

PRESCOT TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the **FINANCE, POLICY AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE** for
the **TOWN OF PRESCOT** was held on **THURSDAY 16th JANUARY 2025** in
PRESCOT TOWN HALL, commencing at **7.30 P.M.**

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors J. Burke, M. Burke, P. Goodwin, T. Murray, P. Shaw, I. Smith
T. Smith & G Wickens.

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICERS PRESENT

A. Spencer (Town Clerk)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

0 x Members of the Public

19. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr M. Sommerfield.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members were granted a dispensation in consideration of Item 9.

21. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the previous
Finance, Policy and Human Resources Committee Meeting held on 31st October 2024
be **APPROVED AND SIGNED** as a true and accurate record of the business
transacted.

22. MONTHLY BUDGET MONITORING STATEMENT

Members reviewed the monthly budget monitoring statement (to the end of
December 2024) as presented by the Town Clerk; noting in particular the
contribution of the new bar concessionaire in generating an income for council,
savings generated as a result of Brown's Field and Eaton Street Park reverted to
Knowsley Council and those budget lines where expenditure has exceeded budget
(Elections and Facilities Management)

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the monthly budget
Monitoring statement to the end of December 2024

23. ORDERS AND PAYMENTS AUTHORISATION

Members considered the list of orders and payments made until the end of December 2024.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:-**

1. To **INSTRUCT** the Town Clerk to speak with representatives of FACE and to offer charity-weekday room hire rates effective from April 2025.
2. To **INSTRUCT** the Town Clerk to speak with Whiston Town Council and determine their daily room-hirers, with a view to replicating at Prescott Town Hall – thereby increasing footfall and income generation.
3. To **APPROVE** the list of orders and payments as presented.

24. FACILITIES BOOKINGS

Members considered the list of Facilities bookings to the end of December 2024.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the list of facilities bookings as presented.

25. PROPOSED RESERVES AND INVESTMENT POLICY 2025

The Town Clerk presented a proposed Reserves and Investment Policy to Members, following recommendations from Council's 2023/24 Internal Audit.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the policy as presented.

26. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

By virtue of Standing Order 3D, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that members of the press and public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting given the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons.

27. 2025/26 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Members considered the briefing and presentation of the Town Clerk in the formulation of the proposed 2025/26 budget.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that:

1. Members recommend to Council on 30th January 2025
 - a. A precept demand of £79.79 per Band D equivalent property for 2025/26
 - b. Income and expenditure levels as agreed by Members during the workshop
 - c. A 0% increase on facilities charges during 2025/26
 - d. A revision to earmarked works as stated in 2024/25, to form new earmarked works in 2025/26 totalling £50,550.00:



Earmarked Works 2025/26	Budget (£)
Resurfacing of Prescott Town Hall Car Park	20,000.00
Installation of galvanised fire escape at Prescott Town Hall	18,000.00
Construction of first floor reception at Prescott Town Hall	5,000.00
Decoration of Prescott Town Hall (Downstairs only)	3,000.00
Flagpole	750.00
Improvements to Prescott Town Hall Wi-Fi	800.00
Purchase and install of lamppost mounted poppies	2,000.00
Painting Prescott Town Council logo on shutters and banners	1,000.00
TOTAL	50,550.00

- e. Accounts structuring as resolved relating to 2025/26 Revenue Budget, General Reserve Level (at 20% of 205/26 Revenue Budget), Earmarked Reserve Level and Investible Funds.

Proposed Accounting Structure 2025/26 (£)	
2024/25 Estimated Total Funds Available at Year End	480,000.00
2025/26 Revenue Budget	+361,223.73
2025/26 Estimated Total Funds Available	841,223.27
2025/26 General Reserve Level	-70,000.00
2025/26 Earmarked Reserves	-50,550.00
2024/26 Investible Funds / Surplus Funds	720,673.73

- f. That officers complete a review of Council's asset register to provide a condition survey for each asset and exposure for Council to repair/replace based on that condition.

2. **NOTE** the briefing and presentations as presented

The meeting closed at 11:04p.m

Dated: 15th May 2025

Signed:.....

Cllr G. Wickens
Chair - Finance, Policy and Human
Resources Committee

