

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purpose Committee held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall on Monday, 14 May, 2012 commencing at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors: C. A. Root (in the Chair), P. Baxendale, K. J. Helsby, J. J. Lavin, L. McCartin, K. McGeehan, K. Ramamurthy, L. Rock, S. Rock and K. Thomson.
The Assistant Town Clerk, C. Hutchinson
Councillor K. McKeon, Bolton Ward Councillor
Councillor R. Silvester, Bolton Ward Councillor

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE
FG 5751 Councillor Root outlined the procedure.

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS

FG 5752 Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Downes due to illness, Councillor Flanigan who had another commitment and Councillor Kellett who was representing the Council at another meeting.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON 2 APRIL, 2012.

FG 5753 Moved by Councillor Helsby
Seconded by Councillor Baxendale and
Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 2 April, 2012.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

FG 5754 None.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HORWICH IN BLOOM ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 APRIL, 2012:

FG 5755 Moved by Councillor S. Rock
Seconded by Councillor Thomson
Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Horwich in Bloom Advisory Committee held on 24 April 2012

TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM HORWICH BOXING ACADEMY UNDER THE CHILD AND YOUTH PROVISION BUDGET FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE CLUB:

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FG 5756 Members were informed that there was £2,000 available in the Child and Youth Provision budget for the current year and that this group had received grant funding of £300 in the previous financial year. Members commended this organisation in offering an alternative to young people by keeping them off the

streets.

Moved by Councillor Helsby

Seconded by Councillor McGeehan

Resolved to award a grant of £300 to Horwich Boxing Academy from the Child and Youth Provision budget for the purchase of equipment.

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE OFFER TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOR GRANT FUNDING FOR DIAMOND JUBILEE AND OLYMPIC TORCH CELEBRATIONS:

FG 5757 Members were pleased to learn that to date, 5 out of the 6 primary schools who had been contacted in Horwich contacted had already sent in an application form for financial assistance up to a maximum of £100. Various activities had been planned including breakfast events on the day of the Olympic Torch relay, as well as street parties, jubilee picnics and Olympic themed games and activities. It was confirmed that the local press had been informed about these events, including the financial assistance provided by Horwich Town Council.

TO CONSIDER TAKING AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE BOLTON NEWS SUPPLEMENT PRIOR TO THE OLYMPIC TORCH PASSING THROUGH HORWICH ON 1 JUNE AT A COST OF £125:

FG 5758 Due to issues raised by the matter of copyright concerning Westhoughton Town Council's Olympic banner, this was withdrawn as an agenda item.

TO RECEIVE A REPORT ABOUT TELEPHONE PROVISION IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE:

FG 5759 It was reported that, when the Town Clerk's office moved to the Resource Centre, the Town Clerk had been informed by the phone provider, that it would not be possible to install a phone line to the Resource Centre. Previously the phone lines for the Town Council had been included in Bolton Council's internal phone system at the Public Hall. The Council were told that they would be able to continue to use the 338900 number as calls would be transferred to another number 691090, on a BT line that had been installed at the Resource Centre. Council has since been invoiced by Bolton Council for the use of the 338900 number for twelve months from April 2011. This invoice has been queried and it has been confirmed that the line using the 338900 number has not been cancelled.

Members expressed their concern and disappointment that this situation had been allowed to occur and aggrieved that Bolton Council had not kept to their original promise of a seamless transition from the Public Hall to the new office premises and that representation should be made to the Chief Executive to express these concerns. Members were in agreement that it would not be practical to cancel this line immediately, as this was the number featured in the Town Council's

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publicity. However it was accepted that it would be reasonable, after six months to cancel the old number and start to use the new one, during which time this will have gradually replaced it. Some Members felt that this would present an ideal opportunity for the Council to relaunch itself in its new office with a new phone

number included in relevant publicity, emphasising that Horwich Town Council was completely separate from Bolton Council, as it would no longer have a 33 prefix.

Moved by Councillor Thomson

Seconded by Councillor Root

Resolved to make representation to Bolton Council with regard to phone provision and to cancel the 338900 telephone line in six months time, publicity to be produced in the meantime to inform the public about the change of phone number.

FG 5760 TO APPOINT THE TOWN MAYOR ELECT FOR 2012 –2013:

Moved by Councillor Helsby

Seconded by Councillor Thomson

Proposed that Councillor Joyce Kellett be appointed Town Mayor Elect for 2012 –2013.

FG 5761 TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO 31 MARCH 2012:

Moved by Councillor Baxendale

Seconded by Councillor Thomson

Resolved to approve the quarterly statement of accounts to 31 March, 2012.

FG 5762 TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW TO 31 MARCH, 2012:

It was noted that monies had been transferred from the Reserve to the Current account to reduce the amount of bank charges incurred.

Moved by Councillor S.Rock

Seconded by Councillor Thomson

Resolved to approve the quarterly budget review to 31 March, 2012.

FG 5763 TO RECEIVE THE QUARTERLY REPORT FROM INTERNAL AUDIT TO 31 MARCH, 2012:

Moved by Councillor Helsby

Seconded by Councillor L. Rock

Resolved to receive the quarterly report from internal audit to 31 March 2012.

FG 5764 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

Accounts for payment as presented amounting to £16,489.89 were approved as moved by Councillor S. Rock and seconded by Councillor Helsby

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FG 5765 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- a. Horwich Carnival Committee: letter of thanks for grant support from Horwich Town Council

- b. Bolton Council: Horwich Loco Works SPD Adoption: information about heritage options appraisal
- c. Bolton Council: Copy of Planning Inspector's decision in respect of Vale House appeal (demolition of existing care home and erection of new 30 bed care home): appeal dismissed

FG 5766

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

Town Mayor's Charity

It was reported that the Town Mayor and Mayoress had recently held a very successful fundraising event in aid the R.N.L.I and had raised £400 at the event with an additional donation of £500.

Montcliffe Quarry Liaison Committee

It was reported that following an initial meeting, this Committee had agreed to meet regularly. All borough Councillors had attended and a planning consultant had appeared on behalf of the quarry owners.

Rivington and Blackrod High School

It was reported that discussions had taken place about taking over farms who paid peppercorn rents.

Horwich Carnival Committee

Members were informed that the Carnival Committee were holding a Race Night on 27 May to raise funds for this year's Carnival and tickets were now on sale.

FG 5767

It was moved by Councillor Rock

Seconded by Councillor Root

Resolved that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Monday, 11 June, 2012.

The meeting closed at 8.19pm

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Chairperson

Date