

PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Monday 29 June 2022 at 6.30pm at Preesall and Knott End Youth and Community Centre

Present: Cllrs K Shepherd (Mayor), S Jepson, T Johnson, J Lewin, P Orme, A Tarpey-Black, D Williams, K Woods.

Also present AlisonTarpey-Black for Cat Smith MP and approx 50 members of the public.

43(1) Apologies for absence

Cllrs R Drobny, N Pattrick, B Renwick, S Rossall.

44(2) Declarations of Interest and dispensations

Cllr P Orme as a Wyre councillor and member of the planning committee in order to preserve the right to speak and represent the community at a later date if and when the application came forward.

45(3) Public participation

It was proposed by Cllr Johnson and seconded by Cllr Woods that the council should go out of session to allow the public to speak. The mayor made it clear we would be applying standing orders and that each speaker would be allowed 3 minutess each and a maximum of 15 minutes would be allowed for this item.

- The residents' campaign leader thanked Preesall Town Council for having organised these meetings and expressed concern over mixed messages being put out regarding the process relating to responding to the planning scoping document. It was also asked where Wyre Cllrs Holden and Baxter were as it was felt they should be at the meeting to face the public.
- Comments were made regarding the biological impact on the proposed sites and the need for total transparency at Wyre and Lancashire County Council (LCC).
- A member of the public from Willowgrove Park said Preesall councillors should all be united and support the community against this proposal and was unable to understand Cllr Orme's position as a member of Wyre Council's planning committee.
- A member of the public from Bourbles Lane claimed to have been approached by Baxters and offered money. This person spoke of the leisure activities currently available in the area and concerns regarding two-tonne trucks.
- The chairman of Stalmine with Staynall Residents Association offered his support if needed and queried if LCC was likely to go against its statutory duty to provide a supply of sand and gravel. He also said that if the go-ahead is given we should be strong in getting restrictions and conditions applied and also raised concern over vehicle movements/dangers and environmental impact.

- A member of the public raised the issue of property value loss as no one will buy a property with a quarry on their doorstep. It would be a blight on their lives.
- A person from outside the area spoke of a similar scheme elsewhere when the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/S106 conditions were not enforced and the community was let down.
- A member of the public queried if a bond would be secured from the applicant in case of problems down the line.

Cllr Tarpey-Black proposed and Cllr Lewin seconded the proposal to go back into session.

46(4) Sand and gravel extraction in Preesall

The mayor started the discussion by reading out her prepared comments on each of the headings in the scoping document. After each heading each councillor was asked to add their own input to that particular heading and agreement was sought of all to include the additional observations.

Proposed by Cllr Lewin and seconded by Cllr Williams that the mayor's draft with other councillors' inputs should form the basis of Preesall Town Council's response to LCC and that the council was against the proposal set out in the scoping document. (in favour 8, abstention 1).