

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Horwich Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Monday 11 March 2024 commencing at 7.15 pm.

PRESENT Councillors: D. Grant (in the Chair), I. Aldcroft, R. Bamforth, S. Burke, G. Campbell, S. Chadwick, S. Rock, J. Rigby, C. Rotheram, J. Scoble, J. Walton, P. Wright
Town Clerk, C. Hutchinson

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE AND SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 4619 The Town Mayor outlined the procedure.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTE THE REASONS:

TC 4620 Apologies received from Councillor McKeon were noted.
Councillor Williamson was absent, no apologies received.

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

TC 4621 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 4622 None.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 22 FEBRUARY 2024:

TC 4623 Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 22 February 2024

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE EVENTS STEERING GROUP ON THE FESTIVAL OF HORWICH 2024 AND THE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 FEBRUARY 2024:

TC 4624 Resolved to receive the update from the Events Steering Group on the Festival of Horwich 2024 and the minutes and recommendations of the meeting held on 18 February 2024.

TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AS PRESENTED:

TC 4625 Resolved to approve the accounts for payment as amounting to £ 919.64:

Payee	Summary	Amount
Information Commissioner	Annual data protection fee	£35.00
Town Mayor's Charity	Payment from Mayor of Blackrod for tickets	£80.00
Sage UK	Accounts software package - March	£92.40
HR Solutions	HR retainer - March	£173.88
Nationwide Cap. Finance	Quarterly rental Xerox C450 copier/printer	£187.36
Nationwide Cap Finance	Quarterly rental Ricoh C2000 copier/printer	£351.00

Payments to Sage UK and HR Solutions were made by direct debit.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT – (EMAILED TO ALL MEMBERS) – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

TC 4626 a. Record of outstanding motions/actions

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

FG 4627 a. Town Mayor

- Attendance at commemoration service for the Winter Hill Air Disaster which was very well attended
- Bolton Mayor's annual fundraising

b. Horwich Ward Councillors

Councillor Wright – imminent demolition of the former stores building on the Loco Works site following an unexplained fire in 2023.

Councillor Rotheram:

- Contacted Bolton Council re. 600 vacant properties in the borough
- Confirmation of ownership of Castle crescent as Bolton at Home
- Submitted traffic accident survey for the last five years for Vale Avenue and Mason Street to Bolton Highways
- Will circulate objectors' letters re Poppywood Alpacas planning application

Councillor Rigby:

- Brazley play area has been repainted, flooring is adequate but still awaiting repairs, Green Lane requires some improvements and unsure if play area at St Leonards Avenue is to remain
- Bolton Wanderers in the Community addressing parking issues on match days. The police have fined illegal parking and left warnings for inconsiderate parking
- Attended Let's Keep Bolton Moving meeting, information to be passed on to residents
- Slow progress on installation of more community bins

Councillor Grant:

- Noted that public consultations should be carried out prior to implementation of TROs
- Stud wall in building to the rear of the Public Hall is being removed to allow storage of Old Rivingtonians mower
- Bolton Council negotiating new contract with Armstrongs which would extend life of Pilkington Quarry by two years, no public consultation carried out and decision called in to request addition to contract for increasing fines for breaches of their planning conditions
- Reported condition of Ridgmont House following recent roof collapse, Conservation Officer now involved

Councillor Bamforth:

- Austins Lane improvements progressing

- Various Veterans updates including setting up of veterans' retreat at recent It's Mental event, review of how Bolton Council assesses veterans' medical pensions and planned meeting with British Legion to discuss 80th anniversary of D-Day events
- Local community police officer nominated for a local award and going forward for Greater Manchester area consideration

c. Representatives on Outside Bodies as per the approved list

- Councillor Rotheram had attended a meeting of Rivington and Brinscall Advisory Group where discussions had taken place on joint launch of Public Space Protection Orders by United Utilities, police and local authorities with locations to be identified
- Councillor Campbell reported that Horwich Angels were working on Community Champions application and it was hoped would be represented at this year's festival of Horwich.

Resolved to note the Town Clerk's Report and Reports from Representatives.

IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSIESS ABOUT TO BE TRANSACTED IT IS ADVISABLE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE PRESS AND PUBLIC SHOULD BE TEMPORARILY EXCLUDED AND IF PRESENT SHOULD BE ASKED TO LEAVE

