

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 12 June 2023 commencing at 7.15 pm

PRESENT: Councillors: D. Grant (in the Chair) I. Aldcroft, R. Bamforth, S. Burke, G. Campbell, S. Chadwick, V. Rigby, S. Rock, C. Rotheram, J. Walton, S. Williamson, P. Wright.
C. Hutchinson, Town Clerk.

TO APPOINT THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE FOR 2023 – 2024:

FG 7556 Proposed by Councillor Williamson, seconded by Councillor Rotheram and resolved to appoint Councillor Grant as Chairperson of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for 2023 - 2024

CHAIR TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

FG 7557 Councillor Grant outlined the procedure from the information provided.

TO APPOINT THE DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE FOR 2023 – 2024:

FG 7558 Proposed by Councillor Grant, seconded by Councillor Rotheram and resolved to appoint Councillor Williamson as Deputy Chairperson of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for 2023 – 2024.

TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPT THE REASONS:

FG 7559 Resolved to receive apologies for absence from Councillor McKeon and Councillor Scoble and accept the reasons.

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

FG 7560 None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT MAY PUT QUESTIONS OR MAKE OBSERVATIONS REGARDING MATTERS IN RELATION TO WHICH THE TOWN COUNCIL HAS POWERS OR DUTIES OR WHICH AFFECT THE PARISH. MAXIMUM PERIOD 15 MINUTES:

FG 7561 None.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 20 APRIL 2023:

FG 7562 Resolved to approve the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 20 April 2023.

TO APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD TO 31 MARCH 2023:

FG 7563 Resolved to approve the statement of quarterly accounts for the period to 31 March 2023 including the amendment to the variation figures to the Community Centre quarterly budget review as noted.

TO RECEIVE THE QUARTERLY REPORT FROM INTERNAL AUDIT TO THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2023:

FG 7564 Resolved to receive the report from internal audit to the period ending 31 March 2023.

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK AND DISCUSS PROPOSALS FOR THE HORWICH SHOPS LOYALTY CARD SCHEME:

FG 7565 A report on this matter had been circulated to all Members for information. Following discussion, it was resolved that the Town Council would in principle maintain support local businesses and would ask Councillor Scoble to act as a link between the Council and businesses and establish if and what support was required.

Action: Councillor Scoble to be asked to act as a link between the Council and local businesses to establish if any support was required.

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON SUB COMMITTEES FOR 2023 - 2024:

FG 7566 Resolved to appoint Members to serve on Sub Committees for 2023 – 2024 as follows:

- a. Staffing – Councillors Aldcroft, Grant, McKeon, Rock, Scoble.
- b. Community Centre – Councillors Aldcroft, Burke, Campbell, Rock, Scoble.
- c. Grants to Voluntary Groups – Councillors Aldcroft, Chadwick, McKeon, Rock, Walton.
- d. Finance Review – Councillors Bamforth, Grant, Rotheram, Scoble, Williamson
- e. Civic Awards and Civic Signs – Councillors Bamforth, Chadwick, Rigby, Walton, Wright.
- f. Standing Orders - Councillors Aldcroft, Walton, Wright
- g. Appeals Panel – Councillors Bamforth, McKeon, Wright

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON ADVISORY GROUPS/WORKING PARTIES FOR 2023 – 2024:

FG 7567 Resolved to appoint Members to serve on Advisory Groups/Working Parties for 2023 – 2024 as follows:

- a. Environmental Improvements - Councillors Burke, Chadwick, Rigby, Rotheram, Walton.
- b. Events – Councillors Bamforth, Chadwick, Rigby, Rotheram, Walton.

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE AS REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES FOR 2023 – 2024:

FG 7568 Resolved to appoint Members to serve as representatives on Outside Bodies for 2023 – 2024 as follows:

- a. Horwich Loco Works Liaison – Councillor Scoble.
- b. Rivington and Blackrod High School and Prize Funds – Councillors Burke, Rigby.
- c. LALC Executive – Councillors Aldcroft, Campbell
- d. Rivington and Brinscall Advisory – Councillor Rotheram
- e. Montcliffe and Pilkington Quarry Liaison – Councillor Scoble
- f. Horwich Angels Management Committee – Councillor Campbell

TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SCHEDULE ATTACHED:

FG 7569 Resolved to approve the accounts for payment amounting to £2,604.24 as follows:

Pixelcreated (Website updates to 31.05.23)	52.00
HR Solutions (Monthly HR retainer)	173.88
Nationwide Capital Finance (Quarterly rental Xerox C450)	187.36
(Quarterly rental Ricoh C2000)	441.00
Town Mayor's Charity Account (First instalment of mayoral allowance)	1,750.00

Payment to Pixel Created was made in accordance with LGA 1972 s142

TOWN CLERKS REPORT (EMAILED TO MEMBERS) – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:
FG 7570

- a. Old Rivingtonians Sports Club: monitoring/feedback form for grant award of £500 October 2021
- b. KD Over 50s Lads Club: acknowledgement/thanks for grant award of £300 March 2023 towards accommodation costs for weekly meetings at Horwich Community Centre
- c. TfGMI: response to letter from the Town Council requesting support for South East Lancashire Community Rail Partnership for continuation of the 575A bus service.
- d. UNISON: notice to employer of an official industrial action ballot
- e. Rivington and Blackrod High School and Prize Funds: letter regarding replacement nominations for trustees to represent Horwich Town Council.
- f. Middlebrook and Horwich Angels: email regarding new representative from Horwich Town Council

The Town Clerk's report was noted.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:
FG 7571

a. Town Mayor of Horwich

As outgoing Town Mayor, Councillor Chadwick reported his attendance at the following events:

- Unveiling of the official signage for the three commemorative oak trees in Ridgmont. Bolton Council confirmed planting of three additional oak trees in the autumn.
- Sales of commemorative gin had been good and donations to the mayoral charity account would be reconciled shortly
- All schools had received commemorative bookmarks and wildflower seeds and all certificates had been presented to the Christmas card competition winners
- Various Coronation celebration events
- Unveiling of civic plaque at the former Black Bull public house on Church Street
- Presentation of civic medal to Paul Cunningham

The new Town Mayor Councillor David Grant reported his attendance at the following events:

- Annual Meeting of the Council when the new Town Mayor was appointed
- Inauguration of the Mayor of Bolton
- Murray Trophy football final at Hyde Horwich RMI v Tintwistle
- Repair Café's one year anniversary event
- Town Mayor's Civic Service and Reception with live entertainment and locally produced food
- Bolton Mayor's Civic Sunday
- Journey on 125R bus service to Rivington
- Presentation of Civic Medal to Peter Schofield.

c. Horwich Ward Councillors

Ward Councillors reported issues as follows:

Councillor Bamforth – Pickups Field drainage, meeting arranged with Bolton officers about parking on Austins Lane, meeting proposed with Bolton officers about parking at the Pink concert and visited many local cadet groups as Bolton Council's Armed Forces representative.

Councillor Grant – Chorley New Road resurfacing, including replacement of zebra crossing markings, BSL sign for Station Park on order, concerns about pedestrian safety issues following removal of barrier on Vale Avenue.

Councillor Rigby – Horwich Leisure Centre and in contact with Highways re. Chorley New Road

Councillor Rotheram – discussions ongoing with Greenspace about future maintenance of the Gardens of Remembrance

Councillor Williamson – dealing with a request about location of defibrillators

Councillor Wright – nothing to report

d. Representatives on Outside Bodies

None

TO APPROVE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AS 14 AUGUST 2023:

FG 7572 Resolved to confirm the date of the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee as 14 August 2023

The meeting closed at 7.46 pm

Chair.....

Date.....

