



## PREESALL TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 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 and S Thorn

Also present – A Whalley and D Smith - clerks

#### 644.1 Apologies

Cllr K Shepherd

#### 645.2 Declarations of interests and dispensations

None raised.

#### 646.3 Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025

It was resolved that the minutes of the above meeting are approved as a true record.

#### 647.4 Public participation

There were no members of the public present

#### 648.5 Planning Applications

##### Considered via email with no objections

None to be considered.

##### Considered at the meeting

##### Planning Application - Consultation

**Application Number:** 26/00029/FUL

**Proposal:** Retrospective change of use of agricultural land to for car park, milk sales and play area with seating area (sui generis use), including storage container

**Location:** Fern Hill Farm 13 Cemetery Lane Preesall Poulton-Le-Fylde Lancashire

**Grid Ref:** SD336595 446086

This application was **resolved** to be **approved** unanimously. It was noted that there has been an increase recently in retrospective planning applications.

#### 649.6 Finance

**6.1** The Finance Committee advised that the payment to Nick White (plantsman) should be £450 this month due to him only working for 2 weeks in January.

Councillors **noted**:

**6.2** Bank statements balance(s) Unity 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026 £77,714.70 Hampshire Trust 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026 £51,295.76 and Virgin 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 £60,281.67.

**6.3** Cllrs noted and resolved to approve payments to made for January 2026.

**6.4** Agreed as a correct record the bank reconciliations to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

### **650.7 Councillor Vacancy**

There has been one application received to date. The clerk will arrange an interview for Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February in the Youth and Community Centre. Councillors to meet at 6pm with interview scheduled for 6:30pm.

### **651.8 Banking Services**

It was **resolved** that the clerk will write to NatWest Bank about the poor service due to the infrequent attendance of the mobile bank.

### **652.9 Grit Bins**

It was **resolved** to purchase two more grit bins. Location to be decided once the bins have been received by the council.

### **653.10 Purchase of two 6 tier self-watering pagodas**

After discussion it was **resolved** unanimously to accept an amendment raised by Cllr R Drobny to look to purchase 4 pagodas. Cllr A Hayes to contact the suppliers for a revised quote.

### **654.11 Apologies for non-attendance at meetings**

It was noted that any apologies for absence at meetings can only be made to the clerk or the Mayor. If the Mayor is not available then the Deputy Mayor may be contacted.

### **655.12 Christmas Lights**

It was **resolved** that this should be under the remit of the Civic Events and Celebrations Committee and should be an item open to all councillors on their agenda. This to be included on the agenda of a future meeting of this committee.

### **656.13 Power at the Cenotaph, Kelly's Corner and the Esplanade Shelters**

It was **resolved** that the clerk will approach the relevant authorities regarding the provision of unmetered electricity supplies at these locations. These quotes to be considered at a future meeting.

### **657.14 Areas in the village to be adopted by the council**

It was **resolved** that Preesall Town Council will take on responsibility for the various areas in and around Barton Square with immediate effect but will also progress a more formal asset transfer from Wyre Borough Council.

### **658.15 Arrangements for the Annual May Meeting and the Annual Town Meeting of the Council**

The Council **resolved** that the Annual Town Meeting will be held at 6.30pm on April 13<sup>th</sup>. The Council **resolved** that the ordinary meeting in May will be held at 6.30pm on May 11<sup>th</sup>, with the Annual May Meeting to follow at 7.30pm, this will include the Mayor Making for the 2026/27 civic year. The clerk will make arrangements to send out invitations, and arrange the buffet with Brenda's Butty shop once she knows how many will be attending.

### **659.16 Policies**

The Council resolved to **approve, adopt** and **re-adopt** the policies below (a-u).

- a. PTC Notice of Recording of Meetings- no amendments made.
- b. PTC Audio Visual Recording Policy- addition of section 2.10 – social media.
- c. PTC bench policy and Request Form- updated clerk's details. Under section 4.14'terms and conditions' text amended if there is a change in policy, applicants will be notified. Updated to reflect the new terms from 10-years to 15-years, and fee charged per year after the 15-year period

reduced to £25.00. The council resolved the clerk would contact all current bench holders with the updated policy. The mayor noted may all applicants be reminded not to leave no additional mementos at the benches, referring to section 1. of the terms and conditions.

- d. PTC Dignity at work policy- no amendments made.
- e. PTC Disciplinary Policy- no amendments made.
- f. PTC Document Retention and Disposal Policy and Appendix A- addition of section 4.1 the policy is now combined with Appendix A. The Appendix A has the addition of reasons why documents are retained.
- g. PTC Equal Opportunity Policy- addition of training and prevention/monitoring and review sections.
- h. PTC health and safety policy- amendments made to include members/public/contractors/volunteers through-out the policy.
- i. PTC Information Data Protection Policy- no amendments made.
- j. PTC Management of Transferable Data Policy- no amendments made.
- k. PTC Parental consent form to audio or visual recording of a minor- no amendments made.
- l. PTC Press, social media, and Electronic Communication Policy- addition of WhatsApp/Tik Tok/ X and the clerks email updated.
- m. PTC Privacy Notice - Email Contact- clerk's details updated.
- n. PTC Privacy Notice - Employee and Role holders- clerk's details updated.
- o. PTC Privacy Notice - New Councillor- clerk's details updated.
- p. PTC Privacy Notice - Addition of sections how we use your information and how info will be secure, clerk's details updated.
- q. PTC Sickness Policy and Procedures- no amendments made.
- r. PTC Data Audit Schedule (AKA data road map)- Amendments made to precept and number of councillors, updated to reflect data mapping to meet Assertion 10.
- s. PTC Information Technology Policy- new policy using NALC's template to meet Assertion 10.
- t. PTC Bullying & Harassment Policy- new policy using NALC's current template.
- u. PTC Safeguarding Policy- new policy.

#### **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

##### **660.17 Reports from subject leads and outside body representatives**

Cllr Shewan advised that there are two ways of making appointments at the medical centre. This can be done via the website or by a call to the medical centre. A GP is now triaging any calls to help determine the best course of action for each patient.

Cllr Rimmer advised that the theme for the gala in 2026 is 'safari'.

Cllr Rimmer advised that the planning inspector has asked for more information from the appellers to the quarry planning permission decision.

Cllr Hayes updated that the Civic Events and Celebrations Committee had met and reviewed the Christmas Lights Switch On and are now progressing towards the May Day celebrations on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

Cllr Ome advised that there will not be a best kept village competition this year.

##### **661.18 Verbal reports from Wyre councillors**

Cllr Rimmer advised that advice has now been issued to not eat any eggs laid within 1km of the Hillhouse site due to possible contamination.

Waste food collection will start in April and more details will be published in the next few weeks.

Any individual with an issue of damage that they believe is linked to the piling work in Preesall must raise this with the developer.

### **662.19 Clerk's report**

The clerk advised:

A resident on Meadow Ave in Preesall has asked why the council and neighbours have not been consulted in a planning application for a children's home there. The reason is that the application on the Wyre Borough planning system is for a decision to be made if planning permission is required for this and not a formal planning permission to be considered and commented on. The resident has been advised that they are still able to comment on this if they so wish.

The internal auditor for 2026 has been confirmed as John Henry, who has done the audit for the past two years.

Handover to the new clerk is progressing well.

### **663.20 Mayor's report**

Cllr Johnson updated:

He attended the LALC Wyre committee with Cllrs Orme and Hayes. One item discussed was the possibility of manning the police station in Preesall for a couple of days. This has been discussed but has proved problematical with the rent being asked by the Fire Brigade. It was resolved to add this as an agenda item for the March meeting to discuss any possible options to help.

He attended the LEON meeting at Wyre Borough Council. The main topic of discussion was Martyn's Law and the implications for local events. The police traffic unit advised that even in road closures normal traffic regulations still apply and that it is an offence to have passengers riding on trailers. This does need looking at for Santas sleigh at Christmas Lights Switch On. Attendees were also shown a trauma kit which is available for LEON groups to borrow

### **664.21 Questions to councillors**

Cllr Orme raised the Legacy shelters and the need for a clean and to look at marks on the windows. The clerk will approach local window cleaners to see if there is any interest in cleaning them regularly.

Cllr Orme advised that he was unavailable for the councillor surgery on 28<sup>th</sup> February. The clerk will write to councillors to see if anyone can cover this session with Cllr Rimmer.

### **665.22 Items for next agenda**

The next full council meeting will be held **on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 starting at 7pm –**

councillors are asked to raise matters to be included on the agenda and provide updates from working groups by notifying the clerk **in writing by Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026** 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 what the proposal is and that a decision is required or whether the item is for information only.