall Youth and Community Centre, Lancaster Road, Presall

**Present:** Councillors T Reilly (Mayor), Cllr R Drobny, P Greenhough, D Hudson, R Lawson, J Mutch, P Orme, L Woodhouse.

**In attendance:** Alison May, clerk to the town council, and 6 members of the public.

### **89a(17-18)1 Apologies for absence**

R Black, B Burn, G McCann, V Taylor

### **89b(17-18)1 Absent without apology**

None

### **90(17-18)2 Declarations of interests and dispensations**

Item 12 - Cllrs Orme, Reilly and Woodhouse, Green papers – Cllr Drobny

### **91(17-18)3 Minutes of the last meeting**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 August 17 in both open and closed session be agreed as a true record.

### **92(17-18)4 Public participation**

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

Members of the public raised the following items:

a) it was reported that whilst visiting private premises a dog had been attacked by another dog resulting in it needing veterinary treatment. This had been reported to the dog warden and the police. To date the dog's owner had not had a response from the warden and had been unable to obtain a copy of the police report. He stated that he wished to make a formal complaint to the town council about what had happened.

*In response:* Cllr Orme stated that this was not an issue the council could do much about. However, he offered to take further details and in his role as borough councillor to speak with the dog warden. It was also recommended that the dog owner write to the police formally requesting sight of the report. The clerk would also write asking for a copy of the report to be provided.

b) not all of the dropped kerbs in the village are marked, with the result that cars park in front of them, making it difficult for those using 'walkers' or other means of assistance to get around.

*In response:* Cllr Reilly offered to take action on the matter. It was also pointed out that the County Cllr Taylor was dealing with an earlier request re the unevenness of some of the kerbs.

c) it was asked whether the drains could be pumped out as there is standing water when it rains.

*In response:* The drain cleaner comes round annually and then on an as and when basis. Cllr Reilly reported that he had asked for it to attend after the heavy rains in August and that it had done so. At time of high demand it is not always possible to get an immediate response and callouts are prioritised.

d) representatives of the railway group thanked the council for its support of the project and updated councillors on works to date, informing them that negotiations were under way with landowners in respect of the track bed and of their hopes to be able to start tidying works. Once under way volunteers would be needed to run the railway and full training would be given. Track has been donated by West Lancs railway and a request was made for cover for the track (barn etc).

*In response:* Cllr Reilly said he would liaise with the group re the type of facility required and would feed back to the council. He also stated that the new website he had purchased for the group was available and he would send the password link.

e) Cllr Hudson raised the difficulty in accessing the police via 101 and asked if it would be possible for a direct line to be available between the police and councillors.

*In response:* the clerk would make enquiries.

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

#### **93(17-18)5 Special motion in respect of wreaths at the war memorial**

Following discussions with members of the public a special motion, signed by four councillors, had been presented to the Proper Officer requesting that resolution 31(17-18)6 be amended so that wreaths remain at the war memorial until 7 January.

**Resolved:** that the resolution be amended and for wreaths not to be cleared from the war memorial before 7 January.

#### **94(17-18)6 Wreath holders at the war memorial**

Cllr Orme outlined the proposals for securing the increasing numbers of wreaths at the war memorial and described the proposed carved oak posts to councillors.

**Resolved:** that approval be given to progress the project and purchase posts up to a maximum cost of £2,400.

#### **95(17-18)7 Battle's Over commemoration**

Councillors discussed options in respect of the commemoration.

**Resolved:**

- a) to proceed with the lighting of a beacon to commemorate the end of WW1.
- b) that the preferred option for a beacon was a brazier on a pole at a cost of £1,250 +VAT
- c) to establish a committee to work on the detail of the commemoration. Membership to be Cllr Orme, Cllr Woodhouse and either Cllr Drobny or Cllr McCann (Cllr McCann to be consulted before the next meeting). Terms of reference for the committee to be developed and brought back to full council for agreement.

#### **96(17-18)8 Possible vacant plots of land**

Councillors discussed the list of vacant plots and the merits of undertaking further investigative work to identify possible owners of the land. The clerk explained that in some instances this may be time-consuming as a search of records at the archives in Preston might be necessary.

**Resolved:** for the clerk to make further enquiries into the ownership of plots that in her opinion need further investigation.

#### **97(17-18)9 Closure of playing field lease committee**

**Resolved:** that the playing field lease committee, established to oversee the return of the lease to Wyre Council, be closed now that the playing field is back under full ownership of Wyre Council.

#### **98(17-18)10 Review of Freedom of Information policy**

**Resolved:** to readopt the amended version of the Freedom of Information policy.

#### **99(17-18)11 Audit for year ended 31 March 2017**

Councillors noted that the external audit has now been completed and the requirement for relevant notices to be posted on the notice boards.

**Resolved:** to accept and approve the annual return.

### 100(17-18)12 Youth and Community Centre

Councillors discussed the letter from Preesall and Knott End Youth and Community Association requesting support for the 2017/18 financial year and noted that without support the youth centre would have to close. It was also discussed whether this could be for more than one year so as to establish continuity for the running of the service. Cllr Reilly stated that he would work with the Youth and Community Association in progressing this and bring it back to the council for discussion.

**Resolved:** to give approval in principle to funding 2018/19 (subject to the same conditions and checks as the 2017/18 funding provision) and for funds to be allocated to the 2018/19 budget to support the continued operation of the youth centre.

### 101(17-18)13 Projects for 2018/2019

Councillors noted the requirement to consider projects for 2018/19 and bring them to the October meeting.

### 102(17-18)14 Data protection training

**Resolved:** that the clerk attend the data protection training webinar at a cost of £36.

### 103(17-18)15 Planning applications

#### 17/00729/FUL

**Proposal:** Erection of single storey rear extension

**Location:** 22 The Crescent Preesall Poulton le Fylde FY6 0EE

**Resolved:** that the council has no objections to the application (all in favour).

#### 17/00758/FUL

**Proposal:** First floor rear extension and relocation of existing garage

**Location:** Eskdale, 228 Pilling Lane Preesall Poulton le Fylde

**Resolved:** that the council has no objections to the application (all in favour).

### 104(17-18)16 Finance

<b>a) It was resolved to note the following receipts:</b>	
Refund of insurance costs from Zurich	143.32
Reserve account interest	0.26
Uncashed cheque no.135 (Xmas lights)	20.00

<b>b) It was resolved to approve the following payments:</b>	Cheque	
Payroll	202, 203, 204	2602.04
Clerk's expenses (on behalf of council)	202	38.35
Lengthsman's expenses (on behalf of council)	203	40.00
Preesall Auto Discount centre Ltd (Inv.743)	205	19.99
BDO (Audit) (Inv. 1646074)	206	360.00
Wyre Building Supplies (Inv. 136637)	207	14.00
Mrs J Wilson (in bloom)	0017	49.90

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

<b>d)</b> It was <b>resolved to accept</b> the statement of accounts for August 2017 showing balances of:	
Current account	81072.60
Reserve account	30678.56
In Bloom account	4023.28

**104(17-18)17 Verbal reports from subject leads and outside body representatives (information only)**

**Housing** – Cllr Hudson reported that he had continued to liaise with members of the public and Wyre council in respect of properties being allowed to fall into a dangerous state of disrepair and that some progress is being made to address the problem. He also updated councillors regarding current events relating to affordable housing in Preesall and concerns over the correct protocol not being followed when properties were allocated. He advised that he would be trying to arrange a meeting with Great Places to discuss the matter.

**Youth** – Cllr Orme reported that the Youth centre was back in operation after a two week closure and that it would be operating for an extra night (Fridays) courtesy of Fleetwood football club.

**Wyre Flood Forum** – The next meeting of the forum is scheduled for later in the week.

**Friends of Preesall Park** – Cllr Orme reported that there had been problems on the park with the grind rails having been taken away and graffiti on the MUGA which had now been cleaned by Wyre Council. He also reported that the Youth and Community Centre building had been vandalised with the door to the boiler house having been kicked in.

**Wyre in Bloom** – Cllr Mutch reported that the Bloomers continued to keep the beds tidy and that several good comments had been received in respect of the planting. Next year's blooms have been chosen and a donation of bulbs had been promised. Plans were also under way to create a bug hotel in the library garden.

**Preesall Youth and Community Association** – Cllr Orme reported that he was obtaining quotes for repairs to the community centre and that he had written a letter outlining the plans, which would be submitted to the clerk once final figures were available.

**105(17-18)18 Verbal report from Wyre and Lancashire county councillors (information only)**

Cllr Orme reported that Wyre's local plan was out for consultation. This would be with regard to the legality and provenance of the document only.

The necessity of having representation at the Halite meetings was discussed and the need for this to be put on the October agenda to formally agree who would attend.

Cllr Hudson expressed his disappointment at the lack of response from LCC highways to the letters of invitation sent by the clerk and the MP in respect of permit parking on Preesall Hill. The problems of parking outside schools both on the hill and Pilling Lane were raised, along with the dangers this brings. Cllr Hudson mentioned schemes elsewhere in the country where offenders could be fined for dropping

children off at the school gate. He went on to state that if necessary he would bring the matter to the attention of the press.

### **106(17-18)19 Clerk's report (information only)**

#### **Lengthsman's report**

In August the lengthsman has taken a period of annual leave. He has also focused on keeping the pathways open and cleared of brambles and nettles, particularly towards the sea front and the heavily overgrown path from Preesall Hill.

#### **Establishment of an Over Wyre police forum**

Neighbouring clerks have been contacted and have responded to say they will put the proposal to councillors at their respective meetings.

#### **Request for more visible policing in Preesall and Knott End**

A letter detailing the council's concerns has been sent to the Chief Constable. A holding reply has been received stating that the matter has been passed to Chief Inspector Mark Morley for investigation.

#### **Festive lights switch on**

Road closure application documentation has been sent through to Wyre Council in respect of the festive lights switch on for 2 December 2017.

#### **Marine Conservation Society**

The great British beach clean will take place over the weekend of 15 – 18 September. Further information can be found at [campaigns@mcsuk.org](mailto:campaigns@mcsuk.org).

#### **North West coastal access**

Work is progressing well with Stretch 6: Silverdale to Cleveleys (approx. 82km) nearing the end of stage 2 'Develop'. The team is looking at issues raised after the receipt of initial proposal letters and are working through detailed proposals and use of restrictions/exclusions that are being finalised where possible. Publication of a report is expected over winter 2017/18.

#### **Outstanding matters from previous resolutions**

Item	Action	Date
<b>WW1 commemoration</b>	Ongoing. Cllr Mc Cann is working on options.	September 2017
<b>Town signage</b>	Cllr Black – now the ferry is saved work on looking at signage can commence	May 2017
<b>Bus shelter</b>	The clerk has written to LCC asking for a progress update on the yellow lines and chased by phone. Awaiting response.	August 2017
<b>Resident only parking Smithy Lane and Mill Street</b>	The clerk has sent an invitation for Mr Durnell, the head of highways, to attend a meeting with residents of the hill. Awaiting response.	August 2017
<b>Path between Rosslyn and Beechfield</b>	The payback team has agreed that the work is suitable. Public liability insurance documents have been supplied, with the work expected to commence in October.	August 2017
<b>War memorial wreaths</b>	The clerk is to working with Cllr Burn and Cllr Orme on options to secure the wreaths. See latest agenda.	September 2017
<b>Battle's over tribute 2018</b>	The clerk is to investigate fire baskets for this event. A number of 'designs' have been identified and these are being costed. See latest agenda.	September 2017

<b>Vacant plots of land</b>	Cllr Orme has collated a list of potential vacant plots of land within the township and these are being investigated by the Land Registry. See latest agenda.	September 2017
<b>Assets pre 2012</b>	Pre-2012 assets are in safe keeping at Wyre Council. A meeting will be arranged to view these.	June 2017
<b>Flagpole at Battle of Britain memorial</b>	The clerk is working with Cllr Burn re flagpoles and planning permission requirements.	September 2017
<b>Additional benches</b>	Once suitable sites have been identified the clerk can work with LCC to get the appropriate permissions.	July 2017

**107(17-18)20 Mayor's report (information only)**

The Mayor - Cllr Reilly, informed councillors that he had attended a very enjoyable band night in Pilling and that if it were to be held again he would highly recommend attending. He had also been invited to visit the rest homes within Knott End and had chatted to a number of residents.

**108(17-18)21 Questions to councillors**

Cllr Hudson raised the question of problems with motorbikes in the vicinity of Taylors Lane. Cllr Reilly stated that he had reported this via 101.

Cllr Greenhough asked for the air vents at the community centre to be cleaned.

Cllr Hudson asked if anyone was having problems obtaining appointments at the medical centre as there had been some reports of lengthy waits. It appeared this was a hit and miss problem.

**109(17-18)22 Exclusion of the press and public**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) and 1(3) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the council may resolved to exclude the press and public to:

- a) discuss matters arising since the 31 July extraordinary meeting and determine any action to be taken.
- b) discuss an employment matter.

There being no other business the Mayor closed the meeting at 21.25.