



## **PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Civic Events and Celebrations Committee held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7pm in Preesall and Knott End Youth and Community Centre.**

**Present:** Cllrs. T Johnson, K Tunstall, P Orme, A Hayes and S Dobbie

**In attendance:** Alan Whalley, Clerk to the town council.

### **1 Apologies for absence**

Cllr A Shewan

### **2 Declaration of interest and dispensations**

None raised

### **3 Minutes of last meeting**

It was resolved that the minutes of the Civic Events and Celebrations Committee meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 were accepted as a true record of the meeting held on that date.

### **4 Public participation**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

### **5 Christmas Lights Switch On**

A review of the event took place. A number of points were identified where it was felt improvements could be made.

- Whilst the village looks very good there is a lack of lighting from the playing fields to Kelly's corner and along the esplanade.
- There were very view children at the lantern workshops this year and it may be worth engaging with local schools earlier to try and encourage more along.
- Thought needs to be given to the area in Barton Square where the choirs and band perform. The choir situated itself in front of the millenium clock but it was difficult for everyone to see.
- The parking of the sleigh needs to be where it is easier for children and parents to get on and off to see Father Christmas.
- There needs to be a more effective way to queue children wanting to see Father Christmas. The weather wasn't great but there was a surge to see him which made it more difficult getting on and off the sleigh.
- We need to advertise the 'memorial hearts' earlier so that these can be done in good time to go on the appropriate tree.
- It has been mentioned if there could be baby reindeer and the library with the large one.
- Could we look at the possibility of organising a Christmas organ.

- The bus routes need to be looked at. Blackpool transport ended at Grasmere Road even though there was access to the ferry car park via Hackensall Road and Quail Holme Road.
- The committee to explore the possibility of a 'name the reindeer' competition.

## **6 Events in 2026**

It was resolved to have a member of the committee work with the clerk on events and to 'sign off' each event. It was resolved that Cllr Tunstall will cover May Day and Cllrs Orme and Johnson will cover Remembrance Sunday. Other events to be agreed as required.

It was resolved that Christmas Lights Switch On will be on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2026.

It was also noted that Armed Forces Day is the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2026 and Emergency Services Day is 9<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

## **7 May Day 2026 – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

The clerk advised that Singleton Clog Dancers, Leyland Morris Men and the fair have been contacted for their availability.

The clerk will be contacting the Fire Service, Police, Coastguards, the milk shake lady, the toilet providers, Nick White to compare the day, the face painter, the ice cream man and all the local schools about the maypole dancing.

Once the number of schools is known the clerk will contact the trophy company about the medals we had last year.

Cllr Shepherd has advised that a member of her family will be able to cover the medic presence this year.

The clerk is to write to local organisations to see if they would like to set up and manage a stall at the event as part of any fundraising they do. Some traditional stalls were discussed such as coconut shy, hook a duck as well as tombola's.

The clerk will talk to Cllr Rimmer about the possibility of live music and also discuss licences required from Wyre Borough Council.

## **8 Date of the next meeting Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026 starting at 7pm**

*There being no other business, the chair closed the meeting at 8:30pm.*