

**PRESCOT TOWN COUNCIL**

A meeting of the **COUNCIL** for the **TOWN OF PRESCOT** was held on **THURSDAY, 28<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022** in the **PRESCOT TOWN HALL**, commencing at **7.30 P.M.**

**ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councillors C. Krelle, T. Large, I. Smith, L. Rigby, F. Wynn, T. Smith, P. Cook, T. Murray, and G. Wickens.

**TOWN COUNCIL OFFICERS PRESENT**

L. Sephton (Deputy Town Clerk)

**36. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs M. Burke, J. Burke and K. Taylor.

**37. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of Interest were received from the following: -

- Cllr P. Cook for item 12 Funding Applications – Lady Margaret Bowling Club

**39. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING**

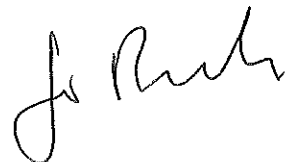
It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the previous council meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 be **APPROVED AND SIGNED** as a true and accurate record of the business transacted.

**40. MINUTES OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

There were no Committee meetings to be noted.

**41. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER**

There were no announcements from the Leader.



42. **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TOWN CLERK**

**Local Democracy Project 2022**

The Local Democracy Project which the Town Clerk, working alongside Cllrs J Burke, P Cook and T Large has now concluded.

A total of five primary schools have participated in the project:-

- St Mary and St Paul's Primary School
- Our Lady's Catholic Primary School
- St Luke's Roman Catholic Primary School
- Prescott Primary
- Evelyn Primary School

The overarching aims and format of the project were reported to Members at the last meeting of Council in June 2022.

Officers have continued to assess the success of the project having received feedback from schools. All schools described the project as being excellent, with no further adjustments to its format being required.

Having spoken with headteachers in May this year, there is an intention to re-run the project with the new cohort of year 6 pupils in September. The Town Clerk, working alongside councillors, intends to make contact with schools to determine if they still want to commit to meeting in September.

In conclusion, the Local Democracy Project has proved extremely successful with all those who have participated.

**Play Area Improvements at Browns Field**

The Town Clerk has continued to liaise with both Knowsley Council officers and contractors who are progressing works to improve the play area at Browns Field.

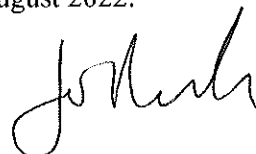
The Town Clerk met on site with contractors on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022 to determine whether timescales are still on track – which they are.

All play equipment as part of phase one has now been installed – however, given that the site is still under construction, this equipment cannot be used by the public.

The majority of ground works for the installation of safety surfacing are about to conclude, with safety surfacing set to be installed before the end of July.

Contractors will then move on to the second phase of play works (currently waiting for play equipment to be delivered).

The project is expected to be completed by mid-August 2022.



**Meeting to Discuss Football Pitch Improvements and Community Hub at Browns Field**

The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk have held initial discussions with Knowsley Council, Berkley Football Club, and the Football Foundation to discuss improvements to football pitches and the installation of a Community Hub at Browns Field.

These discussions are in their infancy, but directly relate to Knowsley Council's Playing Pitch Strategy & Action Plan of September 2021.

The meeting was a positive one, and it was stressed by officers that before any funding bids were submitted or plans drawn up, the lease regarding Browns Field would need to be reviewed and approved. This was fully supported by representatives of Berkley FC and the Football Foundation who agreed that the likelihood of funding being awarded was unlikely given the current terms of the lease relating to Browns Field.

Moving forward, Knowsley Council officers are reviewing what work needs to be put in place to get funding up and running. This will include a full review of the lease relating to Browns Field

The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk have stressed the importance of holding regular meetings to prevent inertia, and ensure that issues such as the lease, utilities, consultation with residents/interested groups are discussed at length.

We have also stressed the importance of Town Councillors being involved throughout, with regular presentations to Full Council being required.

**Local Council Charter**

The Town Clerk has discussed with fellow clerks within Knowsley the possibility of producing a Local Council Charter to help strengthen relations with Knowsley Council.

There is a consensus amongst local clerks that the response of Knowsley Council for issues raised by officers and/or town/parish councillors can be improved.

The purpose of the Charter would therefore be to set out expected standards from the local authority and to foster greater partnership working.

These discussions are in their infancy, but there is an intention to purpose the production of a Local Council Charter at the next meeting of MALC in August.

Members will of course be involved in the production of such a document.



43. **REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS FROM REPRESENTATIVES AT CONFERENCES OR OUTSIDE BODIES**

There had been no attendances to conferences or outside bodies.

44. **MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS**

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

45. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application Ref	Location	Comments
22/00153/FUL	St Marys Vicarage / Church, Vicarage Place Prescot	Prescot Town Council would like to object to this on the grounds on Visual Amenity and that this is in a conservation area and there are concerns that the metal fencing is inappropriate for the land.
22/00398/FUL	21 Market Place Prescot L34 5SB	Deferred for clarification of the times stated.

46. **PLANNING DECISIONS**

There were no planning decisions for noting.

34. **FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

Cllr P. Cook left the room

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the sum of £498.50 for the funding application from Lady Margaret Bowling Club.

Cllr P. Cook returned to the room

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the sum of £500.00 for the funding application from Evolving Mindset CIC.

**The meeting closed at 7.51 p.m.**

**Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Signed:.....  
Cllr Joanne Burke (Mayor of Prescot)