



## Blackrod Town Council 2015- Know Your Team



Picture contains Blackrod Town Council members and Town Clerk 2015  
Front row left to right Councillor Ann Cunliffe/ Councillor Isobel Seddon/ Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer Mrs Stella Lewis/ Councillor Pat Barrow  
Back Row left to right Councillor Alan Bury/ Councillor Stephen Laycock/ Councillor Alan Bury Snr/ Town Mayor Councillor Mike Hollick/ Councillor Graham Farrington/ Councillor Scott Batchelor

Election Day on May 7th 2015 brought about several changes to those serving the community as Councillors. Returning Councillors included Councillor Mrs Pat Barrow (**SOUTH WARD**), Councillor Mrs Ann Cunliffe (**CENTRAL WARD**), Councillor Alan Bury (**CENTRAL WARD**), Councillor Graham Farrington(**SOUTH WARD**), Councillor Mike Hollick (**NORTH WARD**) and Councillor Stephen Laycock (**NORTH WARD**). Two new Councillors, Councillor Scott Batchelor (**NORTH WARD**) and Councillor Alan Bury Snr (**SOUTH WARD**) joined the Town Council for the first time, with the final member Councillor Mrs Isabel Seddon (**CENTRAL WARD**) returning to a role she has held in previous years. All members of the newly formed Blackrod Town Council will serve their community for 4 years having been elected by residents to represent their views and opinions on many issues and members ensure they provide that extra voice to get things done such as

cleaning, grass cutting, dealing with planning applications as well as providing funds for localised activities that support community endeavours such as those for the elderly, youth, churches, schools and other organisations.

The role of Town Council members is a voluntary one and Blackrod Town Council also has a Town Clerk who is available throughout the week to assist the local community and businesses regarding issues or questions that can be answered or dealt with immediately rather than a faceless contact via the internet or telephone. The Town Clerk forms a link between the Town Council, Community and Bolton Council endeavouring to raise the profile of each aspect of local government and implementing decision making resolutions. Blackrod Town Council are there to represent you and provide the community with support, information and clarity. If you would like to contact any member of the Town Council you can do this either through the Office of the Town Clerk on 01204 696362 or by direct telephone – the numbers are available on the previous page.



**Councillor Alan Bury states on becoming a newly elected councillor**

"I have lived in Blackrod for over 30 years. I raised my own family in the village and now that I have retired I am supporting them as they go on to raise their own families here as well. I am an active member of the Blackrod Community Group and currently involved in their research into Blackrod's World War One casualties. I feel that although Blackrod has a lot to offer people of all ages there is still the potential to do more. We need to take a pro-active stance on local issues such as housing and planning, village amenities, residents needs and the environment. With the help of the local community I would like to make a positive difference to our village.



**Councillor Scott Batchelor said**

"My main objectives in being a member of Blackrod Council are to be a strong voice on behalf of the residents and business of Blackrod, to develop and improve a community which has been so important to me and to my family life. Having lived in Blackrod for most of my life I have a great pride in being part of this developing parish. I want to be involved in attracting future development whilst ensuring that all the important infrastructure needed for our community go hand in hand with growth. The aspirations and fears of our businesses and residents have a right to be heard before both statutory and non-statutory bodies. This will happen with a conscientious Town Council that are willing to embrace change whilst protecting the values and culture of our community"



**Councillor Mrs Isobel Seddon stated**  
"Having lived in Blackrod for forty five years, this community is very important to me. Being a councillor gives me the opportunity to work with individual residents, other community groups and my colleagues to try to protect and develop Blackrod both now and for the future. I am pleased to have been re elected to the Town Council".



### BLACKROD WELCOMES THE NEW MAYOR 2015

In May 2015, Councillor Mr Mike Hollick took up his position as the new Town Mayor of Blackrod for 2015-2016. Councillor Hollick has plenty of experience in handling the role, having served the people of Blackrod as Town Mayor before, as well as having served as a Town Councillor for many years. Councillor Hollick hopes to continue the work started by his predecessor, to bring young people to the fore in his role as Mayor and working alongside the newly formed Blackrod Youth Council. The Town Mayor has taken over from the retiring Mayor, Mrs Beryl Monaghan and will be supported by the Town's Mayoress Mrs Janet Milward. The Town Mayor will be supporting two charities in this year of fund raising, namely Derian House Children's Hospice and The Motor Neurone Disease Association and having already hosted a very successful coffee morning and Race night hopes to see many local residents at future events including a Murder Mystery Night, which will be held in October. Anyone wishing to contact the new Town Mayor can do so through the Office of the Town Clerk, based in the Library Building on telephone number 01204 696362.





# Our Scarecrow Festival 2015



...certainly a weekend of two halves! Fabulous weather on Saturday with hoardes of visitors sharing our annual community day and then came 3pm Sunday!!! Gales and torrential rain made some very soggy scarecrows around the village – however not to be deterred – by 6pm people came out again and enjoyed a glorious summer evening! Only in Britain!! A million thanks to all who joined in at the two schools, the two churches and all the volunteers who helped over the weekend. Special thanks to the 131+ families who made scarecrows and allowed the Festival to happen – the ideas you had were brilliant! 2nd and 3rd July 2016 are the dates for your diary when we can do it all again – the Queen's 90th and the Olympics from Brazil for starters!

The community spirit was fantastic and the financial results were also amazing with £10,000 raised for projects at the schools and churches. The sale of the programmes raised £2,500 and will finance next year's festival and also provide extras for the village. A new bench at the top of Station Road had been requested by a resident and that will be in place by mid September. Other projects are still under investigation so we will keep you posted. For people who use Facebook – the Festival FB page had 1853 "likes" in the two weeks before the event. Details of the winners of all the raffle prizes are on St Katharine's website.

Thank you all once again.  
Jean Hibbert



## DO YOU BELIEVE BLACKROD SHOULD RUN THEIR COMMUNITY CENTRE?

Talks have taken place between Blackrod Town Council and Bolton Council regarding the possibility of the local community managing Blackrod Community Centre. Cllr Ann Cunliffe together with the Blackrod Town Clerk met with Bolton Officers to discuss the viability of the centre being leased back to Blackrod Town Council or their nominated group. This suggestion was initially raised at July's Town Council meeting, when Cllr Cunliffe stated she hoped the Blackrod Community would pull together to make this happen. The Centre at present is under utilised but could, with the right management, become the heart of the Blackrod community once again. Town Councillors have looked in to the opportunities this venture could bring and hope that members of the local community will come forward with ideas and offers of help to get the project off the ground.

Cllr Ann Cunliffe stated "I do hope Blackrod Community will pull together to make this happen. Blackrod Community Centre should be at the centre of the community, a place where locals can get together for different purposes. I believe this could give the community a sense of ownership and give it scope for a larger range of activities." Are you committed to making Blackrod a better place and do you believe in your community and

the facilities on offer?. If you want to be involved please contact the Blackrod Town Clerk or any member of the Town Council through Telephone 01204 696362 or by email to blackrodtc@tiscali.co.uk



Councillor Ann Cunliffe outside Blackrod Community Centre

## Community Information

### BLACKROD TOWN COUNCILLORS

Councillor Mr Michael Hollick 62 Nightingale Road Blackrod BL6 5EA  
Tel: 01204 697933 **NORTH WARD**  
Councillor Mr Stephen Laycock, Edgewood Chorley Road Blackrod BL6 5LF  
Tel: 01257 474663 **NORTH WARD**  
Councillor Mrs Ann Cunliffe 578 Manchester Road Blackrod BL6 5SW  
Tel: 01204 332375 **CENTRAL WARD**  
Councillor Mrs Lucy P Barrow 44 Eskdale Avenue Blackrod BL6 5SE  
Tel: 01942 831461 **SOUTH WARD**  
Councillor Mr Graham Farrington 1 Barkers-de-Lane Blackrod BL6 5SP  
Tel: 01942 832853 **SOUTH WARD**  
Councillor Mr Alan Bury(Jnr) 134, Greenbarn Way, Blackrod, BL6 5TE  
Tel: 077854757769 **CENTRAL WARD**  
Councillor Mr Scott Batchelor, 12 Carlton Close, Blackrod BL6 5DL  
Tel: 01204 452740 **NORTH WARD**  
Councillor Mrs Isabel Seddon, 8, Hillside Avenue, Blackrod BL6 5BS  
Tel: 01204692597 **CENTRAL WARD**  
Councillor Mr Alan Bury (SNr) 130, Greenbarn Way Blackrod BL6 5TE  
Tel: 01204 692177 **SOUTH WARD**

### WARD COUNCILLORS

Councillor Mrs Ann Cunliffe 578 Manchester Road Blackrod BL6 5SW  
Councillor Alan Bury (Jnr) 134, Greenbarn Way Blackrod BL6 5TE  
Councillor Stephen Pickup 687 Chorley New Road, Horwich BL6 6HR

### THE BLACKROD EDUCATIONAL TRUST (Registered by the Charity Commissioners)

The Trustees, having regard to the promotion of Education, invite applications from those wishing to be considered for an award under the Trust.

Single applicants must be under 25 years of age, be resident in the Parish of Blackrod and in Primary, Secondary or Further Education.

#### AWARDS WILL BE MADE IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

Towards providing special benefits of any kind not normally provided for by the Local Education Authority.  
(This applies to any school substantially serving the Parish of Blackrod).

Towards providing facilities not normally met by the Local Education Authority for recreation, social or physical training for anyone who meets the above criteria.

In otherwise promoting, in such ways as the Trustees think fit, the education of anyone who meets the above criteria.

#### Previous applicants may still apply whilst continuing in full time education

Application forms are available (please enclose a stamped addressed envelope) from:

Mrs Helen Gambles  
Blackrod Educational Trust  
9, The Fields, Aspull,  
Wigan. Lancs. WN2 1QX

Or through: The Town Clerk.  
c/o Town Council Office  
Church Street  
Blackrod  
Tel No: 01204 696362  
[www.blackrodtowncouncil.org](http://www.blackrodtowncouncil.org)

Or at: Blackrod Library

Or at: St Katharine's Church Office  
Tuesdays 10-12 noon or Thurs. 7-8pm.  
[www.stkatharine.net](http://www.stkatharine.net)

Completed forms to be returned to Mrs Helen Gambles by 31st October 2015

### BLACKROD TOWN COUNCIL

#### Meeting dates during 2015/2016

2015  
Monday 13th April 7.30pm  
**Annual Parish Assembly**  
Monday 27th April (brought forward due to bank holiday on 4th May)  
Monday 11th May  
**Annual Meeting (7.15pm)**  
Monday 8th June 7pm  
Monday 6th July 7pm  
Monday 10th August 7pm  
Monday 7th September 7pm  
Monday 5th October 7pm  
Monday 2nd November 7pm  
Monday 7th December 7pm  
2016  
Monday 4th January 7pm  
Monday 1st February 7pm  
Monday 7th March 7pm  
Monday 4th April 7pm

### BLACKROD LIBRARY

#### Opening Times

Monday and Thursday 9.15am - 7.30pm Saturday 9.00am - 12.30pm  
Join us for our regular activities - These are free and there is no need to book unless stated:

**Afternoon Reading Group** - First Monday in the month 2pm - 3pm.  
**Twilight Reading Group** - Third Thursday in the month 6pm - 7pm.  
**Scrabble Club** - Every Monday 2pm - 4pm.  
**Toddler Tales** - For babies and children 0-5 years. Thursday afternoons 2.30pm.  
**Computer Mentor** - One hour free tuition. Please book with a member of staff.

#### Also at Blackrod Library

**Free computer use** - up to one hour.  
**Free access to Ancestry Online** - from library computers  
**Bookstart Bear Club** - From age 0-5 years. Collect up to 10 certificates by visiting the library and museum.  
**Home Library Service** - If you enjoy reading and cannot get out to the library, we offer a free fortnightly home library delivery service for housebound readers.

### St Katharine's Church Bells

The bells are back in place and hopefully will be ringing out throughout the village from early September. If anyone would like to take up bell ringing or to know more about campanology – please contact Mike Kay who is the Bell Captain at St Katharine's Church on 07851929651 for more information.

#### Notable Birthdays/ Anniversaries

If you or any member of your family are celebrating a 'notable' birthday or a Golden or Diamond anniversary, please inform the Town clerk on 01204 696362 who will arrange for the Town Mayor to visit and present flowers.

Blackrod Town Council requested this newsletter be printed on re-cycled paper and ask that you re-cycle it after you have finished reading it.

