

## 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 September 2023 commencing at 7.15 pm

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

CHAIR TO OUTLINE FIRE SAFETY EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

FG 7586 Councillor Grant outlined the procedure from the information provided.

TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

FG 7587 Apologies were accepted from Councillors Chadwick, Rotheram and Rock.

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

FG 7588 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 7589 None.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 AUGUST 2023:

FG 7590 Resolved to approve the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 14 August 2023.

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE WEBSITE START AND FINISH GROUP HELD ON 29 AUGUST 2023:

FG 7591 Resolved to approve the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Website Start and Finish Group held on 29 August 2023.

TO APPROVE THE STATEMENT OF QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS TO THE PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2023:

FG 7592 Resolved to approve the statement of quarterly accounts to the period ending 30 June 2023.

TO RECEIVE THE QUARTERLY REPORT FROM INTERNAL AUDIT TO THE PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2023:

FG 7593 Resolved to approve the quarterly report from internal audit to the period ending 30 June 2023.

TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL THAT HORWICH MAKES AN APPLICATION TO HISTORIC ENGLAND FOR LISTED BUILDING STATUS FOR HORWICH PUBLIC HALL, IN RECOGNITION OF ITS HISTORIC AND CIVIC IMPORTANCE TO THE COMMUNITY OF HORWICH:

FG 7594 Resolved to approve a proposal that Horwich makes an application to Historic

England for listed building status for Horwich Public Hall, in recognition of its historic and civic importance to the community of Horwich.

**Action: Town Clerk to contact Historic England regarding the application process and report back to Council**

TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM HORWICH HERITAGE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF £1,500 FROM THE SPORT, SOCIAL AND CULTURE BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR:

FG 7595 Resolved to approve the request from Horwich Heritage for financial assistance of £1,500 from the Sport, Social and Culture budget for the current financial year.

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT FOUR YEAR ACTION PLAN:

FG 7596 Resolved to approve the adoption of the Council's Draft Four Year Action Plan and note Council's thanks to the Deputy Town Clerk who had undertaken responsibility for this project.

TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – SCHEDULE ATTACHED

FG 7597 Resolved to approve the accounts for payment amounting to £70,218.00

Petty Cash – C. Hutchinson	£50.00
Pixelcreated (website updates to 31/08/23)	£61.00
A F Cowie (Festival of Horwich fairground rides)	£600.00
S & A Events Medical (emergency first aid cover for Festival of Horwich)	£1,200.00
JM Entertainment (inflatables, stage hire for Festival Of Horwich)	£8,257.00
Transfer to Salaries and Wages Account	£10,000.00
Transfer to Instant Access Deposit Account	£50,000.00

Payment to Pixelcreated was made in accordance with LGA 1972 s142.

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

- FG 7598
- a. Horwich Parish Church: acknowledgement of grant award of £346.76 March 2023 for a wildlife and conservation project in the churchyard
  - b. Community Ownership Fund: notice of opening of new application window for COF following submission of EOI, closing date 11 October

The Town Clerk's report was noted.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES – FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

- FG 7599
- a. Town Mayor of Horwich

- Visit to North West Air Ambulance Open Day
- Opening of Rotary Beer Festival
- Thanks to the Deputy Town Mayor for attending a diamond wedding celebration and activities for seniors at St Catherine's Church

b. Horwich Ward Councillors

In addition to regular casework:

Councillor Bamforth:

- Visit to Armed Forces breakfast club held by residents in Great Lever
- Set up visits for Ward Councillors to Air Cadets
- Walk around Claypool and Brazley estates with Places for People

Councillor Rigby:

- Ward Councillors meeting with officers from Bolton Council regarding Pickups Field, also need to get to Ridgemont

Councillor Williamson:

- Dealing with benches on Middlebrook estates

Councillor Wright:

- Meeting about Community Alliance

Councillor Grant:

- Noted Bolton Council adopted part of Model Standing Orders used by Horwich Town Council in relation to points of order at meetings
- Agreed to write to Secretary of State regarding the preservation and protection of conservation areas
- Current planning application for Rigby Taylor House has been re-validated as it was originally registered as a minor application instead of a major application, neighbours have been renotified of the application and given an additional 21 days to comment.
- Festival of Horwich on 23 September

c. Representatives on Outside Bodies

None.

TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AS 9 OCTOBER 2023:

FG 7600 Resolved to approve the date of the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee as 9 October 2023.

The meeting closed at 7.36pm

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