

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

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

PRESENT Councillors: J. Silvester (in the Chair), K. Denton,
K. Helsby, J. Kellett, L. McCartin, K. McKeon, C. Root,
L. Rock, S. Rock, K. Thomson.
Town Clerk, C. Hutchinson.
2 members of the public.

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 3190 The Deputy Town Mayor outlined the procedure.

TO APPROVE SUSPENSION OF HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL STANDING ORDER 1.M
IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE AMENDMENTS OF THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS ACT 2014:

TC 3191 Resolved to approve unanimously the suspension of Horwich Town
Council Standing Order 1.m in order to comply with the
amendments of the Openness of Local Government Bodies
Regulations Act 2014.

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

TC 3192 Apologies were received from Councillor Atkinson, due to work
commitments and Councillors Morley and R. Silvester who were
away. Resolved unanimously to accept the reasons for
absence as presented.

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

TC 3193 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 3194 None.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2014:

TC 3195 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 18 September 2014.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2014:

TC 3196 Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 18 September 2014.

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

TC 3197 Resolved by 8 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions to note the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 13 October 2014.

TO APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE THE PROPOSAL FOR REFURBISHMENT OF FIVE EXISTING PICTORIAL BOUNDARY SIGNS AND A NEW SIGN AT LEVERPARK AVENUE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF COSTS AND TO INSTRUCT THE TOWN CLERK TO UNDERTAKE REQUIRED PREPARATORY WORK:

TC 3198 Initial discussion had already taken place and while it was clear that there was broad agreement for this proposal, there were some concerns about approval of a commitment to the costs of the artwork as these appeared to be open ended. While a majority of Members were in agreement that this initiative would raise both the profile of the Council and the town, it was also felt that the importance of exercising financial caution was a priority. Members had received an assurance from the sub group that all costs would come back to Council for final approval.

The sub group given this task had put forward several proposals for the design of the signage. A local high school had been approached and expressed great enthusiasm seeing it as a prestigious commission, however some Members felt that it was inappropriate to ask local schools to provide an image for the new signs. In response it was pointed out that parameters would be set and a skilled graphics company would easily be able to interpret an original design. Some Members still felt that any such design would be too abstract and requested that the sub group reconsider this particular option. There was considerable support for having one design for all the signs with a strong image to represent the town's railway heritage. In response to a query it was thought that Bolton Council owned all the existing signs but this would have to be clarified.

Resolved by 9 votes to 0 with 1 abstention to approve in principle the proposal for refurbishment of five existing pictorial boundary signs and a new sign for Leverpark Avenue and to request that the sub group re-consider the proposal for the involvement of local schools in the design and that all costs to be brought back to full Council for final approval.

TO APPROVE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF £500 TO CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF RIVINGTON PIKE FOR THE WEEK OF REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AND REMEMBRANCE DAY (FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER TO FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER):

TC 3199 A previous proposal for a contribution for half the cost for this event had already been rejected as it was felt this was wholly disproportionate in relation to the difference in size of the two Councils. Chorley Council had since indicated that a contribution of £500 would be acceptable. Members were in agreement that this was far more equitable and would be a fitting act of commemoration for the centenary of the start of the First World War.

Members were of the opinion that a careful approach should be taken with regard to advertising in view of certain issues raised recently in the press and that there was a requirement for joint PR activity. There was also a suggestion made for the involvement of both Mayors from each community.

Resolved unanimously to approve a financial contribution of £500 to Chorley Borough Council for the illumination of Rivington Pike for the week of Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day (Friday 7 November to Friday 14 November).

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SEE ATTACHED LIST:

TC 3200 Resolved unanimously to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £2,518.83.

TO CONFIRM THE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AS 20 NOVEMBER 2014:

TC 3201 Resolved unanimously to confirm the date for the next meeting of the Town Council as 20 November 2014.

Councillor J. Silvester declared the meeting closed at 7.41 p.m.

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

