

## HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Thursday 24 April 2014 commencing at 7.15 pm.

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

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 3127            Councillor Root outlined the procedure

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

TC 3128            Apologies received from Councillor Kellett who was at another meeting and Councillor Ramamurthy who was away.

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

TC 3129            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 3130            Resolved to move out of Committee to allow a member of the public to speak.

Mr Mick Stevens expressed his concerns about the inclusion of part of Green Lane playing fields in Bolton Council's Allocations Plan and the amount of existing and proposed housing development in Horwich. He was of the opinion that this should be discussed in more detail by Councillors and that the Allocations Plan had not been sufficiently publicised and asked if any interested Councillor would contact him.

Resolved to return to Committee.

Mr Stevens was thanked for his attendance. It was confirmed that the Allocations Plan had been presented at Two Towns Forum and had been discussed by Horwich Town Council, as a consultee. It was noted that Cedar Avenue and part of Gloucester Avenue had

been taken out of the plan and the inclusion of Green Lane was an adjustment after Cedar Avenue had been taken out and that 2.3 hectares of a total area of 6.7 hectares for Green Lane had been included. The proposed Allocations Plan had been through the Council process as well as being in the public domain, with the government inspector taking comments from the public at the hearing on 2 May, providing an opportunity to prevent development. However it was important to note that all local authorities were under pressure from central government to allocate sites for housing development but there was some concern expressed that Horwich was being forced to take more development than other parts of the borough. Some Members felt that a more detailed discussion could be included as part of a future Planning Committee meeting and was an issue that could be included in the new newsletter format.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 20 MARCH 2014:

TC 3131 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 20 March 2014.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 20 MARCH 2014:

TC 3132 Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 20 March 2014. In response to a query it was confirmed that Bolton Council Planning are always informed of the recommendations made by the Planning Committee of Horwich Town Council as soon as was practical.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 APRIL 2014:

TC 3133 Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 14 April 2014 with an amendment to FG 6097 to read "approval would be required from the Flag Institute before their designs could be used". Thanks noted to the group who had been working on this.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY GROUPS SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 APRIL 2014:

TC 3134 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the Grants to Voluntary Groups Sub Committee held on 14 April 2014.

TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM HORWICH CARNIVAL COMMITTEE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF £2,500 TOWARDS THE COST OF CARNIVAL EVENTS IN 2014:

TC 3135 Councillor Root declared an interest as she had assisted the Carnival Committee with preparation of the additional information that had been requested following deferment of a decision at the last meeting of the Finance and Purposes Committee, due to the

short time period involved.

Members were satisfied that adequate information had been provided to show that funding was still required in addition to the Lottery funding that had been awarded and that this was not a duplication of funding. It was felt that it was important to support the Carnival and that there were sufficient funds in the grants allocation of the budget to allow this. It was also noted that there would be a requirement for Council to decide how much detail is required as part of consideration of all large grant awards.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SEE ATTACHED LIST:

TC 3136 Resolved unanimously to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £12,087.51.

TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AS 29 MAY 2014:

TC 3137 Resolved unanimously that the next meeting of the Town Council will be held on 29 May 2014.

Councillor Root declared the meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

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