

PRESCOT TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the **COUNCIL** for the **TOWN OF PRESCOT** was held on **THURSDAY, 31st OCTOBER 2019** in **PRESCOT TOWN HALL, 1 WARRINGTON ROAD, PRESCOT,** commencing at **6.00 P.M.**

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors M. Burke, C. Krelle, T. Large, I. Smith, L. Rigby, T. Smith, F. Wynn, J. Burke, P. Cook, T. Murray, K. Taylor and G. Wickens.

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICERS PRESENT

D. Wilson (Town Clerk)
L. Johnson (Administration Officer)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr C McKeon

73. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

There were no apologies received

74. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

There were no questions from the public gallery.

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were received from the following:

- Cllr T. Large for item 12 Funding Applications
- Cllr J. Burke for item 12 Funding Applications
- Cllr M. Burke for item 12 Funding Applications
- Cllr T. Smith for item 12 Funding Applications
- Cllr T. Murray for item 12 Funding Applications
- Cllr P. Cook for item 12 Funding Applications
- Cllr G. Wickens for item 12 Funding Applications

76. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the previous council meeting held on 26th September 2019 and the Extra Ordinary meeting held on 3rd October 2019 be **APPROVED** and **SIGNED** as a true and accurate record of the business transacted.

77. **MINUTES OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the minutes of the following;

- Human Resources Committee – 8th March 2019
- Finance & General Purposes Committee – 26th April 2019
- Events Committee – 1st August 2019

78. **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER**

Cllr J Burke informed the Council that she had received a response from Cllr Graham Morgan with regard to the Council's invitation for Cllr Morgan to attend the next Town Council. Unfortunately, Cllr Morgan had declined the invitation, the leader asked the Town Clerk to forward the response to all elected members.

79. **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TOWN CLERK**

Halloween Events

Both the Town's parks have been seen extremely successful Halloween events this year. The friends groups at both Eaton Street and Brown's Field have provided events catering for some 700 residents. Brown's Field used and decorated Carr Lane Woods as a venue for a 'spooky walk' that saw around 300 residents of all ages take part in the darkness of Sunday evening. Whilst Friends of Eaton Street park linked in with Knowsley Snap to provide a Halloween Family Fun Activity & Lunch & LITTLE SCAMPS!

Both events were entirely free of charge! to the public

Wheelie Bin Fire on Eaton Street Park

Disappointingly there has been an arson incident on Eaton Street Park. The incident took place on Sunday Evening. Fortunately, there was no damage to the infrastructure in the park and the resulting debris was promptly removed. I have contacted Prescott Cables to ask for CCTV footage of the incident, which I will then forward to Knowsley's crime and disorder reduction partnership.

New additions to the Town Centre

As anyone living in Prescott will be aware there are lots of new businesses springing all over the Town. The majority of which are providing new leisure offers within the Town Centre, the latest of these to open has been Harrington's Bar and Eatery at 77 Eccleston Street, which opened on Friday 18th October and Al's Place which was opened by the Mayor on the 28th October.

Next up will be Domino's which will occupy 18 High Street and will also be opened by the Mayor on the 11th November at 2:00pm. Imaginarium Bistro will open on the 29th November 2019 and will be supported by an Ice Rink provided by KMBC for weekend.

There are also plans to open a new Gin Bar at 53 Eccleston Street and the iconic Flat Iron building at the top of Eccleston Street is also well under development with support from KMBC's Historic England's Heritage Action Zone initiative, whilst plans to deliver a new restaurant and bar at the opposite end of Eccleston Street have also been submitted for the old HSBC bank building.

Christmas Events

As usual Prescot Town Centre is set to be busy in the run up to and over the Christmas period, known events at this time include:-

Christmas is set to begin a bit earlier than usual as on 16th November – KMBC and Prescot Business Club will be organising a Christmas Light switch on event on the 16th November. Sadly this is the first time in 5 years the Town Council will not be organising the event, as members are aware the Town Council have chosen not to partake in the event on the grounds of value for money, and will instead organise its own event on 14th December.

As mentioned, the Imaginarium Bistro opening is on the 29th November and will have a bit of a Christmas feel with the ice rink.

KMBC will be providing an additional event on the 14th December with Live Reindeers on Eccleston Street

However, the Town Council's – Christmas Cracker Event, also on the 14th December is set to be the biggest Event the Town Council has ever provided. With KMBC having completely taken over the Christmas Lights the Town Council's Events committee has found itself with additional budget to put into a Christmas Event.

This years event will now include

- Rodeo Rudolf
- Snow board simulator
- Walkabout reindeer characters
- Selection pack give away
- Live performances including local artists, dance groups and school choirs
- Children's Fair Ground Ride
- Free refreshments
- Best Dressed Elf competition
- Various Community Stalls

Best of all is that these attractions are completely free of charge.

80. MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the Mayoral Engagements provided

81. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the following planning applications

Application Ref	Location	Comments
19/00530/FUL	1 Chapel Street, Prescott	No Objections
19/00571/FUL	53 Eccleston Street, Prescott	No Objections
19/00579/PDE	19 Youatt Avenue, Prescott	No Objections

82. PLANNING DECISIONS

There were no Planning Decisions

83. FUNDING APPLICATIONS

At this point Cllrs J. Buke, T. Smith and T. Murray left the room

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the sum of £499.40 for the funding application from Molyneux Drive Allotment Society.

At this point Cllrs K. Taylor, T. Large, M. Burke, P. Cook and G. Wickens left the room

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the sum of £500 for the funding application from Friends of Eaton Street Park.

At this point all Cllrs returned to the room

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **REJECT** the funding application submitted from Whiston Gardening Club, on the grounds of timeliness.

84. EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the recommendations at 2.5 being:

- 2.1. Members are asked to consider the External Audit Report attached as appendix and accept its findings.

85. MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT - AMENDMENTS

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **AGREE** the recommendations under 3 being:

3.1 In accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and on the recommendations of Local Government Ethical Standards report January 2019 members resolve to

- Approve the proposed amendments as provided in section 2.1 of this report to Prescot Town Councils Code of Conduct for Elected Members and Co-opted Members and that it is republished accordingly.

86. CHRISTMAS CLOSEDOWN

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **AGREE** the recommendations under 3 being:

3.1 Using the powers granted under the Local Government Act 1972 members

- Approve the Town Council office closure during the period 20th December 2019 to 1st January 2020 inclusive

And

- Provide two ex-gratia concessionary leave days to Town Council staff to facilitate the above closure

87. LOCAL DEMOCRACY PROGRAMME

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **AGREE** the recommendations under 3 being:

- 3.1 In accordance with the Local Council Award Scheme's requirement to represent the council's role in the community and how it engages with the community members are asked to
- Consider the programme attached as appendix 1 and approve the rolling out of the programme to all Prescot Primary Schools

The meeting closed at 6:30 p.m.

Dated: 28th November 2019

Signed:.....
Cllr Pat Cook (Mayor of Prescot)

QC

