

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Thursday, 19 December, 2013 commencing at 7.15 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: C. Root (in the Chair), K. Denton, K. Helsby, J. Kellett, L. McCartin, K. McKeon, A. Morley, L. Rock, S. Rock, J. Silvester, R. Silvester, K. Thomson.
Town Clerk, C. Hutchinson
2 members of the public
1 member of the press

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 3094 Councillor Root outlined the procedure

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

TC 3095 Apologies had been received from Councillor Flanigan due to work commitments and Councillor Ramamurthy due to illness.

A one minute silence was held in memory of Mrs Eva Bragg, who had served as Town Mayoress in 1995 and 2002, who had passed away recently.

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

TC 3096 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 3097 Resolved to move out of Committee.

Mr Halliwell a resident of Brownlow Road thanked the Town Mayor and the Town Clerk for correspondence regarding the poor condition of back Brownlow Road and informed Members that although the drains had been cleared other issues had not yet been addressed. Mr Halliwell also expressed his concern about the deteriorating state of the side streets around the Public Hall and Beaumont Road in and the length of time taken by Bolton Council to repair a faulty street light which he had reported several weeks ago and which had still not been fixed.

The involvement of Councillor R. Silvester with regard to the original complaint about back Brownlow Road was acknowledged and noted. There had been numerous complaints about the state of streets in Horwich and this was to be an item for discussion at the next Area Forum meeting in February and it was suggested to Mr Halliwell that he may wish to attend in order to raise his concerns directly with Bolton Council.

It was acknowledged that due to budget cuts, Bolton Council did not have funds available to repair side roads, as main roads were a priority. In the past Area Forum money had been used for this purpose, but this was no longer an option, as Bolton Council like other local authorities was no longer able to provide the range of services that it had previously been able to do, due to reductions in funding from central government. Members thought that it was important for Horwich Town Council to have a discussion about roads, as it was unacceptable to see so many potholed streets.

Councillor R. Silvester informed Mr Halliwell that he would follow up the reported fault of streetlight number 8 on Brownlow Road. Members were in agreement that the subject of roads in general would be discussed at a later date, while acknowledging the restrictions that were in place.

Mr Halliwell was thanked for his attendance.

Resolved to return to Committee.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2013:

TC 3098 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 28 November 2013.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2013:

TC 3099 Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 28 November 2013.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2013:

TC 3100 In response to a query it was confirmed that members of the public would be invited to attend meetings of the Sport and Culture Sub Committee, although the intention was to invite an officer from Bolton Council to the initial meeting to discuss the lack of football

facilities in Horwich. Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 9 December 2013.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY GROUPS SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2014:

TC 3101 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Grants to Voluntary Groups Sub Committee held on 9 December.

TO APPROVE THE SETTING UP OF THE SUB COMMITTEE FOR SPORT AND CULTURE AND APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLORS HELSBY, MCKEON, S.ROCK, ROOT AND THOMSON TO THE SUB COMMITTEE:

TC 3102 Resolved unanimously to approve the setting up of the Sub Committee for Sport and Culture and approve the appointment of Councillors Helsby, McKeon, S.Rock, Root and Thomson to the Sub Committee.

TO APPROVE THE DELEGATION OF THE CHAIR OF HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL, THE TOWN MAYOR COUNCILLOR CHRIS ROOT TO EXECUTE THE LEASE FOR THE HERITAGE CENTRE ON THE COUNCIL'S BEHALF, FOLLOWING LEGAL ADVICE FROM THE BOROUGH SOLICITOR:

TC 3103 Members were informed that the lease with Horwich Heritage to formalise their continued use of the Heritage Centre would be signed on 23 December and the Town Clerk had been advised by Helen Gorman, Borough Solicitor at Bolton Council that the Town Council should have documentation instructing the Town Mayor to sign on behalf of the Council, as a legal formality.

Resolved unanimously to approve the delegation of the Chair of Horwich Town Council, the Town Mayor Councillor Chris Root to execute the lease for the Heritage Centre on the Council's behalf, following legal advice from the Borough Solicitor.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SEE ATTACHED LIST:

TC 3104 Resolved unanimously to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £ 5,246.36.

TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AS 23 JANUARY 2014:

TC 3105 Resolved unanimously that the next meeting of the Town Council will be held on 23 January 2014.

Councillor Root declared the meeting closed at 7.32pm.

Chairperson..... Date.....

