

## **Blackrod Town Council**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of the Blackrod Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Blackrod Library/Council Services on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

#### **Present**

Councillor. Mr J Price(**D/ Chairman**)

Councillors Mr M Hollick  
Mr G Farrington  
Mrs S Warburton  
Mr A Bury (Snr)  
Mrs I Seddon  
Mrs S Gaskell

**Also Present:** Mrs S Lowis (**Town Clerk**) Ward Councillor Mrs Baines and 15 members of the public

*Mr Chris Green MP who had intended to speak to Town Council members and residents at this meeting, forwarded his apologies for his absence due to unforeseen circumstances*

#### **42. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Bury and Councillor Batchelor and the reasons for absence accepted.

#### **43. Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest..

44. **Appointment of Working Groups/ Committee members/ representatives on outside bodies (Deferred from Annual Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 & both June and July 2018 Council meetings.**

Due to the absence of several members from earlier meetings this item had been deferred on two previous occasions. However despite two absences for the August meeting decisions on the appointments were declared as below.

**Resolved.**

1. That the appointments of working groups/ membership and representation by Councillors be listed as follows.

<b>Popplewell Trust</b>	<b>Cllr Mrs Susan Warburton</b>
	<b>Cllr Mr John Price</b>
<b>Rivington &amp; Blackrod Fdn Trust</b>	<b>Cllr Mr Mike Hollick</b>
	<b>Cllr Mrs Isabel Seddon</b>
<b>Neighbourhood Plan Chairman</b>	<b>Cllr Mr Alan Bury (Snr)</b>
<b>Blackrod Ed Trust</b>	<b>Cllr Mrs Isabel Seddon</b>
<b>LALC Representative</b>	<b>Cllr Mr John Price</b>
	<b>Cllr Mrs Susan Gaskell</b>

**Councillor Mr Graham Farrington is a Trustee of both the Blackrod Educational Trust and Popplewell Trust in his own right (Non council rep)**

**The Town Clerk is a Trustee of the Blackrod Educational Trust in her own right (Non council rep)**

45. **Planning Applications.**

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Seddon and seconded by Councillor Bury (SNr) and agreed by all and

**Resolved.**

1. That the following planning applications, detail which had been previously circulated and voted on at the planning meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018, together with comments made be duly noted.
2. That prior to Councillor's considering each application at the Planning Committee meeting, members of the public present were given the opportunity to speak to the Town Council on any particular planning application as listed.

**03908/18**                      **11, Corston Grove**                      **Erection of part first floor/  
Part 2 storey side ext**

No member of the public spoke and councillors voted to offer no comment.

**03933/18**                      **20 Shawbury Cls**                      **Erection of 1<sup>st</sup> floor side  
Ext and single rear ext.**

No member of the public spoke. Members considered the application and offered no objection but asked that it be noted that the velux lighting was for the single storey rear ext and not lighting to the roof of the upper floor.

**03935/18**                      **Huyton Fold**                      **Erection of 2 storey front  
Ext together with new 2 storey  
Central porch ext.**

No member of the public spoke and council members offered no objection but asked planning to note that a condition of the application is that no trees are touched for the erection of the 2 storey ext and that following a previous application which resulted in an enforcement notice being issued for the storage purposes that all materials and machinery for this application be adequately and appropriately stored.

**04075/18**                      **77-79 Church Street**                      **siting of internally  
Illuminated fascia signs and  
Non illuminated hoarding sign.**

Members of the public spoke in this connection

**Councillors have asked planning to defer consideration of this application until the following could be confirmed.**

01774/17 for 77-79 Church street was approved for 2 shops, namely a carpet shop and on line business for the supply of pharmaceuticals . It would now appear that the shop has become a chemist where products are supplied over the counter. It now appears the fascia signs covers both shops, and is over 8 metres in length , so has there been a revised planning application to convert to one shop which this application implies?.

The previous signage was non illuminated, can it be confirmed that the signage will be unlit when the shop is not operating or have restricted hours of display to avoid any possible highway distraction?

DCLG guidance on signage (outdoor) confirms that height from ground of a sign must be 2.5mtrs two of the illuminated signs say 2mtrs  
Suggested guidance is that a maximum of 2 signs of the type of illuminated signage, the application states 3

In the case of a shop the illuminated signage may only be displayed on the wall of the shop and the fascia panel must not extend more than 0.25mtrs from the shop wall> the application implies an overhanging roof with a fascia panel  
Projected signage must not exceed 0.75sq mtrs in area or project more than one metre from the wall. This is not adhered to in the application  
Councillors felt 3 illuminated signs are overly excessive on a shop front and could cause a distraction and safety issues to road users especially as this shop is located at a junction with a children's nursery and a busy area of traffic.  
3 large illuminated signs would also pose an unacceptable view detracting from the current street scene amongst housing.

**04101/18**

**The Cherry Tree**

**Erection of glazed seating area  
With a retractable awning**

No member of the public spoke and councillors offered no comment.

**46. Planning Decisions**

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the list of planning decisions and conditions made by Bolton Council copies of which had been previously circulated are received and noted.**

**47. Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Seddon and seconded by Councillor Bury(Snr)  
And voted in favour and

**Resolved**

- 1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 be received and signed as a true record.**

**48. Planning Correspondence/ Items on planning matters.**

**Bolton Council (Various inc chief Exec)**

**TRO Blackhorse Street/  
Chorley Road**

The Town Clerk provided members with a number of communications in relation to the Town Council's previous and recent objections to the siting of yellow lines on Blackhorse Street/ Blackrod Brow(Chorley Road) Nightingale Gardens and Vauze House Close. The letter from the Chief Executive of Bolton Council stated that Cllr Chadwick had informed him that he had liaised with Ward Councillors for the Blackrod Ward and that the yellow line proposal had met with their full support. The Town Clerk provided the response to that letter which had been sent on behalf of the Town Council which clearly showed that all points of objection made by the Town Council had not be fully detailed in the report given to Cllr Chadwick and that no discussion had taken place with the Town Council and others and that in moving forward perhaps a more meaningful wider form of consultation from the wider community would clearly be more beneficial

**Resolved.**

- 1. Councillor Farrington proposed that the papers be received with dissent, which was agreed by all members present.**

**Bolton Council**

**TRO for Hill lane/ Dark Lane  
And Rowland Homes Development area**

The Town Clerk provided members with a TRO371 for the Hill lane/ Little Scotland/ Dark Lane area of the Town including the new development off Hill lane currently under construction by Rowland Homes. Members raised no objections to the proposals but added if it was possible to:-

Extend the conditions for Dark Lane a little further that the 250mtr noted for the 20mph – preferably the full length

Extend the Little Scotland proposal further than the 165 mtr to take in quite a bad bend for the 20mph

Also in regard to yellow lines could the lines on the bend be extended to number 46 rather than number 42 and

Also requested that whilst this was being undertaken could they suggest that at the junction of Ainse Road that leads in to Harrison Crescent could the yellow lines be installed on that bend as if cars are parked on that section there is poor visibility at the road entrance?

**49 Public Participation**

A member of the public brought members up to date with the flooding on Rydal Close/ Blackhorse Development. which is still under dispute. Council members thanked the resident for her update.

Another local resident informed members that she had collected 10 bin bags worth of rubbish dumped on land belonging to her on Dark Lane area and expressed her concern on the welfare of animals within the field.

A member of the public questioned the planning application for the Cheery Tree Restaurant and queried the accuracy of the permitted development notice.

50. **Correspondence**

**Residents Letter**

**Speeding on the A6**

The Town Clerk provided members with a copy of a letter sent from a local resident in regard to speeding along the A6 bypass road in particular following a recent fatality on the same road. The Town Clerk also provided members with a copy of the response from Bolton Council Principal Engineer in response to the residents concerns which stated that it was felt that the current speed limit of 50mph required no adjusting. Members of the Town Council felt this lack of action warranted further information being requested particularly in connection with Bolton Council's Insurers.

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the information be received and heard**
- 2. That the Town Clerk make some enquiries in regard to Insurances for Borough Councils.**

*(N.B. By way of update most Borough Councils have the ability to insure themselves and would have an upper limit for acts of negligence on their part if proven. However, accidents caused through speeding would not be considered an act of negligence on part of the Borough Council and if GM Transport consider the 50mph appropriate for the type of road.Town Clerk)*

**Resident letter**

**Dark Lane/ vegetation**

The Town Clerk provided members with a copy of a letter received from a local resident in connection with concerns regarding the vegetation at the corner of Dark Lane. A member of Bolton Council had visited the resident in question and informed her that the owner of the land had still not registered the land and therefore Bolton Council could not send an enforcement notice to the possible owner. The resident confirmed that she would be speaking with one of the Ward Council members in this connection and would update as and when there was anything to report.

**Bolton Council (Chief Exec Dept)                      Communication Complaint/Invitation**  
*( and in conjunction with Item 13 on the August agenda by way of update)*

The Town Clerk provided members with a series of written communications she had had with the Chief Executive of Bolton Council and Assistant Directors as well as Leaders of Political Parties over several differing matters and was pleased to report the following.

1. That the list of outstanding queries raised with Bolton Council as far back as January 2018 had now been answered by Bolton Council's Directorate.
2. That an extended invitation both to and from Bolton Council Directorate including the Chief Executive had been discussed and would be considered ongoingly.  
Dates TBA
3. That communications had taken place with the Leader of Bolton Councillors and that the offer of attendance to meet with the Town Council may also be taken up at some future point – depending on outcomes of other meetings.

Council members felt that this had been a beneficial exercise and would look to making arrangements in due course.

**51. Parking facilities outside the shops on Blackhorse Street**

Councillor Farrington asked members to consider the possibility of making enquiries as to whether or not a request could be made to remove the railings outside the shops on Blackhorse Street and request alternative form of parking at this vicinity, which would result in better visibility for road users as well as creating more parking facilities with the onset of the yellow lines on the other side of the road. Members of the Council stated that they thought this would be a very good idea and it was therefore proposed by Councillor Farrington and seconded by Councillor Mrs Warburton and voted in favour and

**Resolved,**

- 1. That the information be received and noted**
- 2. That the Town Clerk make some preliminary investigations in to ownership of land in the area with a view to future discussions regarding suggested changes.**

**52. letter to Blackrod Primary School**

The Town Clerk provided members with a copy of a letter sent to the Headteacher of Blackrod Primary in regard to the school's outstanding successful television programme and additional national award. The Town Clerk updated members that at a

recent joint Town Council/ Youth Council meeting, members present at the joint meeting congratulated the Headteacher on the wonderful success of the programme and of the outstanding caring ethos which had shone throughout the programme. Members of the Town Council reiterated the same congratulations as previously noted.

*(It was also noted that MOP Chris Green would be paying the school a visit in light of the outstanding award that the school had received recently.)*

**53. Blackrod War memorial**

The Town Clerk provided members with a further update in regard to the Blackrod War Memorial and the application to request that the building be noted as an item of special architectural or Historic Interest. The Town Clerk conveyed that the application had been noted as received and that a preliminary assessment had been undertaken and that the process was continuing.

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the information be received and noted and updates to follow.**

**54 LALC Request from House of Lords on Rural Economy.**

The Town Clerk provided members with a notification which had been received through the NALC asking for the call for evidence in regard to rural economy. The Town Clerk asked members to review the questions in hand and provide information to be forwarded and collated by 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the information be received and considered by all**
- 2. That the Town Clerk collate and provide the necessary information required to the National Association.**

**55. Neighbourhood Plan Update**

Councillor Bury(Snr) provided members with the monthly report of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. This monthly update addressed points including, a meeting which had been held in regard to Bolton lettings policy and exploratory discussions being held in reference to graphic work to be considered and Housing text approval.



**Resolved.**

1. **That the monthly update be received and Cllr Bury thanked for his ongoing due diligence on the work of the Neighbourhood Plan.**

**56. Consideration of acting as a consultee in regard to future developments in Blackrod/ S106 funding.**

The Town Clerk provided members with a request from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group in regards to improving the transparency behind developments that may qualify for S106 funding payments and a request that Blackrod Town Council formally ask to be part of any consultations that take place between the local authority and developer on a confidential basis. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Seddon and seconded by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and voted in favour by all and

**Resolved.**

1. **That the request from the Steering Group be noted**
2. **That the Town Council formally agree with the request**
3. **That the Town Clerk write to those involved to request such consideration take place.**

**57. Anti Social behaviour in the village.**

Councillor Price asked members to note and consider actions in relation to current bouts of anti –social behaviour within the village and gave an example of a recent event in the area of the Community Centre.

*(Following a request from a member of the public the meeting of the Town Council was suspended to allow information to be received in support of the item. The meeting of the Town Council then re-commenced)*

Following receipt of information from a member of the public and further discussion it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and seconded by Councillor Farrington and voted in favour and

**Resolved.**

1. **That the item be received and noted**
2. **That the Town Clerk consider the merits of the information which had been provided and make enquiries on goingly and provide any further information in due course.**

**58. Consultation Paper. Proposed Public Spaces Protection Order**

The Town Clerk provided members with a report for consultation on the possibility of a PSPO being introduced for Bolton Town Centre. Members welcomed the

introduction and had further discussion that in giving feedback ask Bolton to consider the inclusion of other town centres surrounding Bolton such as Blackrod Horwich Westhoughton etc. members felt that for Blackrod the areas that would mostly benefit from such an order would include the North end of the village and area surrounding the Community Centre and playing fields.

**Resolved.**

1. That the paper be received and noted
2. That the Town Clerk pursue the possibility that in due course Blackrod and other Town Centres being part of the process

**59. Roads and Footpaths & Maintenance Issues**

**Council members detailed areas of concern, which included previously identified issues as well as new areas including- The Town Clerk reminded members that they could report these issues directly themselves to Bolton Council.**

Hedges along Tanners Brow and filthy debris in drainage  
A request for white lines to be redone on Manchester Road and A6  
Sinking of roadway at Little Scotland – previously reported

Councillors again expressed concern in regard to various areas of Blackrod where undergrowth was blocking paths and pedestrians were having to walk in roadways which was entirely unsatisfactory. The Town Clerk stated that a request had been made for any information which could detail when public pathways were inspected in the Blackrod area.

**Resolved.**

1. That the information be received and reported, where applicable.

**60. Finance**

It was moved by Councillor Hollick and seconded by Councillor Farrington and voted in favour by all and

**Resolved**

1. That the Chairman, Clerk and two members sign an authorisation amounting to £3754.94 ( three thousand seven hundred and fifty four pounds 94p) dated 2018.
  - a. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed.

61. **Site Visits**

Following a request from Councillor Farrington in regard to traffic speed a site visit was arranged for 12<sup>th</sup> August at 1pm to meet opposite Chamberlain Doors on Scot lane.

62. **Other Matters/ Future Agenda Items for consideration**

Councillors commented on the recent events at the Bolton Wanderers Football Stadium (Concerts) and the issues that had been noted with parking- including on roads in Blackrod.

**Agenda Items for September 3rd meeting.**

<b>Fly Tipping</b>	<b>Cllr Price</b>
<b>Flying Drones</b>	<b>Cllr Farrington</b>
<b>Speeding Greenbarn Way</b>	<b>Cllr Bury(Snr)</b>

63. **Reports from Ward Councillors**

**Ward Councillor Pickup Reported**

That the missing sign on Station Road has been replaced  
One break in leading to vehicle theft in last two weeks  
Railway electrification continuing with line closures – Blackrod will be completely shut from 25<sup>th</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept with buses supplied.

**Councillor Mrs Baines reported:**

Two Towns Forum Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm at Horwich RMI  
Possible cut to the 521 bus service from Blackrod to Royal Bolton Hospital (*Cllr Mrs Baines pursuing and MP Chris Green to be included if required*)

**The next meeting of the Town Council was confirmed as the 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 7pm.**

**The meeting closed at 8.50 pm**

**Signed.....Chairman**