

## **PRESCOT TOWN COUNCIL**

A meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL** for the **TOWN OF PRESCOT** was held on **FRIDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2015** in the **PRESCOT TOWN HALL, 1 WARRINGTON ROAD, PRESCOT** commencing at **7.00 P.M.**

### **PRESENT**

#### **COUNCILLOR D FRIAR (DEPUTY MAYOR)**

Councillors D. Allen, M. Friar, J. Molloy, L. O’Keeffe, S. O’Keeffe, D. Rigby, I. Smith and M. Sommerfield.

### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

D. Wilson (Town Clerk)  
J. Rigby (Assistant to the Town Clerk)

#### **88. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R. Arnall, S. Arnall, C. Cashman, G. Flatley, J. McGarry and K. Swales.

#### **89. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of Interest were received from Councillors D. Allen (Agenda item 10 – Funding Applications – Prescott Town Team), L. O’Keeffe (Agenda items 8 and 9 Planning Applications and Decisions), S. O’Keeffe (Agenda items 8 and 9 Planning Applications and Decisions).

#### **90. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING**

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting of the Town Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 be received as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Mayor.

#### **91. MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEES**

No minutes of Committee meetings were submitted.

#### **92. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM FROM THE LEADER**

There were no announcements from the Leader.

**93. ANNOUNCEMENTS THE TOWN CLERK**

**FREE LEGAL ADVICE SESSIONS AT THE TOWN HALL**

St Helens Law are now hosting free 30 minute legal advice sessions at the Town Hall on Wednesday afternoons between 2.30pm and 4.30pm in the Council Chamber. Consultation is by appointment only and is arranged with the Company direct. In order to publicise the service flyers have been posted on the Town Council notice boards and website and have also been sent to Prescott Online and displayed in the OSS.

**CHANGE OF DATE FOR FEBRUARY MEETING**

Prescot Town Council are required to inform Knowsley MBC of its precept demand no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2015. In order to comply with this, a meeting of the Town Council must be convened to agree the precept for 2015-16 before this date. In order to lessen the time burden to Members and Officers it is proposed to bring the Town Councils February meeting forward to Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2015.

**94. MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS**

A schedule of Mayoral Engagements was submitted.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the schedule of Mayoral Engagements.

**95. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

At this point Cllrs L. O’Keeffe and S. O’Keeffe left the room and took no part in the discussion or voted thereon.

- **APP/00873/FUL** Next Plc, Cables Retail Park, Steley Way.
- **APP/00076/NMA** NMA, 40 High Street, Prescott
- **15/00024/TCA** Various locations on Eccleston Street

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** there were no objections to the above planning applications.

**APP/V4305/W/153002159** Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Appeal Under Section 78. – Prescott Fireplaces, 19-21 Chapel Street, Prescott.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the above appeal Notice.

**96. PLANNING DECISIONS**

There were no Planning Decisions received.

**97. FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

**(i) PRESCOT AIR CADETS**

A funding application was received from Prescott Air Cadets requesting financial assistance towards Operation Climbing Club.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that a grant of £500.00 be made to the Air Cades to purchase climbing harnesses etc.

**(ii) PRESCOT TOWN TEAM**

A funding application was received from the Prescott Town Team for the ‘Love Prescott’ campaign.

At this point Councillor D. Allen left the room and took no part in the discussion or voted thereon

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that a grant of £500.00 be made towards the cost of the development and ongoing maintenance of the Love Prescott website.

**98. REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT**

The Town Clerk submitted a report to Members of the Town Council of a review of the effectiveness of the internal audit functions for Prescott Town Council to ensure that the Town Council are compliant with the requirements of Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006.

At this point Cllr. I. Smith asked for a recorded vote.

In favour of the Review of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit undertaken by Knowsley MBC.

Councillors    D. Allen  
                    D. Friar  
                    M. Friar  
                    J. Molloy  
                    L. O’Keeffe  
                    S. O’Keeffe  
                    D. Rigby

Against the Review of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit

Councillors    M. Sommerfield  
                    I. Smith

It was **RESOLVED** that under the requirements of Regulation 6 of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit Regulations (Amendment) (England) 2003 that:-

(i) the Council **APPROVE** the review undertaken of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit arrangements (2011/12) in respect of the following 5 areas:

- Scope of internal audit
- Independence of internal auditor
- Competence of internal auditor
- Relationships regarding elected Members, Clerk of the Council and the Internal Auditor and
- Planning and Reports regarding internal audit.

**99. APPOINTMENT OF THE INTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Town Clerk submitted a report to Members of the Council informing them that the existing contract with Knowsley MBC expired the last internal Audit in June 2014. The report provided members with a proposal to renew the contract with Knowsley MBC for the provision of Internal Audit Services.

At this point Councillor I. Smith asked for a recorded vote.

In favour of the proposal to renew the contract with Knowsley MBC for the provision of Internal Audit Services.

Councillors D. Allen  
D. Friar  
M. Friar  
J. Molloy  
L. O’Keeffe  
S. O’Keeffe  
D. Rigby

Against the proposal to renew the contract with Knowsley MBC for the provision of Internal Audit Services

Councillors M. Sommerfield  
I. Smith

It was **RESOLVED** that under the requirements of Regulation 6 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations (Amendment) (England) 2003 that Members **APPROVE** the appointment of Knowsley MBC Internal Audit Service as the Internal Auditor for Prescot Town Council on a 3 year basis.

**100. ANNUAL RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Town Clerk submitted an Annual Risk Assessment with details of identified risks to date and any mitigation that has taken place to ameliorate those risks.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Members **APPROVED** the assessment as having covered the risks faced by the Council in the delivery of its business and

objectives and (ii) **APPROVE** the control measures to be applied to address the risks identified.

**101. BROWNS FIELD FAIRGROUND CONSULTATION**

The Town Clerk submitted a report providing Members with details of the consultation methodology and resultant feedback with regard to Browns Field as a venue to host a fun fair over the 2015 Easter period.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the application be refused and residents be informed of the Town Council decision.

**The meeting closed at 7.30 p.m.**

**Dated:**

**Signed:.....**

**Cllr D Friar (Deputy Town Mayor)**