# Horwich Town Council Annual Report 2012/2013.

The Council's budget for the financial year 2012/2013 continued to provide considerable financial support for Horwich Carnival and the Carnival Races as well as Horwich Heritage. In addition, many local organisations have applied for small grants to help to pay for a wide range of activities throughout the year, including a separate grant budget specifically to fund projects to benefit children and young people along with a special one-off funding pot to enable local primary schools to celebrate Olympic and Jubilee events. The Council's current budget also has provision within it to continue to provide this essential financial help.

Horwich Resource Centre and Horwich Heritage Centre also continue to thrive with the Council's support. The Management Committee of the Centre has looked at ways of improving the Centre for the benefit of all users, including funding exterior and interior re-painting and purchase of new furniture. The Centre hosted several Jubilee celebrations in the summer which were enjoyed by all those who attended.

This year the Council was pleased to gain re-accreditation as a Quality Town Council, a scheme that was first launched in 2003 with the aim of providing a benchmark standard for town and parish councils across the country. The Council first achieved Quality Status in 2008 and since then Councillors and Officers have been working hard to maintain high standards of professionalism in all of the Council's activities.

Work has started on the new town guide to be published in summer 2013. This is always extremely popular with both residents and visitors to the town. Our web site <a href="https://www.horwich.gov.uk">www.horwich.gov.uk</a> remains popular and local organisations make good use of the free publicity for their events available on its 'Horwich Live' page. The quarterly newsletter, continues to be circulated throughout the town.

'Horwich in Bloom' the annual gardening competition run by the Council, and sponsored by Horwich Resource Centre Management Committee was once again a great success.

The Lighting of the Civic Christmas Tree Service continued to mark the start of the festive season in the town, well attended by all ages and this year welcomed the involvement of Horwich Rotary Club. The Horwich Remembrance Sunday parade and service continues to benefit from record attendances, in part due to the Council's promotional efforts and general support.

Civic Medals have been awarded to Mr David Fairbrother and Mr Peter Kellett for their long and outstanding service to the young people of Horwich. The Council also decided to award the title of Honorary Freeman to Bob and Barbara Ronson, in recognition of their loyal and dedicated service to the community of Horwich in both a voluntary and civic capacity over many years.

Council has consulted throughout the year with our Unitary Authority, Bolton Council, on a wide range of matters of importance to the Parish including planning issues and Lottery funding was secured in partnership, for activities for children and young people which took place at Horwich Leisure Centre throughout 2012. Regular contact is maintained with the Police regarding their efforts to ensure the safety and well being of the town's residents.

The Council's involvement with Fairtrade continued during the year, with some very successful promotional activities taking place. The Council's determination to encourage civic pride in our town carries on with the installation of another civic plaque, contributing greatly to the ambition of creating a heritage trail through the Parish.

The Town Mayor has had a very busy year, performing a wide variety of civic duties, assisted by the Deputy Town Mayor.

Staff have adapted well to changes over the last twelve months. The post of Town Clerk has been filled by Carol Hutchinson who, after taking over the responsibilities for the running of the Town Council, is now working with Councillors to develop the role of the Council.

Members expressed their sadness at the recent passing away of a much respected and popular Member of the Councillor, Peter Baxendale and their condolences to his family. Councillor Baxendale served as Town Mayor 2011 -2012 with his wife Frances as Town Mayoress.

The External Auditors found no matters for concern for the financial year 2011/2012, some issues arising were addressed and the Internal Auditors continue to report that they are satisfied that all financial controls and systems are effective. The annual risk assessment has been undertaken and the internal system for financial control has been reviewed.

Councillor Joyce Kellett Town Mayor 2012/2013.

## **Councillors' Contact Details:**

### **Claypool Ward:**

Councillor Christine Flanigan Bliss Cottage, 16 Boot Lane Bolton BL1 5SS

Tel: 01204 691090

Councillor Stephen Rock 64 Ainsworth Avenue Horwich Bolton BL6 6LX

Tel: 01204 437820

### **Bridge Ward**:

Councillor Ken Denton 25 Fearnhead Avenue Horwich Bolton BL6 6LX

Tel: 01204 691723

Councillor K. Ramamurthy 39 Holmebrook Drive Horwich Bolton BL6 6RH

Tel: 01204 690877

Vacant Seat

### Vale Ward:

Councillor Kevan J Helsby, M.B.E 14 Fernstone Close Horwich Bolton BL6 5TX

Tel: 01204 696742

Councillor Christine A Root 38 Scholes Bank Horwich Bolton BL6 7QE

Tel: 01204 699678

## **Church Ward:**

Councillor Marion H Downes 12 Longworth Road Horwich

Bolton BL6 7BA

Tel: 01204 691690

Councillor Lynne McCartin 45 Ainsworth Avenue Horwich Bolton BL6 6NL

Tel: 01204 439763

#### **Lever Park Ward:**

Councillor Lynn N Rock 64 Ainsworth Avenue Horwich Bolton BL6 6LX Tel: 01204 437820

Councillor Richard Silvester c/o Members' Secretariat Town Hall Bolton BL1 1RU Tel: 01204 331098

Councillor Ken Thomson 43 Mary Street West Horwich Bolton BL6 7JU

Tel: 01204 691263

#### **Brazley Ward:**

Councillor Joyce Kellett 14 Mount Pleasant Street Horwich Bolton BL6 6LD

Tel: 01204 336511

Councillor Jeremy J Lavin 4 Lower Makinson Fold Horwich Bolton BL6 6PD

Tel: 01204 695639

Councillors can also be contacted via the Town Clerk's office: Room 1, Horwich Resource Centre, Beaumont Road, Horwich, Bolton BL6 7BG. Tel 01204 691090. Email townclerk@horwich.gov.uk

#### SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS: AS AT 31 MARCH 2013:

BALANCE SHEET: £

Invested with Bolton Council 15,000

**Current Assets:** 

Debtors 6,704 Cash in hand & at bank 76,998

Total Assets: 98,702

**Current Liabilities:** 

Creditors & Accruals 11,487

Net Current Assets: 87,215

Financed by reserves:

Capital Account 25,000
General Fund 62,215

Total: 87,215

Total expenditure under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 £20,953 Limit: £95,035 (Electorate 15,453 x £6.15 per elector)

For a full copy of the Council's account, please contact:

Carol Hutchinson

Town Clerk

**Horwich Town Council** 

Room 1

Horwich Resource Centre

**Beaumont Road** 

Horwich Bolton BL6 7BG

Tel: 01204 691090

Email: townclerk@horwich.gov.uk