

## **The “Scare” of a closed road has been lifted!!!**

Planned structural roadworks by United Utilities on the location of Station Road, Blackrod had threatened to disrupt the Highly Successful 10th Annual Blackrod Scarecrow Festival being held over the weekend of 2nd/ 3rd July 2016.

Following an appeal by the Town Mayor, Councillor Ann Cunliffe on behalf of the Town Council and Residents of Blackrod, United Utilities have agreed to liaise with Bolton Council Highways in order to rearrange these structural improvements as a gesture of good will. The proposed highway works will now take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> July.

The Town Mayor, Councillor Cunliffe stated that she had intervened on behalf of the people of Blackrod by appealing to United Utility’s “better nature”. The Town Mayor said that “once I had explained the situation to United Utilities, how these structural works on Station Road, which is a major route in to the village would split the village in two and that Blackrod holds this major event each year and it is attended by many thousands of visitors, United Utilities fully understood the situation and I am grateful that a possible disaster has now been avoided and Blackrod residents thank them for their cooperation.

Mrs Jean Hibbert, organiser of the Blackrod Scarecrow Festival was also delighted with the outcome and said” A million thanks to all those that have assisted in getting the planned works rescheduled, now the folks from Horwich can also come and join us, which is very good news indeed”.

Blackrod Scarecrow Festival takes place on Saturday and Sunday the 2nd and 3rd July 2016. Come along and meet the Scarecrows, spot the celebrities and enjoy a great fun filled weekend for all the family.