

## **HORWICH TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held in the Council Chamber, Public Hall, Lee Lane, Horwich on Monday 11 June 2018 commencing at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors: C. Root (in the Chair), M. Brady, J. Bullock, I. Carruthers, S. Chadwick, R. Graham, P. Holmes, M. Jarvis, J. Kellett, K. McKeon, S. Rock, G. Stone, P. Wright  
Deputy Town Clerk, C. Morris  
1 member of the public

**TO APPOINT THE CHAIR OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE FOR 2018 – 2019:**

FG 6840 Proposed by Councillor Kellett, Seconded by Councillor Rock and resolved to appoint Councillor Root as Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee for 2018 – 2019.

**CHAIR TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:**

FG 6841 Councillor Root outlined the procedure from the information provided.

Councillor McKeon arrived.

**TO APPOINT THE DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE FOR 2018 – 2019:**

FG 6842 Proposed by Councillor Kellett, seconded by Councillor Root and resolved to appoint Councillor McKeon as Deputy Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee for 2018 – 2019.

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

FG 6843 None.

**TO WELCOME A REPRESENTATIVE FROM BOLTON COUNCIL TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE BACKGROUND AND ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED REGARDING GREEN LANE PLAYING FIELD**

FG 6844 Unfortunately the representative was unable to attend to update on Green Lane playing fields. It was decided Councillor McKeon would give a brief update to Members on the current situation. Officers at Bolton Council who manage the playing fields within the Borough do not have any objections for the Town Council managing these fields. It will be being discussed at the highest political level and Bolton will on make the decision on how the transfer will take place. At the current time, Bolton Council are losing money on the fields and will need to clarify this if Horwich Town Council takes over the potential financial obligations for the fields. It was suggested to hold a Sports Advisory Committee meeting to discuss in more detail and invite current users of the field and any other interested parties who can make a contribution of their views.

Members enquired whether the report to be considered including a current maintenance plan and costs to be considered but Councillor McKeon was unable to currently answer but hoped once the Sports Advisory Committee had met, this information will be shared and answered within the report.

Members expressed how much of an opportunity this is for the Town and the benefits it could be for the overall community especially if used for a wide range of sporting activities and events. The Council would have to factor in costs of drainage, maintenance and the safety management of the playing fields which would be included under the environmental budget. Members wanted this to progress as a matter of urgency so that the costs could be included in the budget for next year.

Nick Peel will be contacted by Ward Councillors to request an attendance at a future meeting regarding Town Council management of the playing fields.

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

FG 6845        None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

FG 6646        None.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 MAY 2018:

FG 6847        Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 14 May 2018.

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HORWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP HELD ON 1 MAY 2018:

FG 6848        It was reported that 70/80 Horwich residents attended the public meeting held on 23 May at Horwich RMI Club. A meeting between Councillor Brady and Andrew Chalmers is going to be held in respect to grant applications. The outcome of the meeting will be discussed with the Town Clerk. Councillor Brady as Chair of the Steering Group wanted to see an increase in Members on the Committee due to the increase in workload. Resolved to receive the minutes of the meeting of the Horwich Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held on 1 May 2018.

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE HORWICH IN BLOOM ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 APRIL 2018:

FG 6849        Resolved to receive the minutes of the Horwich in Bloom Advisory Committee held on 18 April 2018

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE CIVIC AWARDS AND CIVIC SIGNS COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 MAY 2018

FG 6850 Resolved to approve the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Civic Awards and Civic Signs Committee held on 14 May 2018.

TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE END OF WORLD WAR 1 COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15 MAY 2018:

FG 6951 Councillor Kellett informed Members of how well these meetings were going and the work involved. 2 Shells from 1916 will be being donated to the WW1 Commemorations. All members expressed how good the artwork looked for the Poppy trail. Resolved to receive the notes of the meeting of the End of World War 1 Committee meeting held on 15 May 2018.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE HORWICH COMMUNITY CENTRE SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 24 MAY 2018

FG 6852 Resolved to approve the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Horwich Community Centre Sub Committee held on 24 May 2018.

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE FOLLOWING SUB COMMITTEES FOR 2018 - 2019:

FG 6853 Resolved to appoint Members to serve on Sub Committees for 2018 – 2019 as follows:

- a. Staffing  
Councillors Bullock, Denton, Kellett, Rock and Root
- b. Marketing and Promotion  
Councillors Brady, Carruthers, Holmes, Kellett and Wright.
- c. Grants to Voluntary Groups  
Councillors Bullock, Chadwick, Kellett, McKeon and Root
- d. Horwich Community Centre  
Councillors Bullock, Carruthers, Denton, Rock, Root and Wright
- e. Civic Awards and Civic Signs  
Councillors Chadwick, Jarvis, Kellett, McKeon and Rock.
- f. Finance Review  
Councillors Bullock, Carruthers, Kellett, McKeon, Rock and Root.
- g. Standing Orders  
Councillors Brady, Bullock, Jarvis, Kellett and Stone.
- h. Appeals Panel  
Councillors Brady, Bullock, Graham, Holmes, Kellett.

N.B – As per Councils Standing Orders S4.v. if an ordinary member of a committee confirms to the Town Clerk 7 days before the meeting that they are unable to attend, a substitute member may be nominated to replace them.

Members requested handout to include how many times each Sub Committee met within the year. Resolved to appoint Members to serve on the following Sub Committees for 2018-2019.

TO APPROVE THE CANCELLATION OF THE HORWICH IN BLOOM 2018 GARDENING COMPETITION AS PER THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE HORWICH IN BLOOM REPORT OF 4 JUNE 2018

FG 6854            Due to the shortage of Council Staff resources and lack of Committee Members able to contribute to the running of the competition, it had not been possible to promote the event properly this year. Despite an advert in the local press and in the shops, only 4 entry forms have been received. Cancelling the competition would save the Council approximately £500.00 which alternatively could be spent on the promotion and management of the Annual Home and Produce Show.  
Resolved to cancel the Horwich in Bloom 2018 gardening competition as per the recommendations of the report and to contact the existing entrants to inform them of the decision and give each of them a certificate of appreciation from the Town Council to thank them for their support.

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE SPORTS ADVISORY GROUP FOR 2018-2019

FG 6855            Resolved to appoint Councillors Chadwick, Jarvis, Kellett, McKeon and Stone to serve on the Sports Advisory group for 2018-2019.

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING STEERING GROUP FOR 2018-2019

FG 6856            Councillors Bullock, Brady, Chadwick, Rock, Stone and Wright

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE FOLLOWING OUTSIDE BODIES FOR 2018-2019

FG 6857

- a. Bolton Council Standards Committee  
Councillor Holmes
- b. Horwich Carnival  
Councillor Root
- c. Rivington and Blackrod High School Trust  
Councillors Bullock and Wright
- d. LALC Executive Committee  
Councillors Bullock and Jarvis

Resolved to appoint Members to serve on the following outside bodies for 2018-2019

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SCHEDULE ATTACHED:

FG 6858            Resolved to approve the accounts for payment as presented and amounting to £458.60

TOWN CLERKS REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

- FG 6859      a.      Invitation to all Members from Horwich Festival of Racing to the Sponsors Reception on Saturday 16 June 2018 at 6.00pm to be held at the Bowling Green Pub, Lee Lane followed by the evening races.
- b.      Email from Councillor Cunliffe regarding highway allocation in Horwich and Blackrod Ward.
- c.      Grant monitoring/feedback forms from Horwich and Blackrod Childminding Group for grant of £500.00

The Town Clerk’s Report was noted.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

FG 6860      None

TO APPROVE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AS 13 AUGUST 2018:

FG 6861      Resolved to approve the date of the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee as 13 August 2018.

The meeting closed at 8.12 pm.

Chair..... Date.....