

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Thursday, 24 January, 2013 commencing at 7.15 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: C. Root(in the Chair), J. Lavin, K. Helsby, K. Ramamurthy, L. Rock, S.Rock, K. Thomson

Bolton Ward Councillors present: K. McKeon, R. Silvester

Town Clerk, C. Hutchinson

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 2980 Councillor Root outlined the procedure

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

TC 2981 Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Kellett who was on Bolton Council business, Councillors Baxendale, Downes and McCartin due to ill health and Councillor Flanigan who had another commitment.

TO REMIND MEMBERS TO MAKE A DECLARATION CONCERNING ANY MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE MEETING OF WHICH THEY HAVE AN INTEREST:

TC 2982 Councillor Helsby declared a personal interest as a member of Horwich Heritage. As all Members present were council tax payers within the Parish, in accordance with s22 of the Localism Act, it was unanimously resolved that a dispensation be granted by the Town Council until the next ordinary elections, for the purposes of allowing Members to set the precept. A document had been prepared and was signed by all Members to this effect.

TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2013 – 2014:

TC 2983 In moving the budget be approved Councillor Helsby stated that there would be no increase in the town council element of residents' council tax, in fact there would be a decrease of 6.5%. A key element in the approach of the Council towards formulating this budget has been modernisation. The proposed budget contains flexibility, introducing new headings such as Sport, Social and Culture along with Environmental Improvements which could provide support for new initiatives. The Council is providing a substantial figure in the budget for Grants and Doantions, enabling it to support voluntary groups who may be in greater financial need in the current economic climate.
Councillor S Rock in seconding the budget as presented should be approved was pleased to see a reduction in council tax bills to residents while the Council was continuing its role to serve and support the people of Horwich.
Unanimously resolved to support the budget for 2013 – 2014 with a precept of £184,386.

