

PRESCOT TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the **COUNCIL** for the **TOWN OF PRESCOT** was held on **THURSDAY 30th JANUARY 2025** in **PRESCOT TOWN HALL**, commencing at **6.00P.M.**

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors J. Burke, M. Burke, P. Cook, P. Goodwin, T. Murray, I. Smith,
T. Smith, M. Sommerfield, G. Wickens and F. Wynn

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICERS PRESENT

A. Spencer (Town Clerk)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

No members of public were in attendance.

<u>107.</u>	<u>TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES</u> Apologies were received from Cllrs J. Edgar and P. Shaw.
<u>108.</u>	<u>PUBLIC OPEN FORUM</u> No members of the public were in attendance
<u>109.</u>	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> Declarations of Interest were received from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr J. Burke for Item 13 Community Funding Application (Coming Together)• Cllr I. Smith for Items 11 Planning Applications & 12 Planning Decisions• Cllr M. Burke for Items 11 Planning Applications & 12 Planning Decisions• All members were granted a dispensation for Item 14 Annual Budget and Precept Demand 2025/26
<u>110.</u>	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING</u> It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous council meeting held on 28 th November 2024 be APPROVED AND SIGNED as a true and accurate record of the business transacted.
<u>111.</u>	<u>MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS</u> It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to NOTE (Draft) Minutes of Finance, Policy & HR Committee on 16 th January 2025.



<p><u>112.</u></p>	<p><u>REPORT ON COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS DURING 2024/25</u></p> <p>It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOVED to NOTE progress against resolutions as presented in Appendix One to the report.</p>
<p><u>113.</u></p>	<p><u>ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LEADER</u></p> <p>The Leader provided an update on the success of the 2024/25 Winter Coat Recycling Scheme; which has now been rolled out to and delivered in conjunction with Whiston Town Council.</p> <p>The Leader provided an update on the shortly to commence Communion and School Prom project which will help provide suits and communion/school prom dresses to those who require them; with a contribution for dry cleaning being the only cost to be incurred.</p>
<p><u>114.</u></p>	<p><u>ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE TOWN CLERK</u></p> <p>The Town Clerk thanked members of Finance, Policy and Human Resources Committee for their attendance on 16th January 2025; and acknowledged that though this was a particularly lengthy meeting; it was crucial in producing the budget report as presented at Item 14.</p>
<p><u>115.</u></p>	<p><u>REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS FROM REPRESENTATIVES AT CONFERENCES OR OUTSIDE BODIES</u></p> <p>The Town Clerk confirmed that he had completed an online survey circulated by the Prescott Business Club; the purpose of which had been to review the progress/successes to date; and provide direction moving forward.</p>
<p><u>116.</u></p>	<p><u>MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS</u></p> <p>It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to NOTE the Mayoral Engagements listed.</p> <p>Cllrs M. Burke and I. Smith left the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr G Wickens assumed the Chair.</p>

117. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following Planning Applications were considered:-

Application Ref	Location	Comments
24/00554/FUL	Pilkington Court Sinclair Way Prescot Business Park Prescot	No objections or comments
24/00404/FUL	St Lukes Catholic Primary School, Shaw Lane Prescot	No objections or comments

118. PLANNING DECISIONS

No Planning Decisions were received.

Cllrs M. Burke and I. Smith rejoined the meeting.

Cllr M. Burke resumed the Chair.

119. FUNDING APPLICATIONS

1. Prescot Photo Club who was seeking £500.00 for the purchase of photographic printing costs, photo frames, wall mountings and posters.


It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to:

APPROVE the application to a total value of £500.00, but before awarding funding to the group, that it confirms with Cllr M. Burke and the Town Clerk how funding was to be used.

2. Coming Together Group who was seeking £500.00 for the purchase of a mixer table, microphones, leads and a speaker.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to:

APPROVE the application to a total value of £500.00.



120.	<p><u>ANNUAL BUDGET AND PRECEPT DEMAND 2025/26</u></p> <p>The Town Clerk presented a report proposing a budget for 2025/26 and associated precept demand.</p> <p>It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to APPROVE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council’s gross expenditure for 2025/26 be set at £361,223.73. 2. That the 2025/26 precept demand be set at £314,133.23, equating to £79.79 per Band D equivalent property, and that the Town Clerk notifies Knowsley Council accordingly. 3. That Members implement salary and pension increases for 2025/26 in line with recommendations of the National Joint Council for England (NJC) and Merseyside Pension Fund. 4. Council’s charging schedule for 2025/26 as stated as Appendix One to the report. 5. That in the event of the “Elections” budget line becoming depleted owing to the calling of multiple bi-elections during 2025/26, that funds are vired or Council Reserves utilised to supplement the “Elections” budget line. 6. Works identified at paragraph 6.5 of the report, and (in order to fund these works) to utilise funds originally earmarked for works as presented at 6.5 of the report. 7. That (with the exception of the accessible roundabout at Eaton Street Park) works identified within the table at 6.6 of the report are not pursued during 2025/26.
121.	<p><u>HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE TOWN NOMINATION</u></p> <p>The Town Clerk confirmed that he had received a nomination from Cllr M. Burke to bestow the title of Honorary Freeman of the Town upon Cllr I. Smith in recognition and appreciation of his over 40 years’ service as a Councillor to Prescott Town Council.</p> <p>It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to APPROVE the nomination and bestow the town’s highest accolade upon Cllr I. Smith, with a formal presentation to be made at the 2025/26 Community Recognition Awards.</p>

The meeting closed at 7:14 p.m.

Dated: 27th February 2025

Signed:.....

Cllr Mark Burke (Mayor of Prescott)