

PRESCOT TOWN COUNCIL

A MEETING of the COUNCIL for the TOWN OF PRESCOT was held on FRIDAY, 26TH APRIL, 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, S. Arnall, C. Cashman, A. Flanders, G. Flatley, D. Friar, M. Friar, M. Lloyd, P. Loyden, J. McGarry, J. Molloy, D. Rigby and I. Smith.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

D. Wilson (Town Clerk)
J. Rigby (Assistant to the Town Clerk)
2 Representatives from MALS Merseyside

Before the commencement of the meeting Cllr. L. O'Keeffe congratulated Cllr. C. Cashman on becoming a Prescott Town Councillor and welcomed him to his first Town Council Meeting.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S. O'Keeffe and M. Sommerfield.

129. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

130. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received.

131. MALS MERSEYSIDE PRESENTATION

An Officer from MALS Merseyside gave a presentation to members on the activities undertaken by MALS for the benefit of Prescott residents, and then answered questions from Members of the Council.

132. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that with the inclusion of (Minute 128 – Budget Monitoring – At this point Cllr. Rigby vacated the Chair) the minutes of the last Council Meeting held on 27th March 2013, be received as a correct record.

133. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- (i) It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Human Resources Committee Meeting held on 30th January 2013 be **NOTED**.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that with the inclusion of Cllr. D. Rigby in the list of those also in attendance, the minutes of the Human Resources Committee held on 20th March be **NOTED.**

- (ii) It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Carnival Committee Meeting held on 18th April, 2013 be **NOTED.**

134. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER

There were no announcements from the Leader.

135. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TOWN CLERK

GREEN SPACE

Eaton Street

Application for Green Flag Status submitted, judging will take place between May and August 2013. Toddler play space – invitations to tender are going out on Monday the tender period is 2 weeks with project expected to be completed in June.

Browns Field

Town Clerk has met with 2020 Knowsley to discuss parameters of the Design Brief this expected to be finalised next week.

NEW TOWN HALL

As previously reported the Town Clerk wrote to 10 contractors asking for information and references in order to short list for the tender process, 6 of the 10 replied and an evaluation of contractors was carried out by the Town Clerk, the Architect and the Quality Surveyor. However given that we had 6 returns all those who had submitted a return were invited to tender.

A tender opening panel has been organised for Thursday 16th May at 1 p.m. the panel will comprise of the Town Clerk a representative from KMBC Audit Team, the Architect and the Quality Surveyor and in accordance with Financial Regulation 11.5 two members of the Council – I would suggest the Mayor and Chair of Re-location Committee but there is no prescription for this in Financial Regulations.

QUALITY COUNCIL – PROGRESS

Test 5 – Annual Report – Town Clerk has compiled a draft Annual Report and just awaiting some additional information from partners for inclusion before present to Council at the Annual Meeting.

OTHER ITEMS

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

Cllr Rigby has submitted proposals for changes to Standing Orders, the Town Clerk has revised Terms of Reference for Committees, and Financial Regulations all for discussion at the Annual Meeting.

FINANCE

Yearend accounts for March 2013 have been produced and are currently with KMBC for verification before being subject to audit.

Date for Internal Audit to be carried out by KMBC to be confirmed next week.

Date for External Audit is set for 25th June.

The Town Clerk received a letter from the Secretary of State for the Department for Communities and Local Government providing Prescot Town Council with a Borrowing Approval of £500,000. The application did not receive a sing query from the Secretary.

Therefore the Town Clerk has now completed a loan application to the Public Works Loan Board for £500,000 as instructed.

The current fixed rate on an Annuity Loan is 2.93% which is slightly lower than previously reported.

Therefore a 20 year loan at this rate would be just under £1,000 a year cheaper and would obviously save the Council just under £20,000 on the overall cost of loan. The funds should be deposited in our account within 3 weeks.

FINALLY

The Town Clerk will be on leave from 3rd – 15th May.

136. MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS

A schedule of Mayoral Engagements was submitted.

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

137. PLANNING DECISIONS

13/00085/FUL - Granted

13/00018/PREAPP - Advice Given

12/00574/FUL - Granted

12/00754/FUL - Granted

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the above Planning Decisions.

138. FUNDING APPLICATIONS

PRESCOT FESTIVAL

A funding application had been received from Prescott Festival of Music and the Arts requesting financial assistance towards the running of the Prescott Festival.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that a Grant of £500.00 be awarded to the Prescott Festival.

This resolution was made in accordance with the power to spend money on provision of entertainment and support of the arts (granted under Local Government Act 1972, s 145).

MALS MERSEYSIDE

A funding application had been received from MALS Merseyside asking for financial assistance towards the cost of training volunteers.

It was **RESOLVED** with Councillor M. Lloyd abstaining that a Grant of £500.00 be awarded to MALS Merseyside.

This resolution was made in accordance with the power to spend money on various crime prevention measures (granted under Local Government Rating Act 1997, s 31).

139. BRYER ROAD COMMUNITY CENTRE

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that this item be deferred for further information.

140. TOWN CENTRE CLEANING

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that this item be deferred for further information.

141. ANNUAL MEETING AND MAYOR MAYOR MAKING

The Town Clerk submitted a report with information on the costs of last years Mayor Making.

Members considered the report and it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Mayor Making evening be held on Friday, 7th June at Prescott Cables Function Room and a budget provision in the region of £1,000 be provided.

This resolution was made in accordance with the powers granted under Local Government Act 1972, s137.

142. SHUTTLE BUS SPONSORSHIP

The Town Clerk submitted a report on the sponsorship of the Knowsley Flower Show Shuttle Bus.

It was **RESOLVED** with Cllrs. McGarry and Smith abstaining that expenditure of £300.00 be incurred in order to sponsor the Shuttle Bus.

This resolution was made in accordance with the power to spend money on community transport schemes (granted under Local Government Rating Act 1997, ss26-29).

143. BUDGET MONITORING

The Town Clerk informed Members that full financial statements for Prescot Town Council from April 2012 to March 2013 were currently being finalised and would be available for approval at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council to be held on 31st May, 2013.

The meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

Dated: 31st May 2013

Signed:.....

Cllr L O'Keeffe
Town Mayor