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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 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

#### **Present**

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

Councillors Mr A Bury  
Mrs I Seddon  
Mr G Farrington  
Mr N Bell  
Mrs S Baines  
Mrs S Gaskell  
Mr M Hollick

**Also Present:** Mrs S Lewis (**Town Clerk**) Ward Councillor P Wright and 13 members of the public

#### 138 **Apologies for Absence**

All council members present for the meeting.

#### 139. **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Farrington declared an interest in the planning application number 07405/19

**140. Planning Applications.**

It was moved by Councillor Bury and seconded by Councillor Bell 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> January 2020, 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.

<b>07405/19</b>	<b>The Old Pumping Station</b>	<b>alterations to front Elevations width &amp; Height.</b>
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Councillors discussed the application at length and it was resolved to request a deferment whilst enquiries are being made as to the current ownership of the property: what business is actually being carried out in the property and information regarding covenants

**141. 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.

**142. Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019**

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

**Resolved**

1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 be received and signed as a true record.

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

**Bolton Council**

**Blackrod Industrial Estate**

The Town Clerk provided members with an update regarding the Blackrod Industrial Estate. The information detailed that the officer was to liaise with the Environment Agency to investigate compliance with the permits for three businesses on the Estate. The Town Clerk reminded members that Bolton Council had been contacted by the Town Council with an understanding that the Town Council had provided Bolton with a vast amount of information and raised concerns over several matters and that they had now written to Bolton Council to ensure that in all matters relating to planning, Health and safety and environmental issues that Bolton Council should take full responsibility.

**Resolved.**

1. That the latest information be received and noted.

**144. Public Participation**

A member of the public raised concerns in regard to the speed limit on Dark Lane: Dog Fouling in the area: A street light requiring to be fixed on dark lane: Repairs required for the pavement areas on dark Lane; The Town Clerk also stated that she would provide Bolton Council's update in regard to issues that were raised in regard to PROW in the area.

**Resolved**

1. That the information be heard and that the Town Clerk contact various departments with the issues raised.

**145. Correspondence**

**Power for People**

**Request for support**

The Town Clerk provided members with a letter from the Power for People Organisation in regard to supporting the Local Electricity Bill. The Bill if passed would enable local communities to sell locally generated clean energy directly to customers. The Town Clerk advised that this matter was about establishing a statutory right to local supply and suggested that currently not enough information on the Bill

had been provided and that this was probably something which would be looked at by the Borough Council.

**Resolved**

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

**CPRE**

**Request for donation**

The Town Clerk provided members with a letter from CPRE which as well as providing an update in regard to the local area campaigns requested a donation in order for continuity with their work to protect the countryside. The Town Clerk was consulted over funding streams and it was proposed by Councillor Bury and seconded by Councillor Mrs Seddon and voted in favour and

**Resolved.**

1. **That the letter and request be received and noted**
2. **That the Town Council make a donation of £50.00 to CPRE Lancashire and the Town Clerk to make the required arrangements.**

**Local Resident**

**Manhole Covers Blundell Lane**

The Town Clerk provided members with a letter from a local resident in regard to a sinking manhole cover along Blundell Lane which was in danger of sinking further and to which the resident was requesting involvement by the Town Council to try and get the matter resolved.

**Resolved**

1. **That the information be received and noted**
2. **That the Town Clerk pursue the issue with a view to getting the matter resolved.**

*(As an update: The Town Clerk spoke to staff within United Utilities on 8/1/20 who informed that they would visit the situation without further delay)*

**146. Local Primary School: Parking**

Councillor Farrington raised the issue of the parking problems outside the local primary school and provided an item for consideration which would possibly go some way to alleviate the current issues and assist in matters of health and safety within the vicinity. Matters included ascertaining ownership and possibilities of incorporating yellow lines on the main highway. It was proposed by members that the area could be further looked at and matters explored following a site visit to the area.

**Resolved**

1. That a site visit be arranged ( See site visits)
2. That the Town Clerk carry out investigations in regard to ascertaining ownership of the land in question.

**147. Zebra Crossing outside St Katharine's Church**

Councillor Hollick requested an update in regard to the zebra crossing outside St Katharine's and the issue with speeding vehicles approaching the current zebra crossing. Members confirmed that they had carried out a site visit where a request for larger signage had been made. Ward Councillors had been requested to look in to this matter as well as requesting larger signage to be made in a clearer location in its regard.

**Resolved**

1. That the update be received and noted.

**148. Financial Accounts Reconciliation Half year to 30/9/19**

The Town Clerk provided members with an interim auditable review of the current financial year to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019. It was proposed by Councillor Farrington and seconded by Councillor Hollick and voted in favour and

**Resolved**

1. That the timely reconciled accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019 be received, noted and approved.

**149. Update in regard to Building Works Improvements**

The Town Clerk provided members with a resume of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 in regard to the development works for Blackhorse Street. Rather than discussions taking place during the council meeting it was proposed by Councillor Farrington and seconded by Councillor Hollick and voted in favour and

**Resolved.**

1. That a second meeting take place in regard to the Blackhorse Street Works on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 by all who could be in attendance.

**150. Concrete lamp standards**

Councillor Hollick raised a question in regards to the changing of lamp posts within the village which were over 80 years old. Cllr Hollick stated some had been changed but there were others which hadn't been and asked if it could be clarified.

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the information be received**
- 2. That enquiries are made as to the roads which have been upgraded and those still be carried out.**

**150. Communication Strategy**

**The Town Clerk asked for this item to be deferred until a future meeting.**

**151. Membership Vacancy**

The Town Clerk requested members to consider their membership numbers following the resignation of a member. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Seddon and seconded by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and voted in favour by all and

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the Town Council wish to elect a new member to the council**
- 2. That the Town Clerk liaise with the appropriate departments in Bolton to move the item forward.**

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

Councillors commented on works / items required for

Pot holes appearing on Scot Lane: Hill Lane: Manchester Road:  
Caravan dumped on the layby on the A6

**Resolved.**

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

**153. 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 £3082.78 ( three thousand and eighty two pounds 78p) dated 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**
- 2. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed**

### 154. **Site Visits**

Site visit arranged for 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 off Manchester Road

### 155. **Other Matters/ Future Agenda Items for consideration**

#### **Agenda Items**

No items were given at the meeting

#### **Other Matters**

The Town Clerk advised members that the bus shelter would be finally erected on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January

That the May Day holiday at the beginning of May would be on a Friday this year (8<sup>th</sup>) and not the first Monday.

### 156. **Reports from Ward Councillors**

#### **Ward Councillor Peter Wright reported that;-**

Cllr Wright advised that he had been asked to look in to matters of vehicles parking on Dark Lane and possibly fly tipping and land ownership. It has been concluded by Bolton Officers that the layby is part of the Bolton Highway and the ownership is a civil matter

Gas cannisters being dumped had been reported

Horwich and Blackrod PCSO are to be informed about the possibility of drug use in the area.

**Ward Councillor Mrs Baines reported that:-**

**Flooding issues. Highways had been contacted and a site visit requested. Highway repairs are progressing and repairs agreed that Ward Councillors had agreed upon.**

**A new Chief Executive has been appointed for the Royal Bolton Hospital TFGFM – changes to bus services. The 575 bus service that serves Horwich and Blackrod will now operate to every 30 mins before 9.30am and the 517 service which includes Horwich is to be withdrawn**

**A new Deputy Director of Place has been appointed Mr Jonathan Dyson**

**A new mental health toolkit has been rolled out across GM in regard to suicide prevention**

**The new Mayor of Bolton for the forthcoming year from May will be Mrs Linda Thomas**

*It was requested that it be noted that there has been no Ward Councillors report from Ward Councillor Mrs Cunliffe for the sixth meeting in a row.*

**The next meeting of the Town Council was confirmed as the Monday February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 at 7pm**

**The meeting closed at 9.25pm**

**Signed.....Chairman**