

## Horwich Town Council

The minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Improvements Advisory Group of Horwich Town Council held in the Meeting Room, Horwich Community Centre, Beaumont Road, Horwich on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2019 commencing at 6.15 pm

PRESENT: Councillor C. Rotheram (in the Chair)  
Councillors M. Brady, J. Bostocksmith, D. Grant  
C. Hutchinson, Town Clerk  
C. Morris, Deputy Town Clerk

TO APPOINT THE CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY GROUP FOR 2019-2020:

EIAG 08 Resolved to appoint Councillor C.Rotheram as Chair of the Environmental Advisory Group for 2019-2020.

TO WELCOME MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY GROUP:

EIAG 09 None.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

EIAG 10: None.

TO DECIDE ON THE AIMS AND SCOPE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY GROUP:

EIAG 11: A suggested terms of reference for the group had been drafted and distributed to all present as follows:

- to encourage the Council to adopt an environmental policy
- to advise the Council on how to promote and ensure consideration is given to the environment whilst Council and its employees are conducting its business and activities
- to advise Council on environmental improvements such as litter bins, flower troughs etc.
- to actively encourage, through the Home and Produce Sub Group an annual event to showcase the talents of all ages (gardening, baking, craft activities) in the local community
- to improve the street scene in the town centre with an annual 'Business in Bloom' competition
- members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the group
- the Chair of the group will be a Member of the Council, with minutes and recommendations from group meetings to be noted and considered at meetings of the Town Council

All present accepted the terms of reference as presented.

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ROTHERAM ON THE FOLLOWING AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSALS:

EIAG 12: a. Investigate reverse vending machine for recycling plastic bottles  
It was discussed to look into the incentives of this suggestion and where it could be located. Councillors agreed to delegate tasks to each Member. It was resolved to assign this task to Councillor Brady to compile a report of the research to be received at the next meeting.

b. Sustainable bags for life

This could be designated to an eco-friendly group who could request a grant from the Town Council. It was resolved to delegate this research to Councillor Rotheram into how this idea can be approached.

c. Encouraging local takeaways to use more environmentally friendly packaging

It was established to assign this research to Councillor Grant and Councillor Bostocksmith. As an incentive, it was suggested to create a Town Council credential in form of an environmental award presented to businesses.

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR BRADY ON A PROPOSAL FOR THE COUNCIL TO SET UP A FRIENDS OF HORWICH GROUP TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO LOTTERY BIDS FOR LANDSCAPING, COMMUNITY BINS ETC. AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPONSE:

EIAG 13: Councillor Brady informed Members that she had been in discussion with Andy Kerks on setting up a similar group to Friends of Queen Park, Bolton. It was decided that Councillor Brady would do a report which included funding options and contracts to observe the sustainability of setting up the group.

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE DEPUTY TOWN CLERK ON THE ANNUAL HOME AND PRODUCE SHOW TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 17 AUGUST 2019 AT HORWICH COMMUNITY CENTRE:

EIAG 14: The Deputy Clerk updated Members on receiving 1 adult section form and 2 children's forms although most entries are taken on the day. It was decided to ask parents attending the children's crafts if their finished items can be entered into the show in order to obtain more entries into sections. It was suggested to monitor the outcome of the day and consider an alternative approach next year.

TO AGREE A DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

EIAG 15: Agreed to arrange the next meeting of the Environmental Improvements Advisory Committee on Thursday 12th September at 6.15pm

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

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