

HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall on Monday 12 May 2014 commencing at 7.30pm.

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

CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE THE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

FG 6108 Councillor Root referred to the procedure that was outlined in the information provided.

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

FG 6109 Apologies were accepted from Councillor Ramamurthy who was away.

Resolved unanimously resolved to accept the apologies as presented.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 APRIL 2014:

FG 6110 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2014 noting the spelling mistake on FG 6101 which should read 'complement' instead of 'compliment'.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SPORT AND CULTURE SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 APRIL 2014:

FG 6111 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Sport and Culture Sub Committee held on 14 April 2014.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NEWSLETTER SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 30 APRIL 2014:

FG 6112 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes and recommendations of the Newsletter Sub Committee held on 30 April 2014.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE HORWICH IN BLOOM ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 8 APRIL 2014:

FG 6113 Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the Horwich in Bloom Advisory Committee held on 8 April 2014.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

FG 6114 None.

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

FG 6115 None.

TO APPROVE THE COST OF A HALF PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE HORWICH CARNIVAL PROGRAMME 2014 AT A COST OF £60.00:

FG 6116 Resolved unanimously to approve the cost of a half page advertisement for Horwich Town Council at a cost of £60.00.

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE FLAG GROUP AND APPROVE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDING THE COST OF A FLAG FOR CIVIC EVENTS BEARING THE OFFICIAL HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL CREST AT A COST OF £120 PLUS VAT:

FG 6117 Councillor J Silvester thanked the other members of the Flag Group for their assistance along with officers from six Bolton Council departments and the Town Clerk who had been involved in progressing this matter. There was some discussion about the final design of the flag, including the choice of a white background and Members were informed that these comments had been noted in previous meetings. There was a query raised about the requirement for a holster but it was agreed this was an additional cost for further discussion at a later date. It was also noted that the total cost of the new flag would be £149 to include VAT and carriage.

Resolved by 10 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions to approve the cost of the Horwich Town Council flag at a total cost of £149 for a revised design of the official crest on a white background to be flown from the flagpole outside the Public Hall on civic occasions in agreement with Bolton Council and to review the size of an additional flag for use at another location at a later date.

Councillor J Silvester was thanked for her hard work in this matter.

TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO 31 MARCH 2014:

FG 6118 Resolved unanimously to approve the quarterly statement of accounts to 31 March 2014.

TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW TO 31 MARCH 2014:

FG 6119 It was noted that it was pleasing to see that after an active Council year, Council had still managed to make savings and most headings had been under budget, with the exception of election expenses, due to three by elections taking place in the last financial year. It was expected that a within reason a certain amount of funding could be brought forward to enable the current Council to make a real impact in its last year with the new newsletter and other initiatives.

Resolved unanimously to approve the quarterly budget review to 31 March 2014.

TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY REPORT FROM INTERNAL AUDIT TO 31 MARCH 2014:

FG 6120 Resolved unanimously to approve the quarterly report from internal audit to 31 March 2014.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SCHEDULE ATTACHED:

FG 6121 Resolved unanimously to approve the accounts for payment as presented and totalling £ 11,982.71

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

- FG 6122
- a. Report from Rivington and Blackrod High School on Fairtrade activities in 2014 and acknowledgement of funding from Horwich Town Council.
 - b. Correspondence from a member of the public regarding boundary signage following amendment to the law to allow Councils to sign historic counties.
 - c. Letter of thanks from Bolton West Stroke Association for financial assistance of £226 from Horwich Town Council towards accommodation costs at Horwich Resource Centre..
 - d. Letter of thanks from Horwich Festival of Racing for financial assistance of £3,000 towards 2014 events.
 - e. LALC: details of forthcoming training workshops.

Resolved unanimously to note the Town Clerk's Report.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

FG 6123 Town Mayor

The Town Mayor reported that she was almost at the end of a very enjoyable and busy mayoral year, with her last fund raising event which had taken place on 9 May at Bolton Little Theatre and a world premiere of 'Sunlight on the Moors'. This event raised £500 for Horwich Heritage and Councillor Root thanked everybody who had attended.

IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS ABOUT TO BE TRANSACTED IT IS ADVISABLE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE PRESS AND PUBLIC BE TEMPORARILY EXCLUDED AND IF PRESENT ARE INSTRUCTED TO WITHDRAW:

