

**PRESCOT TOWN COUNCIL**

A meeting of the **COUNCIL** for the **TOWN OF PRESCOT** was held on **THURSDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023** in **PRESCOT TOWN HALL**, commencing at **6.00 P.M.**

**ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councillors J. Burke, P. Cook, J. Edgar, T. Murray, I. Smith, T. Smith, M. Sommerfield, G. Wickens and D. Wilson.

**TOWN COUNCIL OFFICERS PRESENT**

A. Spencer (Town Clerk)

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

No members of the public were in attendance.

**38. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr M. Burke and J. Madine.

**39. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM**

No members of the public were in attendance.

**40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

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

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023 be **APPROVED AND SIGNED** as a true and accurate record of the business transacted.

**42. MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEES**

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **NOTE** minutes from Finance, Policy and Human Resources Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.

**43. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER**

The Leader of Council wished to thank councillors and staff for their work during the Community Recognition Awards on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 and further reported that feedback she had received from those attending had been excellent.

**44. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TOWN CLERK**

The Town Clerk provided the following announcements: -

**Anti-social behaviour across Prescott**

Members will recall that at the last meeting of Council on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023, two residents attended and spoke at length concerning anti-social behaviour around Cables Retail Park and neighbouring areas.

After this meeting, the Town Clerk contacted Knowsley Council and Merseyside Police on behalf of the resident.

Merseyside Police were aware of reported anti-social behaviour incidents within the area, and A/Sgt Patterson has met and spoke at length with residents who attended council on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

The Town Clerk has held two meetings with A/Sgt Patterson and has received a briefing on how ASB will be addressed within the location raised by residents on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

**Potential Installation of Goals within Brown's Field to Combat Anti-Social Behaviour**

Linked to the update above, the Town Clerk has attended a number of meetings with local partners such as Merseyside Police, Knowsley Council, Merseyside Youth Association and Shakespeare North Playhouse to discuss ways in which anti-social behaviour could be reduced across the town.

Both Merseyside Police and Merseyside Youth Association have actively engaged with youths causing ASB locally (particularly around Eccleston Street and Shakespeare North Playhouse).

Those who have been engaged have suggested that the installation of goals within Brown's Field and/or Eaton Street Park would encourage them not to visit the town centre as often – as those spoken with want to play football.

Merseyside Police are in the process of obtaining costs for purchase and installation.

Despite this, the Town Clerk wishes to emphasise that no commitment to purchase and installation has been made, and that a formal report would need to be presented to Members for resolution prior to anything happening at one or either site.

### **Caretaker Recruitment**

Following advertisement for 1 x caretaker vacancy, three applications for the position were received all of which have been shortlisted for interview week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

### **Siting of Container within Car Park of Prescott Town Hall**

As previously reported to Members, a container donated by Britannia Fleet has been sited within the carpark of Prescott Town Hall – the purpose of which is to store items for community-facing projects such as school uniform recycling project and winter coat project.

Unfortunately, KMBC Planning Enforcement has notified the Town Clerk that a complaint against the siting of the container has been submitted.

The Town Clerk is awaiting further information from Planning Enforcement before retrospective planning permission is submitted.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **NOTE** Announcements from the Town Clerk.

### **45. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS FROM REPRESENTATIVES AT CONFERENCES OF OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Town Clerk summarised his attendance at a meeting of the Prescott Business Club on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The Town Clerk raised the following points: -

- a. Attendance at this meeting by Merseyside Police and Knowsley Council Communities Team to provide an update of ongoing anti-social behaviour across Prescott and planned diversionary activity during the summer period.
- b. Plans for Serious Nonsense Festival to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023.
- c. Ways in which Prescott Business Club members could attract new businesses to the meeting.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the update from the Town Clerk

### **46. MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS**

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

### **47. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

| Application Ref | Location                                 | Comments      |
|-----------------|--|---------------|
| 23/00513/FUL    | Glebe House<br>Vicarage Place<br>Prescot | No Objections |

**48. PLANNING DECISIONS**

No Planning Decisions were received.

**49. COMMUNITY FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

Although officers had received two community funding applications since the last meeting of Council on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023, these could not be put to Members for consideration given that information relating to both applications was outstanding.

Officers would work with both groups to ensure that this information was provided before the next meeting of Council in September so that they could be considered by Members.

**50. CHRISTMAS CLOSEDOWN 2023**

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk proposing a period of closedown over the 2023 Christmas period and request for two gratis leave days during this period for staff.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE**: -

1. The closure of Prescot Town Hall from 4:00pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023 until 9:00am on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 and
2. The awarding of two gratis leave days for Council staff during the period of Christmas closure.

**The meeting closed at 6:48 p.m**

**Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Signed:.....  
~~Chr Tracey Murray (Mayor of Prescot)~~

CLERK CRISTIAN WICKONS (CHAIR).  
AS