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## **Blackrod Town Council**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of the Blackrod Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Blackrod Library/Council Services on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019**

#### **Present**

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

Councillors Mr G Farrington  
Mrs S Gaskell  
Mr J Price  
Mrs I Seddon  
Mr M Hollick

**Also Present:** Mrs S Lowis (**Town Clerk**) and 7 members of the public and Ward  
Councillor Mrs S Baines

#### **209 Apologies for Absence**

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

#### **210. Declarations of interest**

No declarations were made

**211. Planning Applications.**

It was moved by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Mrs Seddon 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 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019, 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.**

**05465/19                      392, Manchester Rd                      Formation of dropped kerb**

Councillors discussed the application and voiced approval of the dropped kerb.

**05474/19                      82, Whitehall Lane                      Installation of an external  
Step lift & associated works.**

Councillors voted to approve the application

**05693/19                      40 Eskdale Ave                      Erection of 2 storey ext at side**

Councillors voted to approve the application

**05670/19                      Wigan Golf Club                      Listed building consent  
For installation of WC for  
Those with disabilities.**

Councillors had no concerns in connection with the application

**212. 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.**

**213. Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

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

**Resolved**

- 1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019 be received and signed as a true record.**

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

**Bolton Council**

**Parking Bays Update.**

The Town Clerk provided a response in regard to the Town Councils request to Bolton Council for consideration of reshaping the parking facility on the area of land outside the shops on Blackhorse Street. (This was in relation to the possibility of yellow lines being implemented on Blackhorse/ Church Street on the other side of the road) The information from Bolton suggested that the requests for echelon parking bays would not be considered for H & S reasons and width of road.

**Resolved**

- 1. That the information be received and noted**
- 2. That Council members note that further enquiries to be made in relation to the ownership of the land adjacent to the shops/ road.**

**Bolton Council**

**Update on planning application for the Loco Works and entrance points,.**

The Town Clerk provided members with an update in regard to clarification on access points being made to the proposed Loco Works. The Town Clerk confirmed that Network Rail own the piece of land in regard to access on Station Road ( where the old railway line was) and an application for a road that will serve Network Rail is still

to be made. Additionally there will be another approved access point - full vehicular access on to Station Road/ Crown Lane –Horwich side of the bridge)

**Resolved**

1. That the current update be received and noted
2. That information on the weight limit associated with the bridge over the railway be sought.

**215. Public Participation**

There was no public participation on this occasion during the meeting.

**216. Correspondence**

**Residents Letter**

**School place concerns**

The Town Clerk provided members with several pieces of communications in regard to a matter of concern from a Blackrod resident in regard to future local secondary school places. The correspondence included responses from several officers in Bolton Council including the Executive Cabinet Member for People. Members of the Town Council equally reacted with concerns regarding the issues raised and it was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Mrs Seddon and voted in favour and

**Resolved.**

1. That the information from the local resident is received and noted
2. That the Town Clerk pursue relevant information on the matter in due course
3. That the Town Council hold an extraordinary meeting on the subject once further information is obtained.

**217. Residents concerns in relation to Hill lane/ Chorley Brow and Blackhorse Street**

Councillor Price updated members on the issues of traffic flow, near misses in the area as far up as the zebra crossing and the possibility of a serious accident occurring. It was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and voted in favour by all and

**Resolved.**

1. That the information regarding residents concerns be received
2. That a site visit be arranged with appropriate personnel in due course in regard to the matter.

**218 Hedgerows**

Councillor Farrington raised the matter of uncut hedgerows along Station Road and Manchester Road and various other locations throughout Blackrod. Some of the hedgerow is clearly sticking out in to paths and roads making it more difficult for both pedestrian use and traffic use. It was proposed by Councillor Farrington and seconded by Councillor Price and voted in favour and

**Resolved**

- 1. That the information be received and noted**
- 2. That the Town Clerk ascertain when these hedgerows will be trimmed back**

**219. Neighbourhood Plan Update**

Councillor Bury(Snr) provided members with the monthly report of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group for March 2019. This monthly update addressed points such as end of grant report to groundwork: steering group responses to resident comments: meeting with members of Bolton staff in regard to Independent Living scheme site.

**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.**

**220. BI Annual Adoption of Council Policies.**

The Town Clerk in keeping with appropriate procedures asked council members to readopt current policies (12) whose review dates were scheduled. It was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Hollick and voted in favour by all present and

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the current list of policies due for annual and bi annual review be readopted for their identified periods**
- 2. That the Town Clerk continue working on several newly identified policies in keeping with current legislation.**

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

Greenbarn Way	pot holes left unfinished
Dropped kerbs still too high making access for those disabled difficult (Photograph supplied)	
Little Scotland	lorry turning out of farm gates on wrong side Of the road 30mph sign been hit
Scot Lane	still requiring more tarmac on areas
Cemetery Gates	Obstruction of view on leaving cemetery being made by a Network Rail van parked in area.
New St Car Park	Still no disabled bays, requires relining <i>(TC to obtain policy on disabled parking on Car parks)</i>

**Resolved.**

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

222. **Finance**

It was moved by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Mrs Seddon and voted in favour by all and

**Resolved**

- 1. That the Chairman, Clerk and two members sign an authorisation amounting to £4379.19 ( four thousand three hundred and seventy nine pounds 19p) dated 1st April 2019**
- 2. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed**
- 3. That the Chairman, Clerk and 2 members sign a transfer request from the Town Council's Deposit Account to the Main Account of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) and from the Deposit Account to the Mayoral Account for £1500.00 (One thousand five hundred pounds)**

223. **Site Visits**

No site visits were requested at the meeting.

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

**Other matters**

Councillor Farrington raised the matter of the demolition of The Heights bungalow on Scot lane and the possibility of contamination across the ground, which will be monitored.

**Agenda Item for next meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April.**

**Cllr Farrington**

**Car Park Blackhorse Street signage**

**225. Reports from Ward Councillors**

**Ward Councillor Pickup reported:**

**Resurfacing works on the A6 progressing well**

**Additional capital highways funding for Blackrod & Horwich Ward being allocated to resurface the worse sections of Greenbarn Way and Vicarage Rd  
Gtr Mcr Fire & Rescue service launched a public consultation on reforming the service.**

**Gtr Mcr combined authority has announced an exclusive green energy tariff for GM residents**

**Had attended the Rivington Chase Liaison Group meeting**

**Had been liaising with local police on several local resident matters**

**Ward Councillor Mrs Baines reported:-**

**That a grit bin had been requested for areas of Greenbarn Way**

**12 million of town centre funding has been allocated for 4 identified town centres with an extra 4 million being apportioned to other Town areas but none identified for Blackrod**

**At a Rivington Chase liaison meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March it was confirmed that all will be in place by 2030, with a link road finalised by 2022. The council will build the road which will cost 12 million from Homes England.**

**Homes England have purchased the Armstrong site and given them 4 months notice to vacate. Their environment licence ended on 29<sup>th</sup> March**

**A request has been made to develop the Monument area and erect a history board about the wars (Horwich) and include a nostalgic history trail**

**The first resident is due to move in to one of the new properties on the Loco Works (Bellway site)**

**Housing Infrastructure Fund. Bolton Council is committed to working with Homes England to sign off and begin the procurement process which will take approx. 6/12 months**

**An ITmpower launched at Hallith wood community centre is a church initiative offering free IT skills to the unemployed which hopefully folks from Horwich and Blackrod can access.**

**A motion was carried at a recent Bolton Council meeting to make a case for inclusion of all greenbelt areas and other areas deemed worthwhile which would create a National Park or area of AONB for Gtr Mcr, protecting greenbelt land and offer access to green spaces (marking the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act.**

**Ward Councillor Mrs Cunliffe additional email item**

- That all children applying for a place in a Blackrod Primary School had received a Blackrod Primary School Place**
- That an ongoing programme of dropped kerbs will recommence**

**The next meeting of the Town Council was confirmed as the Monday April 29th 2019 at 7pm**

**The meeting closed at 9.05pm**

**Signed.....Chairman**