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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 2nd March 2020**

Present

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

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

Also Present: Mrs S Lewis (**Town Clerk**) Ward Councillor P Wright and 16 members of the public

179 **Apologies for Absence**

All members of the Town Council were present for the meeting

180. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

181. **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, details of which had been previously circulated and voted on at the planning meeting held on the 2nd March 2020, together with comments made be duly noted.**
- 2. That prior to Councillors 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.**

**07758/20 12, Chapel Street permission in principle for the
Erection of one dwelling.**

Several members of the public spoke against this application at the meeting. Councillors then considered the application in depth and voted unanimously to object to the application on the grounds of inappropriate over development of an area which has inadequate access and which contravenes policy which was developed to stop development of garden areas. (National Policy Framework 2019 in relation to inappropriate development in gardens) This application is for the garden area of Number 12 Chapel Street. Councillors were extremely concerned in relation to what visual changes would be made to the current street scene, the congestion which would prevent access to any services wishing to access the road. Parking has already been highlighted in this area as a problem, hence the installation of a small turning space on the road which allows for vehicles to turn around. In terms of the Neighbourhood Plan which has been accepted in principle by Bolton Council and awaiting a referendum result to finalise the plan, this project would not be in keeping with the policies outlined in the plan. The Town Council strongly suggests that a visit is made to the area by Bolton Planning Committee.

**07859/10 38, Meadow Way Erection of a single storey
Extension to rear**

Councillors offered no comment on this application

**07879/20 198 Greenbarn way Raising of ridge height & first
Floor ext together with single
Storey rear ext.**

Councillors voted against the application on the grounds of over development within the area.

182. 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.**

183. Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 3rd February 2020

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

Resolved

- 1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 3rd February 2020 be received and signed as a true record.**

184. Planning Correspondence/ Items on planning matters.

Bolton Council

Scot Lane Indl Estate (additional Info)

The Town Clerk provided members with a further update regarding the issues at the Scot Lane Industrial Estate. The information covered some authorised and unauthorised use on the area including outdoor storage against some units as well as authorised use due to the 10 year exemption period occurring. Councillor Farrington commented that the Town Council has been raising matters in connection with the Industrial Estate well within the 10 year periods and that these had been brought to the attention of the CEO. Councillor Mrs Baines said that she would have a look at the issues raised by the Town Council. It was therefore

Resolved.

- 1. That the latest information be received and noted with objection**
- 2. That the Town Clerk arrange to send the information to Ward Councillor Mrs Baines ongoingly.**

185. Public Participation

Several members of the public spoke again in connection with the current water issues running through gardens and under floorboards. It was noted that there was conflicting comments being made by Officers from various agencies visiting the site.

The Town Council commented that they would continue to support residents in the matter.

Another resident indicated that car drivers do not seem to be abiding by the yellow line rules for parking and for dropped kerb parking.

Residents commented again on the light situation on the PROW area leading from the development at Nightingale Gardens.

A local resident spoke in connection with the kerb on Dark Lane and its removal

Another local resident advised those present to get in touch with the Borough Insurance Officer RE the risks, which she felt sure would raise attention.

Another resident wanted to know how long after the Neighbourhood Plan being accepted that restrictions would begin to apply in the village.

A visiting Councillor from another Town Council addressed the room in regard to plastic free packaging, which would be showcased at Horwich Community Centre on 15th April.

Resolved

1. **That the information be heard and that the Town Clerk and various Councillors who had offered help contact various departments with the issues raised where required.**

186. Correspondence

Bolton Council

Statement of Community Involvement

The Clerk provided members with information received from Bolton Council in regard to their production of a statement of community involvement. Following discussion the Town Clerk asked for all comments to be with her no later than 17th March to enable comments to be forwarded to Bolton Council in connection with the document.

Resolved

1. **That the information be received and noted.**
2. **That the town Clerk offer the response on behalf of the Town Council following deadline date for councillors of 17th March 2020**

187. A6 Junction with Manchester Road

Councillor Farrington brought up the subject of the traffic light at this junction following another recent accident at the area. Newly elected councillors were brought up to speed with the issue of the traffic light signal issues. It was proposed by Councillor Farrington and seconded by Councillor Hollick and voted in favour and

Resolved

- 1. That the information be received and noted**
- 2. That the Town Clerk contact the Ward Councillors to see if they can address the issue with Highways going forward.**

188. Communication Paper Update,

Cllr Bell introduced his Communication Strategy paper and updated on the meeting he had held with members recently on his proposals. Members felt that a number of the items could be beneficial and it was proposed that a small working group concentrate on the possible workings of various matters commencing first with emails. The paper was proposed by Cllr Bell and seconded by Cllr Bury and voted in favour and

Resolved.

- 1. That the information from Cllr Bell be received and noted**
- 2. That the Town Clerk contact the Council's external IT Administrator to arrange a meeting when convenient to discuss possibilities going forward.**

189. Blackhorse Street

The Town Clerk in keeping with appropriate procedures provided members with quotations for the works for the improvement to Blackhorse Street. Voting took place amongst members and quotation were approved unanimously. It was therefore proposed by Councillor Bury and seconded by Cllr Mrs Seddon and voted in favour and

Resolved

- 1. That the Town Clerk contact the successful bids in order to move the project forward.**

189. Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Bury brought members up to date with the Plan to date and provided members with a summarised guide for councillors ahead of the forthcoming referendum being held on 26th March. The Chairman asked members to congratulate Cllr Bury and his team on reaching the culmination of 4 years work which Cllr Bury accepted on behalf of the Steering Group.

Resolved.

- 1. That the update and next steps be received and noted.**

190. Roads and Footpaths & Maintenance Issues

Councillors commented on works / items required for

Little Scotland area both sides of the road
Greenbarn way
Pot hole on Scot Lane
Outside Rivington Pub
Main road through the village.

Resolved.

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

191. Finance

It was moved by Councillor Hollick 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 £4734.98 (four thousand seven hundred and thirty four pounds 98p) dated 2nd March 2020**
- 2. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed**

192. Site Visits

No site visit were arranged.

193. Other Matters/ Future Agenda Items for consideration

It was reported that the PCSO had recently been looking at parking situations outside the primary schools

Agenda Items

No items were given at the meeting

194. Reports from Ward Councillors

Ward Councillor Peter Wright reported that:-

He has contacted Highways again in regard to the pelican crossing outside Blackrod Library
He has raised the issues of the road surfaces around Little Scotland as well as Station Road and outside the Rivington Pub
And has been in touch in regard to the sudden spell of graffiti in the village.

Ward Councillor Mrs Baines reported that:-

A MOMs meeting had taken place to discuss budgets
Resiting of the streetlight on Nightingale Gardens – funds can be made available from the 19/20 flat rate budget.
Ideas for use with the remaining funds in the public realm budget
Horwich and Blackrod need to identify works to improve both towns from flat rate budget
Costs have been received for repainting of the finger posts
St Katharines Drive is on the list for resurfacing
The general area of Little Scotland is to be resurfaced
A community safety budget. One idea mooted is the creation of junior PCSO to raise awareness of inconsiderate and unsafe parking by parents
Funds are available for setting up neighbourhood watch schemes
Cllr has asked for a highways audit of Victoria Road which will be conducted with works around Ramsbottom road
Indiscriminate parking issues at The Cheethams
The Bolton Fund has completed round 1 of allocating funds for community projects. (The Town Council was not aware of this fund) 3 have been picked for the Blackrod and Horwich area and include:-
Horwich Festival of Racing £3000

Blackrod Community Centre £5000 given to the Health Coordinator/ Manager at the centre for various activities linked to their “poor choices and unhealthy lifestyles work” which are being offered 7 days a week targeting 200 people
Bridge Street £3300 for crafts to promote healthy eating targeting 60people

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

The next meeting of the Town Council was confirmed as the Monday April 6th 2020 at 7pm

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed.....Chairman