



PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 14 December 2020 at 7.00pm via Zoom video conference

Present: Cllrs P Orme (Mayor), B Burn, A Cropper, J Cropper, N Patrick, K Nicholls, A Tarpey-Black, D Williams, L Woodhouse, K Woods.

In attendance: Alison May, clerk to the town council, and one member of the public.

135a(1) Apologies for absence – Cllr Drobny-health issues, Cllr Johnson-IT issues.

135b(1) Absent without apology – none.

136(2) Declaration of interests and dispensations

Cllr Orme, planning application 20/01106/FUL.

137(3) Minutes of the meetings of full council

Councillors **resolved** to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2020.

138(4) Minutes of the council's committees

Councillors **resolved** to note as a correct record the agreed minutes of the following committee:

Personnel – 5 October 2020.

139(5) Public participation

The member of the public indicated that they did not wish to speak, therefore it was resolved to move to item (6).

140(6) Planning

Application Number: 20/01015/LAWP

Proposal: Certificate of lawful development for proposed use from dwelling (C3) to children's care home (C2) for up to 2 children

Location: 21 Park Lane, Preesall, Poulton-Le-Fylde, Lancashire, FY6 0LY

Resolved: that the council had no objection to the proposal (7 in favour, 3 abstention).

Application Number: 20/01049/FUL

Proposal: Proposed single-storey rear extension

Location: Inversanda, Rosslyn Avenue, Preesall, Lancashire, FY6 0HE

Councillors expressed disappointment that a decision had already been made by Wyre Council on this application despite an extension having been given to the council to respond on 15 December.

Resolved: that the council had no objection to the proposal (all in favour).

Application Number: 20/01085/FUL

Proposal: Erection of garden building for use as ancillary living accommodation (granny annexe)

Location: 1 Hazeldene, Sandy Lane, Preesall, Lancashire, FY6 0NU

Resolved: that the council objects to this proposal as the building would be at the same ordnance datum height as the existing property. The wider area is subject to flooding and there is a dyke to the rear of the property, which may at some point cause flooding issues to the proposed annexe. If Wyre was to give approval then the council would like it made clear that the building could only be an annexe to the existing property and that it be built at a higher ordnance datum level (2 in favour, 8 against).

Cllr Johnson attempts to enter the meeting at 7.20pm

Application Number: 20/01101/ADV

Proposal: Advertisement consent for the erection of one non-illuminated freestanding double-sided sign at entrance to existing commercial site

Location: The Old Coal Yard, Hall Gate Lane, Preesall, Lancashire, FY6 0PJ

Cllr Johnson no longer present at the meeting at 7.25pm

Resolved: this appears to be a retrospective application as a sign matching the proposed sign is already in place. If this is the case then the council has no objection to one sign. (all in favour).

Application Number: 20/01106/FUL

Proposal: Erection of new sports hall and associated car parking and landscaping

Location: St Aidan's C of E Technology College, Cart Gate, Preesall, Poulton-Le-Fylde, Lancashire

Resolved: That the council objects to this application in its present form. Councillors were disappointed to find that the application bore no resemblance to the proposals presented to some of them at previous meetings they had attended at the school when the ideas for a new sports hall were first raised. In particular, councillors were concerned as to the suitability of the new location. This would result in a loss of football and rugby pitches, with no other land being available for rugby. Positioning

the building nearer to Park Lane has potential for water run-off to the lower land nearer to Sunnyside Terrace, thereby having the potential to increase flood risk in this vicinity. It was noted that no surface water drainage scheme had been presented. Access to the site would be through the main gate and staff car park, thereby increasing the risk of injury to pedestrians. The original proposal that this would be a fully accessible facility could no longer happen as new changing rooms would not be built in the first instance. The original changing rooms would be kept, which, for safeguarding reasons, could not be shared with external users. The lack of additional car parking was also believed to be a major drawback, as is the lack of provision of a bus bay to stop vehicles being parked on the highway. Councillors were also disappointed at the quality of the application which contains a number of errors and describes the school as a sixth form.

Application Number: 20/01172/FUL

Proposal: Single and two storey rear extension, pitch roof over front bay

Location: 249 Park Lane Preesall Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire FY6 0LT

Resolved: that the council has no objections to the proposal.

141(7) Finance

Councillors **resolved:**

a) To note receipts in November

RBS current account

Unity

Amount

NIL

222.40

b) To note BACS payment 0047 for £329.51 made outside the meeting to the Christmas events c/ee. This is the £346 agreed in October minus £16.49 expenditure on plastic collection buckets.

c) To approve the following payments:

	Payment type	Amount
Payroll	BACS0048)	
	BACS0049)	1751.09
Clerk's expenses on behalf of council	BACS0050	83.24
848 Services Ltd (Inv.10853)	BACS0051	9.48
Greenbarnes Ltd (Inv.15645)	BACS0052	2589.59
Viking (Inv. 698269)	BACS0053	37.06
Viking (Inv. 700977)	BACS0054	16.49
Smith of Derby Ltd (Inv.0116544)	BACS0055	940.80
FH & M Davies & Son (Inv. SI-260)	BACS0056	408.00
Pilling Parish Council (Nov. invoice)	BACS0057	250.75

The following payment for the work at Fordstone Avenue is £400 more than the original quotation (217(10) in February 2020). This is because of increased costs for materials post Covid lockdown, the installation of two additional bollards and the building and installing of the noticeboard. This exceeds the budget set for this project. Councillors are asked **to approve** the additional costs and to agree the virement of £400 from general reserves to cover the final cost of the project.

G T Fencing	BACS0058	2080.00
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Mr B Wilkinson (Xmas lights payment)	BACS0059	30.00
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Mr S Raby (Inv. 7/12/20 mileage)	Chq 300041	15.75
d) To note the following payments by direct debit		Amount
Easy Web Sites (hosting fee, SSL certificate)		46.80
O2 (mobile phone contract)		10.46
LCC (contributions)		524.78
LCC (deficit)		50.00
e) To note the statement of accounts		
CB1 RBS		£87,263.09
CB2 HTB Bond issue 39		£40,623.44
CB3 IB		Nil
CB4 UNITY		£37,307.48
CB5 HTB easy access		£10,001.00
f) To approve uncashed cheques being written back – Chq 300023 BT payphones £1; Chq 300028 Donation to gala re Xmas lights £20.		

142(8) Reports from committees and working groups

i) Personnel committee – Cllr Tarpey-Black informed councillors that interviews for the lengthsman had been delayed as a result of Covid lock-down restrictions and one councillor stepping down from the personnel committee. It had been decided to use this as an opportunity to attract additional applicants, therefore it was proposed that the post would be re-advertised with a closing date of 29 January and interviews on 13 February.

Resolved: to approve the committee's decision to conduct interviews in person on 13 February and for the post to be re-advertised in the interim.

143(9) Additional committee members

In order to ensure the finance committee and personnel committee remain quorate councillors are asked **to consider** appointing an additional member to each of these committees.

Resolved: that Cllr Pattrick be appointed to the personnel committee and Cllr Woodhouse be appointed to the Finance committee,

144(10) Possible legacy projects

Cllr Orme provided an update on the meeting held last month with the legacy trustees and lead a discussion on any project ideas that had already been forwarded by councillors in an attempt to get a consensus on which ideas could be taken forward for approval in principle by the trustees at the next meeting with them.

Resolved: to put the following ideas forward:

1. expand the social amenities within the centre of Knott End:
 - i) the creation of a small toddler/infant play area
 - ii) the creation of allotments in the same general area.
 - iii) the creation of a performance area/formal garden.

For these to happen it would be necessary to purchase land and therefore an approach would need to be made to the landowner to canvass their opinion on this.

2. £100k invested as a legacy fund in the benefactor's name with up to 2.5% (or other suitable figure to ensure it lasts in perpetuity) handed out yearly by a group of trustees in a similar fashion to the Moon Charitable Trust.
3. If Lancashire County Council decides to offload Knott End Library the council should step in to adopt/purchase the building and maintain it as a community hub that can be hired by local groups.
4. Purchase a land train similar to one seen in a Manchester park. This would have a dual purpose:
 - i) it would transport people from the Quailholme car park to the village centre and back, thereby alleviating the problems associated with a lack of parking in the village.
 - ii) it could transport residents from the outreaches of the estates to the mainstream bus route.
5. Purchase a pump similar to the ones used by Wyre (cost is approximately £15,000 for one pump) for use whenever or wherever required in the parish at times of localised flooding.
6. Sea front beach access: finance the engineering works required to make an all-inclusive safe access off the Esplanade on to the beach.
7. Finance a part-time gardener to assist the town's lengthsman and dwindling bloomers team to both maintain and increase the flower offer.

Details of what is accepted will be brought back to full council.

145(11) Draft budget for 2021/2022

The clerk talked councillors through the second draft and explained that a grant of £3,200 had been received from Wyre Council towards the cost of the Christmas lights and that this may not be available in subsequent years. The baseline had also been updated and had reduced for the second year running.

Resolved: that the budget be maintained at its current level or slightly higher in order to avoid a larger increase in the 22/23 financial year. The clerk to bring a revised proposal back to the January meeting.

ITEMS 12 to 17 ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

146(12) Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives

Co-op – Both Co-ops continue to support local groups and have provided hampers, supported the local Covid group volunteers. The three local groups currently supported are Fleetwood Lifeboat, St. John's School Pilling and 2nd Preesall Brownies.

Best Kept Village – it is hoped that a competition will be held this year.

Health (all aspects) – Covid-19 infection rates in the area remain steady, it is important to maintain social distancing.

Highways – A response had been received from Lancashire County Council informing County Councillor Salter that works to improve the road between Lancaster Road

and Ranch House Corner were scheduled to be carried out in the 21/22 financial year.

Wyre Flood Forum – A number of Black Poplars are available free from the Wyre Rivers trust to anyone with suitable land.

Wyre In Bloom – Cllr Woods volunteered to become the council representative. Christmas community events committee. The santa sleigh ride had been well received by the community, with £402.12 having been raised for the ‘wagon’ charities. Plans are underway for an even bigger event next year.

Cllr Orme passed his thanks to the committee and workers who had made this such a success for the community.

Cll Orme also reported that judging for the best shop window display and best ressed house had also taken place with the Cottage Loaf winning the best dressed shop window and a property on Ambleside Avenue winning the best house category. Each would be awarded with an engraved shield, to be held for twelve months.

147(13) Verbal reports from Wyre councillors

It was reported that the climate change group is lobbying for more car charging points .

148(14) Clerk’s report

Fordstone Avenue bench area

The new noticeboard from Greenbarnes is now in place at the junction of Fordstone Avenue and Sandy Lane. Positive comments have already been received regarding this and the planting undertaken by the volunteer.

Christmas lights

Additional mini-Christmas trees have been put up in Knott End at the Ferry Café and the Bourne Arms. Complimentary comments received from members of the public.

Fifteen sets of lights from the mini trees have failed and have been replaced by Blachere. Initially the council was invoiced for the lights, however, the company agreed to refund the £188.40 invoice if the lights were returned to them and it was confirmed by their electrician that they were faulty. The company has now issued a sale credit note for the full amount.

The council has been awarded £3,200 towards the cost of this year’s Christmas lights by Wyre Council.

Best-dressed property awards

Posters have been distributed in the village and details placed on the council’s website and on Facebook for the best shop window and residential property competition. Judging is scheduled to take place on 12 December.

Park Lane telephone kiosk

An old bookcase was deposited in the kiosk. This has now been removed as it constitutes fly-tipping. A notice has been placed in the kiosk informing people that they should not place items in the kiosk without permission and that action could be taken against anyone who can be identified as having fly-tipped.

Benches

One member of the public has purchased the central bench in the new row of three on the riverside walk and the memorial plaque will be fixed next time Pilling's lengthsman is working for Preesall. A second member of the public has also indicated that they would like the bench nearest the lifebelt and is deciding on a form of words for their plaque.

SLCC December meeting

A training session was held regarding the importance of CPD and items that can be allocated CPD points, with a recommendation that all clerks strive to attain at least 12 points per year. This was part of the wider topic of professionalism within the sector and the need for both councillors and clerks to be seen to be providing best value for money within the community. The consensus was that councils with a qualified clerk and councillors who understand the importance of training are more likely to be compliant with the rules and regulations relating to parish and town councils. It was mentioned that the courses run by SLCC are not just for clerks and that a number of councillors have now undertaken the ILCA qualification.

The clerk also informed councillors that:
the switch-over date to Yorkshire bank was scheduled for 22 December.
The quotation received in March for restoration of the clock could be held until February.

149(15) Mayor's report

The Mayor reported that both the Mayor and her deputy had been impressed by the reception they had received when conducting judging of the lights displays within the township and had commented on how clean and tidy everywhere looks.

150(16) Questions to councillors

Cllr Patrick to Cllr Tarpey-Black - how had the clerk's appraisal gone? In response – this had taken place last week. The clerk had provided a paper on the duties she performs which would be circulated to all councillors for review. The council needs to be more professional in how it operates and councillors need to play a more active role.

Cllr Williams reported that he had contacted the environment officer at Lancashire University with a view to a talk being given to the climate change working group.

Cllr Woods reported that the lights at the library were still causing problems.

Cllr Tarpey-Black reported that she had received correspondence re the closure of Fleetwood swimming pool and would pass this to Cllr A Cropper. Cllr Cropper responded that this was temporary measure because of the Covid issue.

151(17) Items for next agenda

The next meeting will be held on 11 January 2021 at 7.00pm - councillors were asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda and provide updates from working groups by notifying the clerk **in writing by Thursday 31 December 2020** at the latest. The item should specify the business which it is proposed be transacted, in such a way that the members who receive it can identify the matters which they

will be expected to discuss i.e. it needs to specify either what the proposal is and that a decision is required or whether the item is for information only.

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.45pm.