



PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Town

Council held on Monday 13th April 2026 at 7pm at Preesall and Knott End Youth and Community Centre

Present: Cllrs T Johnson (Mayor), P Orme, A Hayes, C Rimmer, R Kelly, S Dobbie, R Drobny, A Shewan, K Tunstall, Kath Shephard and Cllr Joesph Cawley

In attendance: D Smith - Clerk

1.1(2026 27) Apologies

Cllr Sarah Thorn – resigned from council

2.2(2026 27) Declarations of interests and dispensations

Nil

3.3(2026 27) Co-Option

Under minute 674.9 March (2025 26), council resolved by a majority to elect Mr. Joseph Cawley.

Mr. Cawley read out loud and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Proper Officer, and is now co-opted as a full member of the council.

Cllr Cawley **noted** that he is required by law to complete the Declaration of Interests forms within 28 calendar days of co-option and return them to the clerk within this time frame. The clerk will co-ordinate with the website provider to provide Cllr Cawley with a council email address.

4.4(2026 27) Minutes of the last meeting

Councillors **resolved to approve** as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 9th March 2026, and the mayor signed the minutes.

5.5(2026 27) Matters arising from the minutes of 9th March 2026

The clerk informed council that after some investigation with legislation and SLCC the council do not qualify for General Power of Competence, as the council is required to have 2/3 of its members elected as well as a qualified clerk in post. Minute 675.10 (2025 26) has been amended to reflect this. The clerk informed council that this would not affect the functionality of the council, and in May 27 the council will qualify when members are elected. Cllr Shewan asked the spelling of Sandicroft Place could be corrected in minute section 679.14 Issues of Car parking and the Misuse of Green Space. The clerk will amend the minutes and place on the website.

6.6(2026 27) Public participation

Resolved to adjourn the meeting to allow non-council members to speak.

Three members were present. One member from the Lancashire Telegraph discussed about the planning application re: Land of Rosemount Avenue and asked about the findings of the soil samples taken and feels it is important to find the source of the Chromium. The member also asked if there were any maps of caverns in the area. Cllr Rimmer informed the member that Wyre Council do investigate contaminated land, and she will speak to the experienced department and follow up with the member and will provide cavern maps of the area. The member was thanked for bringing it to the council's attention and was asked to keep the council updated with any future information. Another member spoke that they felt Wyre Borough Council would not take the matter seriously re: Land of Rosemount Avenue, Cllr Johnson confirmed that Preesall Town Council do take the matter seriously and will do everything in their power to ensure the matter is investigated fully. Another member spoke about Hope Community Hub, and informed members they have recently been audited by LCC, and the social credit to the community equates to 187,000.00 of volunteered residents time, the member was incredible proud of it. The member wanted to talk about the

increase of homelessness in the area, prior to 'The New Tenants Rights Bill' which is to come into effect in a months' time. Hope Community are doing all they can to support these individuals and wish to thank Cllr Rimmer and Cllr Rushforth for all their help in re-homing evictees. There are currently five people in the town that are without housing, and this number is expected to rise. The member asked the council to consider these factors when looking at planning for social housing. Cllr Johnson agreed with the member over the issues and has already spoken and written to MP Cat Smith over the matter. The mayor will ask for this to be placed as an agenda item.

Resolved at the conclusion of the public session to reconvene the meeting.

7.7(2026 27) Planning Applications

Application Number: 26/00240/FUL

Proposal: Erection of stand-alone 5m x 6m concrete sectional garage and associated concrete base to rear of existing property

Location: 45 Park Lane Preesall Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire FY6 0LY

The Council **resolved** to object to the application as it was over intensive.

8.8(2026 27) Finance

Cllr Orme, the chair of the finance committee, reported to the council on April's finances.

- a) The council **noted** that the finance committee **resolved** to **note** April's receipts and direct debits and **resolved** all April's payments below:

Receipts

| Receipt Name | Details | Date of receipt | Bank (Unity Virgin, Hampshire) | Amount |
|----------------------|---------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Wyre Borough Council | Precept | 8 April | Unity | £103,259.00 |

Direct Debits

| Payment Name | Details | Cash Book BAC's/card Ref | Bank (Unity Virgin, Hampshire) | Amount |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Tony Horrocks Builders | Final installment for shelter work | BACS 289 | Unity | £5,000.00 |
| Gordon Ellis & Co. | 2 x self-watering pagodas | BACS 290 | Unity | £1,512.00 |
| Flying Colours Flag Makers | 1x Fusiliers Flag | BACS 291 | Unity | £56.46 |
| Event Branding | Gazebo | BACS 292 | Unity | £1,416.48 |

Payments

| Payment Name | Details | Cash Book BAC's/card Ref | Bank (Unity Virgin, Hampshire) | Amount |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Payroll | March 2026 payroll paid in April 2026 | BACS 1,2,3 | Unity | £4,110.01 |
| HMRC | Tax on salaries | BACS 4 | Unity | £1,218.28 |
| Paul Dooler | Lengths Man's Milage for March 2026 | BACS 5 | Unity | £13.50 |
| Debbie Smith | Clerk's homeworking March 2026 | BACS 6 | Unity | £18.00 |
| Debbie Smith | Reimbursement for card and flowers | BACS 7 | Unity | £11.48 |
| Debbie Smith | Reimbursement for file dividers | BACS 8 | Unity | £22.99 |
| * Nick White | (Plants Man) | BACS 9 | Unity | £900.00 |

* £400 of this payment is being covered by the Legacy Trust Fund

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|------------------|--------------------|---------|-------|--------|
| 848 Services Ltd | Microsoft Licences | BACS 10 | Unity | £13.82 |
|------------------|--------------------|---------|-------|--------|

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|----------------------------|---|---------|-------|---------|
| Wyre Building Supplies | Rocksalt/spray paint/2 x brushes | BACS 11 | Unity | £84.36 |
| Greens Environmental | Delivery and collection of porta loos | BACS 12 | Unity | £180.00 |
| Moorside Medals & Trophies | 50 x personalised medals for May Day | BACS 13 | Unity | £97.50 |
| Wyre Borough | Licence for May Day Event | BACS 14 | Unity | £60.00 |
| Npower | Electric Supply for CCTV - February | BACS 15 | Unity | £9.59 |
| Glasdon | Grit Bin x 2 | BACS 16 | Unity | 499.66 |
| Npower | Electric Supply for CCTV – March. The council noted this payment was not on the finance committee agenda as the invoice was received after it was published. To avoid late payment, it was authorised to be paid. | BACS 17 | Unity | £11.43 |

Payments made before April’s meeting authorised at the full council meeting March 2026

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b) The council **noted** the finance committee has **resolved** the bank reconciliation to 28 February 2026. The total amount held within all the council's bank accounts is £168,659.39. The chair of the finance committee informed the council the clerk had received the March 26 Virgin Bank statement after the agenda was published. The council **noted** the finance committee has **resolved** the bank reconciliation to 31st March 2026. The total amount held within all the council's banks accounts is: £146,041.52.

c) The council **noted** the bank statement balances below:

| Bank Name | Date of Closing Balance | Amount of Closing Balance |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Unity | 31st March 2026 | £36,619.48 |
| Virgin | 28 th February 2026 | £59,178.33 |
| Virgin | 31 st March 2026 | £58,008.99 |
| Hampshire | 31st March 2026 | £51,347.06 |

- d) Cllr Orme discussed changing the saving account within Hampshire Bank to receive a higher annual rate of interest. The council **resolved** to have the savings changed to a 4% interest restrictive 1-year period, with the sum of £51,347.06 invested, with an estimated annual return of £2,053.88.
- e) Cllr Orme discussed opening another bank account, and confirmed that after the bank mandates are updated, money could be transferred to allow the council to be FSCS protected with all accounts, and there was no further need to open another bank account at the present time.
- f) Cllr Orme asked if the council would pay three further installments to the contractor who wished to start work on the other shelter on the 20th of April. The council **resolved** to pay the contractor £4,000.00 at the start of the work, £3,000.00 in the middle of work, and £3,000.00 upon completion and the work was inspected and satisfied by the council. It was discussed over lighting the shelter. It was **resolved** that Cllr Orme would investigate with a lighting engineer solar power panels for the middle shelter and the railings on the sea front, and report back to the council.

9.9(2026 27) Police Station

The council **noted** the discussions held by the meeting of the Joint Working Group of Over Wyre Parishes held on 18th March. The working group concluded at the meeting that although the parishes do see the benefit of a police presence, there are issues with the cost. The group do not know how much the rent

would be, so Cllr Orme would ask sergeant Elliott Jones over this. The other issue is this would have to factor into each parishes budget, which takes place November/December each year.

The council **discussed** the matter further and **resolved** that Cllr Johnson would communicate with the police commissioner. If there is no response from the police commissioner, the council will involve MP Cat Smith, and County Councillor Matthew Salter.

10.10(2026 27) Bus Times

Cllr Orme informed the council that the Joint Working Group of Over Wyre Parishes discussed the local bus timetables. He informed the council that the timetable for the 5C bus is satisfactory for resident's travel needs. It was **resolved** that a letter to Blackpool would be constructed between Cllr Johnson and Cllr Orme to be checked by the clerk and sent to a Mr. Lea Harrison (Managing Director of Blackpool Transport Services). The council **resolved** Cllr Johnson will compose a list of whom to write to over the transport issues.

11.11(2026 27) Filming/Streaming of Future Council Meetings

A member of the public has requested that future council meetings to be filmed/streamed to allow further reach to residents. The council **resolved** to object to meetings being filming/streamed. The clerk will inform the member of the public of their decision.

12.12(2026 27) Speeding on Park Lane

Members discussed the issue of speeding cars raised by MP Cat Smith on Park Lane. It was noted the council had previously investigated extensively to have a SPID placed on Park Lane, but after highways conducted a survey, it was concluded; Park Lane does not meet the criteria set by highways. Cllr Rimmer informed the council that LCC do have smaller pop-up units that can be attached to lampposts. It was **resolved** the clerk would write to Cat Smith and ask her to request that LCC place smaller pop-up cameras on Park Lane to capture information of speeding cars.

13.13(2026 27) Bus Shelter situated in Preesall

Cllr Shephard led discussions for a new bus shelter to be situated in Preesall to match shelters already installed in Knott End. It was **noted** that £30,000.00 was agreed in the 2026/27 budget for a new shelter. Cllr Shephard **proposed** the motion to seek permission to move the current bus shelter outside Preesall Park and have a new shelter like there is in place in Knott End. Cllr Dobbie **Seconded** the proposal. The motion was resolved by a majority, three members abstained from the vote.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

14.14(2026 27) Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives

Cllr Shewan informed the council of the information he held within his deed of covenant regarding the grass area on Sandicroft Place, which was discussed at March's meeting. A letter will be posted to all residents of Sandicroft Place informing them not to park or pass over the grass area. Cllr Hayes reported that he had received an email from Sergeant Elliot from Garstang with a report of Ebikes in Preesall and Knott End. He has put a bid for Tac Opps to investigate the issue of Ebikes. He is placing extra officers on Hi Vis patrol due to certain instances occurring in the area, and he is still pursuing a third PC to be allocated to Wyre but will work out of Garstang.

15.15(2026 27) Verbal reports from Wyre Councillors

Cllr Rimmer reminded members that the Ferry and the Quarry had already been discussed earlier in the meeting. Cllr Rimmer informed members there is a Wyre Council meeting on Thursday 14th of April. To be discussed the current proposed changes that will be coming in, in September. If they are passed it will mean councillors will not be able to put any small applications forward to the planning committee. Cllr Rimmer told members there is a government consultation in process now if any members would like the link to it.

16.16(2026 27) Clerk's report – Incoming Clerk Debbie Smith

Website

Updated for all meetings Agendas and Minutes

Updated for all Policy documents and governance documents to date.

Noticeboards

The noticeboards have been cleaned and are being regularly updated with information.

Kellys Corner

As requested by the council the entrance and exit slabs now have been sloped for easy access. The bloomers have also started work in the area.

Lancashire Landings Event

A reminder to all members that they are invited to attend on 25th April at the Battle of Britain, to start at 11am.

Alan Whalley (out-going clerk)

Handover is now complete, and I would like to thank Alan for all his hard work, in making the handover as smoothly as possible. Alan will now be taking a step back from his role but will still be assisting me with the audit and end of year details.

Police Commissioner

I can confirm I sent a letter to the commissioner on 23rd March. I have not received any correspondence, but I will update the council when I have further information on the matter.

Lengths Man

I can confirm that I have written to lengths man to inform him of his pay rise to start from April 1st, 2026. I have also informed the payroll company of his pay increase.

SPIDS

Alan Whalley is arranging for a meeting between Mr. Jenkinson to hand over to recover the information the devices collect.

17.17(2026 27) Mayor's report

The mayor reported that it had been a busy year for himself and his consort and remarked he would not have been able to carry it out if it had not been for her. The last month has been relatively quiet with engagements. On the 3rd of April he was invited to present a lady with her 100th birthday greeting card from the king, which was one of his favorite engagements of his term. The mayor thanked his fellow councillors, his deputy and the clerks for their help and guidance. He wished Cllr Dobbie all the best for her term in office.

18.18(2026 27) Questions to councillors

Cllr Kelly spoke about the finishing of the finished shelter. The clerk will ask the contractor to tidy up the shelter. Cllr Shephard asked has there been any updates over a meeting with the legacy trustees. The clerk replied there have been no emails received, and that the sum of £88,000.00 has still not been in receipt of council, as the legacy personnel need to go back to the funds to ask for more money to be released. Cllr Dobbie informed the council that the quarry appeal was starting on Tuesday 12th April at Wyre Civic Centre for two weeks and asked if members would be attending the appeal. Cllr Johnson remarked to members that they would not be attending the appeal as council members, but it was important to show up and show solidarity and support the community. Cllr Drobny asked if the plastic flowers can be removed from the memorial benches at NatWest corner. Cllr Orme asked if the council would like to Italian Cypress Trees planted at the memorial, and the council were happy with the trees. Cllr Hayes informed members that the police would not be attending the council's May Day Event. Cllr Dobbie informed members that she has asked Cllr Shewan to be her deputy mayor during her term of office.

19.19(2026 27) Items for next agenda

Councillors are asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda either at the meeting or by notifying the clerk at least 10 days prior to the next meeting in writing by (Friday 1st May 2026) at the latest. With a summary of the reason for raising the matter, this is to include updates from working groups.

20.20(2026 27) Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be the **Ordinary May Meeting of the Full Council** to be held at **6.30pm on 11th May 2026**, followed by the **Annual May Meeting (Mayor Making)** at **7.30pm**.

The mayor closed the meeting at 9.10pm