

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Thursday 23 January 2014 commencing at 7.15 pm.

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

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 3106 Councillor Root outlined the procedure

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

TC 3107 Apologies had been received from Councillor Flanigan who was away, Councillor L. Rock and Councillor Ramamurthy due to illness and Councillor McCartin due to another commitment. An apology for lateness was accepted from Councillor Kellett.

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

TC 3108 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 3109 None.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 19 DECEMBER 2013:

TC 3110 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 19 December 2013.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 19 DECEMBER 2013:

TC 3111 Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 19 December 2013.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2014:

TC 3112 Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the meeting of the

Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 13 January 2014.

TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET FOR 2014 - 2015:

TC 3113 All Members had received copies of the draft budget, with an amendment, proposing a precept of £185,350. Although there would be a slight increase on last year's figure, the actual cost to council taxpayers in Horwich would remain the same as last year i.e £26.63 on a Band D property, due to an increase in the actual number of properties. Members agreed that it was a good budget, as substantial savings had been made in major areas including caretaking and cleaning services at Horwich Resource Centre, allowing the opportunity to do more, including an increase in funding for grants donations to voluntary and community groups, along with funds set aside for First World War commemoration events in 2014. Major budget headings received an increase, with environmental improvements rising from £14,500 to £16,500 and regeneration, including Christmas lighting, increasing by £2,000 to £12,000. Members were pleased to learn that this budget enabled the Town Council to move forward, whilst the cost to Horwich council taxpayers remained the same.

Resolved unanimously to approve the Council's budget for 2014 – 2015, as presented.

TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:

TC 3114

- i. To appoint Councillor R Silvester to replace Councillor Morley on the Standing Orders Sub Committee.
- ii. To appoint Councillor Morley to the Finance Review Sub Committee and the Horwich Fairtrade Group.
- iii. To appoint Councillor Denton to the Sport and Culture Sub Committee

Resolved unanimously to approve these appointments as presented.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SEE ATTACHED LIST:

TC 3115 Resolved unanimously to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £7,866.78.

TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AS 20 FEBRUARY 2014:

TC 3116 Resolved unanimously that the next meeting of the Town Council will be held on 20 February 2014.
Councillor Root declared the meeting closed at 7.29pm.

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

