

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Thursday 18 December 2014 commencing at 7.15 pm.

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

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 3211 The Town Mayor outlined the procedure.

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

TC 3212 Apologies were received from Councillor Root, due to illness, Councillor McKeon due to another commitment and Councillor J. Silvester due to a family commitment. Resolved to accept the reasons for absence as presented by 7 votes to 0 with 1 abstention.

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

TC 3213 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 3214 A member of the public presented an update regarding provision of additional football facilities in Horwich over the last twelve months and acknowledged the efforts of the three ward Councillors in this matter. He expressed concern at the amount of proposed house building in Horwich without any provision for football facilities and also at the delay in the completion of Bolton Council's football assessment strategy, due in March but still unavailable.

A representative from Horwich Loco Works Action Group drew Members' attention to the results of a recent asbestos contamination report for Horwich Loco Works which was disputed. HLWA Group had requested that Bolton Council defer any decision

about the demolition of units 4 and 11 and recycling of aggregates on site. This was in order to allow HLWA Group to interview ex-employees from the site about their experiences working with all three types of asbestos.

Some Members felt that it was important that Bolton Council should be asked for an update on the football pitch situation. This was noted and would be brought back to Council for further discussion.

Members were in agreement that it was an appropriate course of action to interview ex-employees of the Loco Works to substantiate the claims that had been made about the use of asbestos at a time when health and safety was less stringent and the danger from such substances was not fully recognised.

Both members of the public were thanked for their attendance and given an assurance that their comments had been noted.

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

TC 3215 Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 20 November 2014 by 6 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions.

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

TC 3216 Resolved to note the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 20 November 2014 by 6 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 8 DECEMBER 2014:

TC 3217 Resolved by 7 votes to 0 with 1 abstention to note the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 8 December 2014.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SEE ATTACHED LIST:

TC 32018 Resolved to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £2,516.85 by 7 votes to 0 with 1 abstention.

TO CONFIRM THE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AS 22 JANUARY 2015:

TC 3210 Resolved to confirm the date for the next meeting of the Town Council as 22 January 2015 by 7 votes to 0 with 1 abstention.

Councillor R. Silvester wished all present best wishes for Christmas and the New Year and declared the meeting closed at 7.41 p.m.

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