

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Thursday, 22 August, 2013 commencing at 7.15 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: C. Root (in the Chair), K. Denton, C. Flanigan, K. Helsby, J. Kellett, J. Lavin, L. McCartin, S. Rock, J. Silvester, R. Silvester, K. Thomson.
Town Clerk, C. Hutchinson
Admin Support Officer, H. Fairclough
Bolton Ward Councillors, A. Cunliffe, S. Pickup
6 members of the public
1 member of the press

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 3053 Councillor Root outlined the procedure

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

TC 3054 Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor L. Rock due to ill health 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 3055 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 3056 None

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 18 JULY 2013.

TC 3057 Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 18 July 2013.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 JULY 2013:

TC 3058 Following a request from the Chair of the Planning Committee with the agreement of the Town Clerk, it was resolved to note that an amendment was required to the minutes of this meeting, the details would be outlined at the Planning Committee meeting which followed.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2013:

TC 3059 Resolved to note the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 12 August 2013.

TO APPROVE A QUOTATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE INSURANCE PREMIUM FROM ZURICH TOWN PARISH AND COMMUNITY OUNCILS FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 2013 TO 31 AUGUST 2014:

TC 3060 The Town Clerk informed Members that a quotation for renewal of the Town Council's insurance policy had been received from Zurich Insurance at a total cost of £4,475.68 including IPT (insurance premium tax) based on a three year agreement. An alternative quotation had been sourced from Axa/Allianz Insurance at a total cost of £3,874.67 including IPT and also based on a three year agreement. When the Town Clerk had informed Zurich that Council would be considering a more competitive quote, they had asked for an opportunity to re-quote.

As the quotation from Axa/Allianz had only been received earlier that day, the Town Clerk advised Members that it would be prudent to check that the insurance cover offered was comparable to that offered by Zurich. However it would not be possible to bring back to Council as a decision was required before the existing insurance cover expired on 31 August.

Following discussion it was resolved unanimously to delegate the decision to the Chair and the Town Clerk that, if both quotes for a three year agreement provided the same cover, the lowest quote should be accepted and be reported back to Council at the earliest opportunity.

TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM CHORLEY NEW ROAD PRIMARY SCHOLL FOR GRANT ASSISTANCE OF £100 TOWARD THE COST OF A TRIP TO BLACKPOOL ZOO DEFERRED FROM THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2013:

TC 3061 The Town Clerk informed Members that there had been an unavoidable delay with the consideration of this request due to insufficient financial information and a request for clarification regarding an additional request for funding from the same school. It was confirmed that an award of £250 had been made by the Grants to Voluntary groups Sub Committee towards the cost of outdoor pursuit activities for older pupils at Chorley New Road Primary.

Some Members felt that there should be a restriction in place so that schools may only apply to one grant source at a time, to ensure a more even distribution of funding. Other Members were of the opinion that all grant funding sources should be left open.

It was pointed out that the Child and Youth Grants had been set up

as a separate funding initiative from the main grants to voluntary groups fund and that historically applications had been brought to full Council. It was agreed that this should be brought to Council as an agenda item for discussion at the earliest opportunity, as it was felt that clarification as to the scope and nature of different grant funding sources provided by Council was required.

It was noted that the application under discussion was a trip for the youngest pupils and had been 90% funded by parental contributions and support from school funds.

Resolved unanimously to award £100 from Child and Youth Grants to Chorley New Road Primary School towards the cost of a trip to Blackpool Zoo.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –SEE ATTACHED LIST:

TC 3062 Resolved to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £3,250.53

TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AS 26 SEPTEMBER 2013:

TC 3063 Resolved that the date for the next meeting of the Town Council as 26 September 2013

Councillor Root declared the meeting closed at 7.40 pm

Chairperson..... Date

