

PRESCOT TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING of the COUNCIL for the TOWN OF PRESCOT was held on FRIDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, 2013 in the WEST STREET OFFICE COMPLEX, 9 WEST STREET, PRESCOT commencing at 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT

COUNCILLOR L O'KEEFFE (TOWN MAYOR)

Councillors D. Allen, R. Arnall, A. Flanders, G. Flatley, M. Lloyd, J. McGarry, J. Molloy, S. O'Keeffe, D. Rigby, I. Smith and M. Sommerfield.

Before the commencement of the meeting a minutes silence was held in respect of the recent sad death of Councillor B. Whiley (Knowsley Town Council/Knowsley Borough Council).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S. Arnall, D. Friar, M. Friar, and P. Loyden.

101. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

There was one member of the public present but they did not wish to speak.

102. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A Declaration of Interest was received from Councillor D. Rigby – Agenda item 15 – Budget Monitoring.

103. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that with the following amendments in the Councillors Present list, Councillor Rigby should read Councillor D. Rigby and Councillor Smith should read Councillor I. Smith, the minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on 25th January, 2013 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

104. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Chairs report on the 2012 Prescot Town Carnival be **NOTED**.

105. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER

There were no announcements from the Leader.

106. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TOWN CLERK

Green Space

Eaton Street

Town Clerk met this week with officers from KMBC to discuss plans for Eaton Street including the development of the toddler play space and possibility of replacing the existing porta cabin and storage containers on site with a new porta cabin that would house a meeting room, kitchenette, disabled toilet facility, mixed use room and maintenance storage. Eaton Street will also be entered for a Green Flag Award this year. Green Flag is the highest recognition a park and its stakeholders can get and if successful will be the first time a park in Prescott has obtained this accolade.

Browns Field

A meeting of Friends of Browns Field will take place on Monday at South Avenue. Ideas for a master plan will be taken from those present. Hopefully this will enable me to prepare a report to Council recommending investment in the production of a master plan and set Browns Field along a similar path to Eaton Street.

New Town Hall

A contract to have the asbestos removed from the building has now been agreed and works will commence on Monday and are expected to last one week. This work will allow Arkhibuild to finalise the structural drawings required for building control.

TC and Arkhibuild meeting with building control on Tuesday to ensure the designs for the building will pass the regulations before they are formally submitted.

The business case for the Town Hall loan approval is almost complete pending agreement of the 2013/14 budget. We are also waiting to hear back from KMBC about a procurement route.

The planning application decision on the new Town Hall is expected on Wednesday 27th February.

Finally after some long negotiations with the Valuation Office they have agreed to remove the former Fusilier Pub from the business rates valuation list with effect from 1st August 2012 until such a time that the development work is complete. This will effectively save the Town Council £13k in business rates.

Finance

As members are aware they will be setting next year's budget under agenda item 14.

Quality Council – Progress

The Council vacancy provides an opportunity to evidence test 8 Promoting Local Democracy and Citizenship provision of polling cards (£400) and information on where and how to vote (via website).

Council Vacancy

An election for the North West Ward vacancy will be held on 4th April.

Polling Station will be at
South Avenue
Highfields
Eaton Street
Cross Street

Other items

Thank you from Molyneux Drive allotment association.

Clarity and amendments to Standing Orders and Terms of Reference for Prescot Town Council.

Following the last Town Council meeting it has become very clear that a number of changes need to be made to SO's and TOR for Committees. For instance at our last meeting SO 1.18 was sited in relation to a Committee Meeting. After discussion with the author, it was **not** intended for SO 1.18 to include Committees, but I can see how this is open to interpretation. Similarly Terms of Reference for Committees such and Finance and General Purposes do not contain reference to any revenue matters other than concessions and this has also been raised. Therefore members are asked to submit proposals for future amendments as soon as possible.

107. MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS

A schedule of Mayoral Engagements was submitted.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the schedule be **NOTED**.

108. PLANNING DECISIONS

<u>APPLICATION NO:</u>	<u>DEVELOPMENT</u>	<u>DECISION</u>
12/00459/OUT	Demolition of existing building and outline application for the erection of a 3 storey apartment block comprising 12 no. apartments – approval sought for appearance, layout and scale at this stage (access and landscaping reserve for future approval. Land to the rear 1-25 Hope Street, Prescot.	Refused
12/00568/NMA	Application for a non-material amendment following grant of planning permission 12/00568/KMBC1 (erection of Leisure Centre, construction of 8 no. 5 a side pitches, car-parking) – approval sought for addition of external door from relaxation area. Prescot Leisure Centre, Warrington Road, Prescot.	Granted

12/00765/LBC Listed building consent sought for the erection of boundary fencing and gate to be situated above existing brick wall to front/part right hand side boundary together with erection of 2m high gates to left hand side of building. New timber gates to portico. Prescott House Dental Surgery, 3 High Street, Prescott. **Granted**

12/00776/FUL Erection of boundary fencing & gate to be situated above existing brick wall to front/part right hand side boundary together with erection of 2m high gates to left hand side of building. New timber gates to portico. **Granted**

109. FUNDING APPLICATION

The Town Clerk submitted an application for funding from MALS Merseyside.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to defer this application until the next Council Meeting for further information.

110. INVITATION TO SPONSOR THE KNOWSLEY FLOWER SHOW

An invitation had been received to sponsor the Knowsley Flower Show to be held on Sunday 4th August, 2013.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council sponsor a half page advert in the Programme at a cost of £100.00.

111. AMENDMENT TO CARNIVAL COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

At a recent Carnival Committee it was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** to seek approval from the Town Council for the Co-option of members of the public onto the Carnival Committee.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that with immediate effect the Terms of Reference for the Carnival Committee be amended to include:-

7. Acting under full delegated powers (in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972) to assume full responsibility for the co-option of non-voting members to the Carnival Committee.

112. SECTION 33 DISPENSATION

It was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** that;

- (i) The Town Clerk be declared by this Town Council to be the appropriate person to receive the dispensations, now, and if required for any business in the future, and given the delegated power to accept and grant such dispensations on behalf of the Town Council, and then report these for approval to the next full Town Council Meeting;

- (ii) Formally agree to those dispensations now received from elected members of Prescot Town Council, under S.33 of the Localism Act 2011, as residents of Prescot, to be able to discuss and eventually set the 2013/2014 precept, on the basis that without the dispensation, the number of members or co-opted members prohibited from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business;
- (iii) That this dispensation, in keeping with S.33 of the Act, is for a period not exceeding four years, and is therefore set until after the next Town Council elections in May 2015;
- (iv) Members complete and return the attached letter requesting dispensation.

113. PRECEPT ESTIMATE 2013/14

The Town Clerk submitted the budget proposals (2013/14) for adoption by the Town Council. It advised members of the proposed budget requirements (including setting the precept) for the financial year (2013/14). Cllr I Smith moved a revised budget which was opposed by a vote of 9 to 3.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that:-

- (i) The gross revenue budgetary expenditure for (2013/14) be set at £261,371 and;
- (ii) The precept (2013/14) be set at £184,705 and the Town Clerk notifies Knowsley Borough Council accordingly.

In accordance with Standing Order 1.10, a recorded vote on the above motion was requested and taken:-

For the Motion:

Councillors D. Allen, R. Arnall, A. Flanders, G. Flatley, M. Lloyd, J. Molloy, L. O'Keeffe, S. O'Keeffe and D. Rigby.

Against the Motion:

Councillors J. McGarry, I. Smith and M. Sommerfield.

114. BUDGET MONITORING

The Town Clerk provided the budget monitoring report unto February 2013.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the expenditure to date be **APPROVED** and the information in relation to the Budget Monitoring Statement and annual forecast be **NOTED**.

115. REVISION TO COUNCIL MEETING CALENDER

The Town Clerk informed Members the next scheduled meeting for the Town Council as set out in the Meeting Calendar for the Town Council at the Annual General Meeting falls on 29th March 2013 which is a national bank holiday (Good Friday).

It was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** that the Town Council meeting due to be held on 29th March, 2013 be brought forward 1 week to 22nd March 2013.

The meeting closed at 7.31 p.m.

Dated: 27th March 2013

Signed:.....

**Councillor D Rigby
Deputy Mayor of Prescot**