

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Thursday, 21 February, 2013 commencing at 7.15 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: J. Kellett(in the Chair), C. Flanigan, K. Helsby, L. McCartin, L. Rock, C. Root, K. Thomson
Town Clerk, C. Hutchinson
Bolton Ward Councillors present: A. Cunliffe, K. McKeon, R. Silvester
1 member of the public

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:
TC 2991 Councillor Kellett outlined the procedure

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:
TC 2992 Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors Baxendale, Downes and Lavin due to ill health, Councillor S. Rock due to work commitments and Councillor Ramamurthy who was away.

TO REMIND MEMBERS TO MAKE A DECLARATION CONCERNING ANY MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE MEETING OF WHICH THEY HAVE AN INTEREST:
TC 2993 None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT MAY PUT QUESTIONS OR MAKE OBSERVATIONS REGARDING MATTERS IN RELATION TO WHICH THE COUNCIL HAS POWERS OR DUTIES OR WHICH AFFECT THE PARISH. MAXIMUM PERIOD 15 MINUTES
TC 2994 None

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 24 JANUARY, 2013.
TC 2995 Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 24 January 2013

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2013:
TC 2996 Resolved to note the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24 January 2013.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2013:
TC 2997 Resolved to note the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 11 February 2013

TO APPROVE THE PROCEDURE AND TIMETABLE FOR THE CO-OPTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS FOR TWO VACANCIES IN BRIDGE WARD AND LEVERPARK WARD:
TC 2998 Notice of both vacancies had been posted for the required 15 working days in January and there had been no request received from any members of the the public for a bye election. As a result

there is now a requirement for Council to co-opt two new Councillors as soon as is practicable, by a vote at a meeting of the Town Council. It was proposed that this should take place at the next meeting of the Town Council on 21 March 2013

It was noted that should more than one nomination be received for a particular vacancy then a ballot would be required and that any successful candidate must receive an absolute majority of those present and voting, by a process of elimination of the candidate(s) with the least votes.

It was moved that any nominations, which should only come from Members of the Town Council, must be in writing, showing the name of the nominee for the ward vacancy, be signed by a proposer And seconder and be received by the Town Clerk by 14 March, (i.e. one week before the meeting).

One Member expressed concerns about the timescale of the co-option process, as she felt that some other Members, absent due to long term ill health problems ,would not be aware of these proposals. The Town Clerk confirmed that all Members had received copies of both the agenda and accompanying note about the co-option timetable and procedure in sufficient time, should they wish to comment prior to the meeting.

Resolved to approve the procedure and timetable for the co-option of two Councillors for two vacancies in Bridge and Lever Park Ward by 6 votes to 1.

One behalf of the Labour Group Councillor Helsby handed in two written nominations. These were for Mr Ken Denton, proposed by Councillor Helsby, seconded by Councillor Thomson for the Bridge Ward vacancy, and Councillor Richard Silvester, proposed by Councillor Helsby, seconded by Councillor Root for the Lever Park vacancy.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –SEE ATTACHED LIST:

TC 2999 Resolved to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £5,132.25

TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AS 21 MARCH 2013:

TC 3000 Resolved that the date for the next meeting of the Town Council as 21 March 2013
Councillor Kellett declared the meeting closed at 7.32pm

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Chairperson

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Date

