

## HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Thursday 23 November 2017 commencing at 7.15 pm.

PRESENT Councillors: S. Rock (in the Chair), J. Bullock, S. Chadwick, K. Denton, J. Kellett, K. McKeon, C. Root, G. Stone, P. Wright.  
Town Clerk, C. Hutchinson.  
Dominic Conway, Director of Development and Growth, Bolton at Home.  
3 members of the public.

TOWN MAYOR TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

TC 3584 The Town Mayor outlined the procedure.

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

TC 3585 Resolved to accept apologies for absence from Councillors Brady, Graham, Holmes and Jarvis 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 3586 Councillor McKeon as Vice Chair of Bolton at Home.

TO WELCOME DOMINIC CONWAY, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH, BOLTON AT HOME TO PRESENT DETAILS OF A POTENTIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT OFF SINGLETON AVENUE, HORWICH:

TC 3587 Members were informed that Bolton at Home has seen a substantial reduction in the number of its properties available in Horwich, an area with low turnover and high demand. Nationally there is a significant shortage of affordable housing and the Bolton Housing Needs Survey found there is a shortfall of 531 affordable homes per annum and the recent affordable housing scheme completed this year Catherine's Close resulted in 589 expressions of interest for 20 houses. Singleton Avenue is included in Bolton Council's Adopted Allocations Plan and the overall area of the open space is 7 hectares with an area of development of 3.12 hectares. There will be 48 properties, mainly family properties with the majority at affordable rents with some rent to buy properties. It was confirmed that the local lettings policy would be used for the first let with priority given to tenants with a local connection. Applications to be made via Bolton Council's housing register.

Members welcomed this proposed development as there was a demand for affordable housing for local people. In response to a query it was confirmed that the development would meet highway planning requirements regarding access to the site.

There was a comment regarding the location of 3 bedroom family homes next to bungalows for older residents. It was confirmed that there was a similar mix of properties in the local area but this comment would be noted.

There no capacity for single occupancy households but there would be 10 one bedroom apartments available for social rent on the new Victoria Road development.

It had been stated that the proposed development would cover 18% of Green Lane playing fields however it should be noted that historically these were two separate fields divided by a small stream and this would equate to covering closer to a third of the area of the field on which the proposed development would be built.

Mr Conway was thanked for his interesting presentation and left the meeting at this point.

**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 3588      None.

**TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 19 OCTOBER 2017:**

TC 3589      Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 19 October 2017.

**TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 19 OCTOBER 2017:**

TC 3590      Resolved to note the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 19 October 2017.

**TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2017:**

TC 3591      Resolved to receive the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and

General Purposes Committee held on 13 November 2017.

TO APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS AND BUDGET REVIEW TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2017:

TC 3592 Resolved to approve the statement of quarterly accounts and budget review to 30 September 2017.

TO APPROVE THE QUARTERLY REPORT FROM INTERNAL AUDIT TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2017:

TC 3593 Resolved to approve the quarterly report from internal audit to 30 September 2017.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SEE ATTACHED LIST:

TC 3594 Resolved to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £11,999.52.

TO CONFIRM THE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL AS 21 DECEMBER 2017:

TC 3595 Resolved to confirm the date of the next meeting of the Town Council as 21 December 2017.

The meeting closed at 7.38pm.

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