

## HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Thursday 21 January 2016 commencing at 7.15 pm.

PRESENT Councillors: K. Denton (in the Chair), B. Allen, M. Brady, J. Bullock, S. Chadwick, P. Holmes, M. Jarvis, J. Kellett, S. Rock, C. Root, K. Schofield  
C. Hutchinson, Town Clerk  
Bolton Ward Councillor for Horwich North East, R. Silvester  
7 members of the public.

### CHAIRPERSON TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 3352 The Town Mayor outlined the procedure.

Tributes were paid to Councillor Alan Walsh who had recently passed away after a long illness and was a dedicated Councillor who would be greatly missed.

### TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

TC 3353 Apologies had been received from Councillor Atkinson due to work commitments, Councillor McKeon due to another commitment and Councillor Wright due to illness. An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Jarvis. Resolved unanimously to accept the apologies 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 3354 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 3355 Resolved unanimously to move out of Committee to allow members of the public to speak.

Mr Halliwell, a local resident complained about the number of potholes on a stretch of Brownlow Road and the inadequate repairs that had been carried out and that the length of time it had taken Highways to do these repairs was unacceptable. Further bad weather had resulted in the repairs since being washed away. Mr Halliwell had provided photographs of the potholes.

Resolved unanimously to return to Committee.

Councillor Jarvis arrived at this point.

Mr Halliwell was thanked for his comments. Members were fully aware of the poor condition of this and many other roads in Horwich and that there was an urgent need for more permanent repairs. It was noted that there was a mechanism in place for the reporting of potholes via Bolton Council's Streetcare service. Members agreed to ask the Town Clerk to contact Highways to report these concerns and also to request information regarding what programmes were planned to repair damaged roads in Horwich.

Resolved unanimously to move out of Committee to allow a member of the public to speak.

Councillor Silvester as Ward Councillor addressed the meeting in his capacity as ward councillor for Horwich North East. Councillor Silvester asked if Horwich Town Council would follow up a previous request to the developers of the Greenwood site for the old date stones to be either incorporated in the new development or donated to Horwich Heritage. The developers had confirmed that the stonework would be used in the new development but this hadn't yet taken place.

Councillor Silvester also appealed to the Town Council to hold a discussion and come to some conclusion on the issue of fracking, in line with Bolton Council and neighbouring parishes.

Resolved unanimously to return to Committee.

Although there had been some concern expressed that this was a standard date stone and not particularly ornate, there was strong support for retaining an important piece of Horwich's history. It was confirmed that Horwich Heritage were aware that their storage facility at the Resource Centre would be greatly reduced following refurbishment of the Saddlery area. Members agreed to ask the Town Clerk to contact the developers to locate the date stones and request that they are either incorporated in the new development or donated to Horwich Heritage.

Councillor Silvester was informed that Council had resolved to discuss fracking early in 2016 and that this would be included as an agenda item at the earliest opportunity.

Councillor Silvester was thanked for his comments.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2015:

TC 3356 Resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting of

the Town Council held on 17 December 2015.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2015:

TC 3357 Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 17 December 2015.

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2016:

TC 3358 Resolved unanimously to note the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 11 January 2016.

TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET FOR 2016 – 2017:

TC 3359 Resolved unanimously to approve the Town Council budget for 2016 – 2017 as presented and to thank the Town Clerk for her work on its preparation.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SEE ATTACHED LIST:

TC 3360 Resolved unanimously to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £ 9,132.34.

TO CONFIRM THE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AS 18 FEBRUARY 2016:

TC 3361 Resolved unanimously to approve the date of the next meeting of the Town Council as 18 February 2016.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

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

