

## 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 8 October 2018 commencing at 7.40pm

PRESENT: Councillors: C. Root (in the Chair), M. Brady, J. Bullock, S. Chadwick, K. Denton, J. Kellett, K. McKeon, G. Stone.  
Town Clerk, C. Hutchinson  
Councillor S. Pickup, Ward Councillor Horwich and Blackrod

CHAIR TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

FG 6897 Councillor Root outlined the procedure from the information provided.

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

FG 6898 Apologies were accepted from Councillors Carruthers, Graham, Holmes, Jarvis, Rock and Wright as presented.

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

FG 6899 None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

FG 6900 None.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2018:

FG 6901 Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 20 September 2018.

TO APPROVE THE COST OF £6,500 FOR THE ERECTION AND DISMANTLING OF THE TOWN CENTRE CHRISTMAS LIGHTING SCHEME FOR 2018 AND THE COST OF £180 FOR A TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ON 30 NOVEMBER FOR THE LIGHTING OF THE CIVIC CHRISTMAS TREE SERVICE:

FG 6902 It was confirmed that these costs were the same as last year. Resolved to approve the cost of £6,500 for the erection and dismantling of the town centre Christmas lighting scheme and the cost of £180 for a temporary road closure on 30 November for the Lighting of the Civic Christmas Tree Service.

TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO CONTINUE FUNDING THE COSTS OF WINTER GRITTING OF ADDITIONAL ROADS IN HORWICH FROM 1 DECEMBER 2018 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2019 – AWAITING CONFIRMATION OF COST:

FG 6903 It had been confirmed that there would be no increase in the cost of £12,000 from last year and that the three month period from December to February inclusive was the standard allotted period of time for winter gritting. It was noted that there was still a requirement to pay staff who are on standby to

carry out gritting services once the temperature drops below a certain level. It was acknowledged that as extremely cold weather occurs outside this time frame it may be necessary to extend the gritting service if required.

Resolved to approve the continuation of funding the cost of winter gritting of additional roads in Horwich from 1 December 2018 to 28 February 2019 at an approximate cost of £12,000 with costs for provision of this service outside this period to be brought back to Council for approval..

TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE ANNUAL HOME AND PRODUCE SHOW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF THE HORWICH IN BLOOM COMPETITION AND THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

FG 6904 All Members had received a report detailing the background to the current situation which had led to the cancellation of Horwich in Bloom 2018, which had allowed both staff and volunteers to concentrate their efforts on the Annual Home and Produce Show which had attracted a reasonable number of entries of a high quality.

There were various suggestions from Members about extending the scope of the event to concentrate on children and families and include the uniformed organisations such as Cubs, Brownies etc., with consideration given to holding the event before the school summer holidays started.

Resolved to approve the recommendations of the report as follows:

- Horwich in Bloom Advisory Group to be renamed the Environmental Advisory Group with Members to be appointed at the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 12 November. The Group to also include members of the public and its first meeting scheduled for January 2019. The Group to continue to manage the Home and Produce Show with staff assistance.
- in 2019 the Group to run a reduced 'Horwich in Bloom' competition with the emphasis on town centre shops and businesses with flowering displays and/or window displays, to be judged by the Town Mayor
- to discuss the scope of the Group extending to include other environmental issues, street cleaning, litter picking, etc.

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR CHADWICK ON COMMUNITY LITTER BINS IN THE TOWN CENTRE AND TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF AN ADDITIONAL BIN ON LEE LANE:

FG 6905 Members were informed that community bins had already been installed at two locations outside the Public Hall and at the junction of Chorley New Road and Winter Hey Lane. They were well used and emptied by the Council's street cleaner Peter Healy as part of his town centre cleaning rota. Both bins well used and to date there had been no problems with vandalism.

It was proposed to install another community bin on the railings on Lee Lane outside the launderette at a location halfway between the Public Hall bin at and the one outside the Nite Bar takeaway. In response to a query Councillor Chadwick expected that there would probably be no charge made to the Town Council and he would check this and report back.

Resolved to approve the installation of another community bin on Lee Lane, subject to confirmation that there would be no cost to the Town Council and also ask the Environmental Improvement Group to assess the location of existing bins in the town centre and if necessary ask Ward Councillors to request the relocation of any under used bins

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SCHEDULE ATTACHED:

FG 6906 Resolved to approve the accounts for payment presented as follows and amounting to £1,420.93.

TOWN CLERKS REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

- FG 6907
- a. LALC: accounts year ending 2017/ 2018.
  - b. LALC: September newsletter.
  - c. End WW1 Commemoration Committee: updates from meetings held 20 August and 17 September 2018.
  - d. Horwich Heritage: information from AGM on 12 June, including agenda, minutes of AGM on 13 June 2017, Chairman and Secretary's reports 2018 and statement of accounts for year ending 31 May 2018.
  - e. Royal Mail: information on scam email.

The Town Clerk's Report was noted.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

FG 6908 None

TO APPROVE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AS 12 NOVEMBER 2018:

FG 6909 Resolved to approve the date of the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee as 12 November 2018.

The meeting closed at 8.11pm.

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