

..

Blackrod Town Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Blackrod Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Blackrod Library/Council Services on Monday 3rd December 2018

Present

Councillor. Mr S Batchelor (**Chairman**)

Councillors Mr M Hollick
Mr G Farrington
Mrs S Warburton
Mr A Bury (Snr)
Mr J Price
Mrs S Gaskell

Also Present: Mrs S Lewis (**Town Clerk**) Ward Councillor Mrs Baines and 19 members of the public

126 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Bury(Jnr) and Councillor Mrs Seddon and the reasons for absence accepted.

127. Declarations of interest

Cllr A Bury (Snr)	Agenda Item 14b	Neighbourhood Plan
Cllr J Price	Agenda Item 14b	Neighbourhood Plan

128. Planning Applications.

It was moved by Councillor Hollick and seconded by Councillor Price 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 3rd December 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.

04051/18	Land at Valynette Grimeford lane	Demolition of buildings and erection of 4 Residential dwellings
-----------------	---	--

No papers were available to view on line due to the portal not being available. Councillors felt that due to unable to see the resubmission documents that they would reiterate the comments previously sent on the first submission as well as drawing attention to the matter of the flood risk and a required risk assessment. On all other matters councillors could offer no other comment.

04855/18	142 Greenbarn way	change of use of land at Rear to create enlarged garden & erection of fencing to connect To existing garden
-----------------	--------------------------	--

No papers were available to view due to the portal not being available. Councillors requested that the planning application be deferred until access to the portal can be obtained and the planning submission given consideration.

04834/18	Pennington Fold Farm	Demolition & replacement of Existing farm dwelling & a Barn conversion & erection Of 2 detached single garages A repositioned access, Landscaping & boundary treatment
-----------------	-----------------------------	---

Councillors considered the application and commented that a tree survey and landscape submission should be required as this was not clear and clarification on the access point to the roadway given as the exit would be on to a fast moving road alongside the development. Councillors also commented that attention should be given to the comments made by the Senior Landscape Architect in regard to floor levels, gated access and plot dividing fence.

**04892/18 5 Hill lane Erection of single storey
Ext to front.**

Councillors considered the submission and voted in favour of the planning application.

04901/18 134, Greenbarn way erection of single storey ext

Following consideration of the application councillors voted to approve the application

**04942/18 land between Nos 41 & 37 Erection of a detached
The Cheethams house.**

No papers were able to be viewed on line due to the portal not being available Councillors requested that the application be deferred to the next meeting to allow access to the submission for consideration. However should deferment not be given then councillors voted to object to the application due to the development being considered as on green open spaces. This land was also given as a designated play area following the Cheethams development and they strongly object to the land being sold on for any development.

**04947/18 Blackrod Cricket Club erection of single storey
Ext to side & and rear to
provide Changing facilities and
toilets.**

Councillors viewed the proposal and voted to approve the application

04972/18 Red Lion erection of detached dwelling

No access to the portal was available for this application to be considered. Councillors were unsure as to the exact location of the submission as to whether

or not this was a new location or a retrospective submission for works already being carried out. Members requested a deferment to allow for appropriate access to the portal for further consideration.

129. 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.**

130. Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 5th November 2018

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

Resolved

- 1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 5th November 2018 be received and signed as a true record with the following points noted:**

That the Town Clerk apologised for the errors that had been made in the minutes in connection with Councillor Mrs Gaskell attendance. The records will be amended accordingly to show a true record.(Town Clerk)

131. Planning Correspondence/ Items on planning matters.

There was no planning correspondence for the meeting.

132. Public Participation

On this occasion no member of the public raised any points.

133. Correspondence

Letter of thanks

Blackrod Poppy Appeal

The Town Clerk read a letter of thanks from the organisers of the poppy appeal for the donation that had been given from the Town Council.

Resolution

1. That the letter be moved and received.

Residents letter

Dark Lane Issues (Conti)

It was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Bury(Snr) and approved that the meeting be adjourned to allow the author of the letter to address the points which were being made

The resident spoke to her letter and updated members about the visit that had taken place with the Asst Director Bolton Highways who had noted the concerns that the resident had raised. Although sympathetic to the concerns raised the Asst Director had reiterated that Bolton Council had no funds available to purchase the land in question which would have assisted in the traffic issue on dark Lane but he had promised to get something done about the encroachment of bushes and grass on to the highway in the location and prepare the ground so that a verge could be created. The Asst Director also advised he would advise when the 20mph scheme would come in to place. The Asst Director also indicated that consideration could be given by the Neighbourhood Plan Group for adding the area in question as a designated area for future highway improvements. The resident also stated that she would be speaking with Ward Councillors in relation to the Public Realm Budget to see if funds could be acquired to secure a footpath. The Asst Director also raised the point of bollards being placed in the vicinity which would assist in the parking and subsequent fly tipping. The resident felt the meeting had been a positive one.

The meeting of the Town Council was reconvened

Councillors felt that the resident had managed to put all her points over to a more appropriate receptive member of Bolton Council and asked to be kept in the loop ongoingly..

**Residents Letter/ members report
Incl copy letter Borough Solicitor**

**Station Road – street cleaning
issues**

Councillor Price provided members with a report he had made following a complaint from a local resident who had also written to Bolton Council, receiving a response 8 months later. Councillor Price outlined the appalling conditions on Station Road and also had identifying photographs showing an elderly resident who was having to use a garden hoe to remove dirt and debris from the pavement outside his house on Station Road. Councillor Price reiterated the points made in the response letter from Bolton Council as being totally unacceptable and inaccurate none of which was helping to

alleviate the situation. Members agreed that further action needed to be taken and it was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and

Resolved.

- 1. That the letters and report and contents be received and noted**
- 2. That a site visit to the area be arranged for members as soon as possible.
(See site visit)**
- 3. That the Town Clerk write to Bolton's legal department for clarification on any legal contract that exists between Bolton Council and J Dickinsons.**

(Subsequent to the meeting Station Road was cleaned by Bolton Council. However as arrangements had been made for a site visit to the area this would still be carried out on Monday 10th December 2018

134. Local Council Update Papers

The Town Clerk provided members with a copy of the November issue of Local Council updates and asked if members would like to receive a copy of these papers on a monthly basis for their own perusal. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and seconded by Councillor Bury(Snr) and voted in favour and

Resolved.

- 1. That the information be received and noted**
- 2. That the Town Clerk provide members with the papers on a monthly basis**

135. Response in regard to request for litter bins on the A6 and on Scot Lane

Following a request by the Town Council for waste bins to be replaced along the A6 and a bin to be placed near to the bus stop on Scot Lane, the Town Clerk provided members with a response from Head of Neighbourhood Services in this connection. The letter stated that Bolton were delighted to be working alongside the Blackrod Litter pickers as one matter but in relation to the bins along the A6 laybys this would not be possible due to the high speed frequency of traffic along that road, it would not be safe for crews to make stops along the layby's but Bolton would endeavour to do 'one off' stops following a risk assessment if larger items of fly tipping were reported. The same applied to the area of Scot Lane where although the road was at a 30mph speed this would cause traffic tailbacks when a stop over was made to empty bins. Bolton advised safety was the top priority and on this occasion they were unable to adhere to the request made.

Resolved

- 1. That the letter be received be noted**

136. Response from United Utilities RE Water Useage/ fracking.

The Town Clerk read a letter from United Utilities in response to the Town Councils request for information as to where water would be taken from during the course of any fracking. Councillors noted the contents in its regard.

Resolved.

- 1. That the information be received and noted.**

137 Clarification on funding identified as Public Realm Monies.

Following a request for clarification on the monies now identified as Public Realm Funding, clarification was received from Ward Councillor Pickup and a note was taken on the items that this monies would cover for future requests for repairs and upgrading of items.no identification was given of the amount of monies available at this time.

Resolved.

- 1. That the information be noted**

138. (a) Neighbourhood Plan Update

Councillor Bury(Snr) provided members with the monthly report of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group for November This monthly update addressed points including Councillor feedback on the plan and documents: consultation flyers and questionnaire for the public.

Resolved.

- 1. That the monthly update be received**
- 2. That the Town Council continue to note the value of the work being carried out by Councillor Bury and the Steering Group.**

(b) Following copies of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan being given to members of the Town Council at the meeting held on November 5th 2018 for consultation, deliberation and subsequent approval, a vote was taken by those present at the meeting of the Town Council held on 3rd December 2018 ,in order to note the Town Council's approval of the document identified as the Blackrod Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

Resolved,

1. That the Draft Neighbourhood Plan be approved and sanctioned to the next stage of the process.
2. That a prepared press release be given to various press outlets in this regard.

139. Fly Posting on Station Road area

Councillor Farrington spoke in connection with the constant pieces of advertising often seen littering the railings and surrounding areas along Station Road, the A6 and other locations throughout the village. Councillors agreed that these advertisements can look messy and it was proposed by Councillor Farrington and seconded by Councillor Price and agreed by all and

Resolved.

1. That the item be received and noted
2. That the Town Clerk contact Bolton Council to see what the legal position of this form of advertising is in regard to future action.
3. That details be taken of leaflets and contact made where possible to request that the advertising materials are taken down, particularly when the dates of events have passed.

140. 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.

Blocked drains on the A6

Blocked drains Scot Lane and the state of the pavements

Loose tarmac on areas of pavements on Scot lane

Resolved.

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

141. **Finance**

It was moved by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Bury (snr) and voted in favour by all and

Resolved

1. **That the Chairman, Clerk and two members sign an authorisation amounting to £4450.77(four thousand four hundred and forty five pounds 77p) dated 3rd December 2018 .**
 - a. **That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed**

142. **Site Visits**

A site visit was arranged for Monday 10th at 10am to Station Road in order to view the state of the pavements and roads in the area.

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

The Town Clerk provided members with information regarding the parking issues on Junction Close and the responses received from Bolton Council in regard to Parking Permits and the parking issues that were arising at this location. The Town Clerk advised members that she had been in touch with a local resident who was cascading the information to other local residents. Bolton Council has said that the area did not warrant parking permits and were unable to support the request of residents in this instance.

The Town Clerk also asked council members to note the successful outcome that arose in regard to the Remembrance Day Service and march, which was attended by well over 600 local residents and children from local schools. The response from local people had been amazing and despite the lack of a band for the occasion, members of the public and schools had rallied together in order that the Remembrance Day Service went off without a single hitch. The response that had been received at the council offices had been amazing and the Town Clerk asked for a formal thanks to be noted through the council minutes.

Resolved.

1. **That the members of the Town Council were delighted to publicly thank members of the public, schools and local residents for the support they had shown on Remembrance Day 11th November 2018. A tremendous effort by all.**

Agenda Items for January 7th 2019 meeting - given at meeting.

Updates if possible on:-

Mine working on Hill lane

Lamp post located on the PROW Wiggitts Development

Boleisha Beacon

Flooding on Wiggitts Development- neighbouring properties

Extra ordinary meeting request to the Chief Executive Bolton.

Spekes Chemist

144. **Reports from Ward Councillors**

Ward Councillor Pickup reported:

That he had requested monitoring of parking situation at Church Street and Junction Close by parking attendants

The Rugby World Cup will be on display at Bolton Museum until 8th December

That he had proposed a motion of objection in connection with the Governments proposal to remove local authorities from the planning process involving fracking which was passed unanimously

The leader of the Council has been asked to put pressure on TfGM and the GM Mayor for increased parking provision at railway stations locally

Bolton Council had been rated the 4th most improved local authority in terms of productivity and now stands at 40 out of 150 in the English league tables

Ward Councillor Mrs Baines reported

That she has requested that the two finger posts at the top of Tanners Brown and the side of the Poachers Pub be repainted as requested by the Town Council

A meeting had been held for members only on 26th November between Idris Jeewa and the 3 Blackrod Ward Councillors in regard to the Two Towns Budget with monies carried forward from previous years and the 2018-2019 budget there is over £5K in the pot and ideas are being sought on how this should be spent and not just on projects projected by one Ward Councillor but through a fair process.

Ward Councillor Mrs Baines had already suggested funding monies to those that look after the memorial gardens in Blackrod for their continued good work and the siting of waste bins on the A6 as well as funding to the local luncheon club for the stirring work they carry out.

Horwich and Blackrod are amongst several 'affluent areas' to receive the least funding from the 2.6 million investment for highways to repair Bolton's roads (SEE below) with H & B receiving only £50,000 of the monies. Cllr Mrs Baines has asked for the formula that is used for the 20 wards in Bolton that identifies the deprivation determination (under a Freedom of Information request) and there is no difference in deprived areas in all areas of Bolton so she has queried why Blackrod & Horwich are considered too affluent.

Councillor Mrs Baines made reference to speed limit set for Grimeford Lane and dark Lane as well as the zebra crossing outside the Primary School

The residents issues concerning Speke on Church Street is still ongoing and a site audit has been requested

Ward Councillor Mrs Cunliffe reported via report

Bolton is to receive more than 1.3 million emergency funding to tackle pot holes the item coming a week after Bolton stated that 2.6 million would be spent improving highways and pavements and public open spaces. This money had been freed from monies earmarked for the Octagon redevelopment

That she had moved a motion at a recent Bolton council meeting to readdress the abysmal track record of the Government when it come to funding highways.

That Cllr Mrs Cunliffe and Cllr Pickup had joined with Westhoughton Ward Councillors to lobby for extra parking at local stations

The zebra crossing will be installed outside Blackrod Primary in December weather permitting

The junction of the A6 with Manchester Road has been relined along with a 20mph roundel and work yellow hatching replaced

That the known reduction to 50mph on Dark Lane and Grimeford Lane will take place once legal orders have been completed

The next meeting of the Town Council was confirmed as the 7th January 2019 at 7pm and the Chairman extended a warm welcome to those attending the meeting to join Council members for seasonal refreshment.

The Chairman also wished members and their relatives and the local residents who frequent the council meetings with regularity a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed.....Chairman