

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Monday 10 June 2019 commencing at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors: M. Brady (in the Chair), I. Aldcroft, M. Baines, J. Bostocksmith, S. Burke, S. Chadwick, A. Coward, K. Denton, S. Denton, D. Grant, C. Rotheram, S. Rock, G. Stone, P. Wright.
C. Hutchinson, Town Clerk
4 members of the public

CHAIR TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

FG 7012 Councillor Brady outlined the procedure from the information provided.

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

FG 7013 None.

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

FG 7014 None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT MAY PUT QUESTIONS OR MAKE OBSERVATIONS REGARDING MATTERS IN RELATION TO WHICH THE TOWN COUNCIL HAS POWERS OR DUTIES OR WHICH AFFECT THE PARISH. MAXIMUM PERIOD 15 MINUTES:

FG 7015 Resolved to move out of Committee to allow a member of the public to speak.

A local resident Mr Peter McGeehan thanked Councillor Bostocksmith for his feedback on matters raised at the previous meeting and emphasised the importance of the public attending Council meetings and having the opportunity to speak and raise issues with the Council. While some matters are clearly outside its remit, the Town Council still has an important role in maintaining the link between the community and the borough Council.

On return to Committee Mr McGeehan was thanked for his comments.

Resolved to move out of Committee to allow another member of the public to speak.

Another local resident Ms Maria Falconer informed Members of plans to set up a residents' association for Claypool and to work together with Brazley residents to bring the two communities together to share ideas for joint activities and initiatives in the area to improve the lives of local residents, in particular the vulnerable and isolated.

On return to Committee. Ms Falconer was thanked for her comments and several suggestions were made offering assistance with setting up the residents' association including publicity, applying for funding from the Council's grants to voluntary groups scheme and encouraging a good relationship with local businesses and other residents' associations.

Resolved to move out of Committee to allow another member of the public to speak.

Chris Holmes, Pastor at St John's Church and a member of Churches Together in Horwich spoke about how he was interested to see how local churches could partner residents' associations and work together with the Council to encourage community cohesion for the benefit of all residents.

On return to Committee, Pastor Holmes was thanked for his comments which were welcomed by all Members.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 20 MAY 2019:

FG 7016 Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 20 May 2019 with an amendment to minute reference FG 7008 to show the correct figure for the Town Mayor's Allowance as £1,750.

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE FOLLOWING SUB COMMITTEES FOR 2019 – 2020:

FG 7017 Resolved to appoint Members to serve on Sub Committees for 2019 – 2020 as follows:

- a. Staffing
Councillors Brady, K. Denton, S. Denton, Grant and Rock.
- b. Community Centre
Councillors Aldcroft, Brady, K. Denton, S. Denton, Grant and Rock.
- c. Grants to Voluntary Groups
Councillors Bostocksmith, Baines, Chadwick, K. Denton, Rotheram.
- d. Finance Review
Councillors Brady, K. Denton, Grant, Rotheram, Rock and Stone.
- e. Civic Awards and Civic Signs
Councillors Baines, Chadwick, Coward, Rock and Wright.
- f. Marketing and Promotion
Councillors Aldcroft, Bostocksmith, Burke, Rotheram and Stone.
- g. Standing Orders
Councillors Aldcroft, Grant, Rotheram, Stone, Wright
- h. Appeals Panel
Councillors Baines, Burke, Chadwick, K. Denton and Grant.

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE FOLLOWING ADVISORY GROUPS FOR 2019 – 2020:

FG 7018 Resolved to appoint Members to serve on Advisory Groups for 2019 – 2020 as follows:

- a. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Councillors Bostocksmith, Brady, Chadwick, Grant, Rotheram and Stone.
In response to a query it was confirmed that attendance at this group as a Council representative did not prevent attendance as an a member of the public.
- b. Sports Advisory Group
Councillors Baines, Brady, Burke, K. Denton and Stone.

- c. Environmental Improvements Advisory Group
Councillors Bostocksmith, Brady, Chadwick, Grant and Rotheram.

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE AS REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES FOR 2019 – 2020 AS FOLLOWS:

- FG 7018 Resolved to appoint Members to serve as Representatives on Outside Bodies for 2019 – 2020 as follows:
- a. Horwich Loco Works Liaison Committee
Resolved to appoint Members to serve when confirmation had been received from Bolton Council on required numbers.
 - b. Horwich Carnival Committee
Resolved to appoint Councillors Burke and Coward, subject to the approval of the Carnival Committee, to be contacted by the Town Clerk.
 - c. Rivington and Blackrod High School Trust
Councillors Bostocksmith and Rotheram.
 - d. LALC
Councillors Bostocksmith and Stone.
 - e. Horwich Music Festival Committee
As the nature of this organisation had developed into an independent organisation it was resolved to request Councillor Stone to contact the Committee regarding Council representation and report back to Council.
 - f. Horwich Angels Management Committee
Resolved to approve a request for the Town Clerk to extend an invitation to a representative from this group to attend Council to provide an overview of the work of the Horwich Angels Chaplaincy Team, at which point Council would appoint its representative.

TO APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS AND BUDGET REVIEW TO THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2019:

- FG 7019 The Town Clerk provided Members with an overview and explanation of these. In response to a query it was confirmed that the metal rail had been installed around the base of the Loco Works War Memorial in time for Remembrance Sunday in 2018.

Resolved to approve the statement of quarterly accounts and budget review to the period ending 31 March 2019.

TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY REPORT FROM INTERNAL AUDIT TO THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2019:

- FG 7020 Resolved to approve the quarterly report from internal audit to the period ending 31 March 2019.

TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SCHEDULE ATTACHED:

- FG 7021 Resolved to approve the accounts for payment amounting to £3,774.00 as follows:

Leach Briely Accountants	Completion of internal audit to 31.03.19	£474.00
e-Partner Solutions Ltd	Website for Neighbourhood Plan	£800.00
Horwich Carnival Committee	Grant for 2019 events	£2,500.00

Payment to e-Partner Solutions was made in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 Sched 9 and to Horwich Carnival Committee in accordance with LGA 1972 s137.

TOWN CLERKS REPORT (EMAILED TO MEMBERS) – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:
FG 7022 a. Horwich Carnival Committee:

The Town Clerk's Report was noted.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

FG 7023 Town Mayor

The Town Mayor reported that he had recently attended Adlington Civic Sunday and the opening of the new library at Horwich Parish Primary School where with the local MP he had undergone some thorough questioning by some of the pupils. Future invitations events included the upcoming Festival of Racing and later Horwich Music Festival on the weekend of 5 – 7 July.

Other Reports

These included:

- Location of a new community bin at the play area on the Meadows housing estate, to be managed by a local resident
- Confirmation by Councillor Wright of re-surfacing works in the Mottram Street/Wright Street area starting from the beginning of July and that rumours circulating that public car parks in Horwich were to become pay and display were untrue
- Update on dust pollution, planning enforcement and health and safety matters in Vale Ward
- Update on re-painting of the Ghost Train at Middlebrook, Councillor Baines is continuing to pursue this matter
- Town Councillors reminded to report back to Borough Councillors with priorities for bids for £10m highways road fund without delay
- Update on matters raised at last meeting on vehicles parking on footway/blocking disabled access including clarification of legal position from Bolton Highways and difficulty in enforcement
- Excess advertising signage at various locations in Horwich to be reported to the relevant Borough Councillor
- Royal British Legion concerns passed on to Bolton Council regarding removal of wreaths at Cenotaph prior to recent service marking 75th anniversary of D-Day Landings and poor maintenance of this area.

Reports from representatives were noted.

TO APPROVE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AS 12 AUGUST 2019:

FG 7011 Resolved to approve the date of the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee as 12 August 2019.
The meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

Chair..... Date.....