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Blackrod Town Council

Minutes of an Extraordinary special Meeting of Blackrod Town Council held on Monday 6th July 2020

For the purpose of accountability and transparency, the items included in these minutes from the special meeting have followed the guidelines issued under the Coronavirus Act s78 in that provision has been made for members to participate in a meeting without all being together in the same place.

Present by agreed provision.

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 Lowis (**Town Clerk**)

38 Apologies for Absence

All members of the Town Council were present through their comments for the meeting

39. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

40. Matters arising from previous minutes.

The Town Clerk noted that there were no matters arising from the minutes which had been previously circulated.

41. Planning Applications.

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and seconded by Councillor Mr Price as Chairman 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 section of the extraordinary meeting held for the 6th July 2020, together with comments made be duly noted.**
- 2. That prior to Councillors considering each application due to the format of the meeting due to the Covid19 regulations no members of the public had asked for an opportunity to speak on any particular planning application as listed on the Council noticeboard.**

08407/20	3, Waterhouse Nook	Erection of single storey rear Ext with roof lights
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Councillors offered no comments to the application

08431/20	34, Meadow Way	Erectio of single storey ext Together with new roof over Existing single storey side build
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Councillors offered no comment to the planning application

08641/20	29, Whitehall Lane	Erection of single storey front extension
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Councillors considered the planning application carefully and noted that the buildings had been included within the Neighbourhood Plan on a list of non designated heritage Assets. However, it was also noted that previous works had already been carried out on the building. The majority vote was to offer no objection but should the application

be approved a request was made for the proposed glass roof to be replaced with slate in order to maintain some resemblance to the heritage appearance.

08483/20

13, Boardman Street

Erection of one dwelling

Councillors voted to wholeheartedly object to the planning application. Objections included the site becoming over congested: the design is not in keeping with current buildings on the street and would be entirely out of character with surroundings; the access on to the street is too small (via Chapel Street) and the application to include a balcony and open patio aspect will impact greatly on neighbouring properties and surrounding streets. The loss of existing views from neighbouring properties would have an adverse effect on the residential community, together with a loss of light to some buildings. The application for the development is within two gardens, which have been sold and in close proximity to 19th century buildings and would surely conflict with inappropriate development of existing residential gardens and homes. The application site is also at a different level to other surrounding areas. The Town Council recommend a site visit as a must in order for planning officers to understand the depth to which this application could cause adverse effects to neighbouring properties.

42. **Planning Decisions**

Resolved.

1. **That the list of planning decisions and conditions made by Bolton Council copies were received and noted.**

43. **Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 1st June 2020**

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

Resolved

1. **That the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 1st June 2020 be received and signed as a true record.**

44 Planning Correspondence/ Items on planning matters.

The Town Clerk advised members that three items had been reported to planning enforcement:-

Caravan parked at Lee Fold Farm
Road Signs erected advertising businesses on the A6
Possible breach of notice. Wilkinson Farm Building Works

Resolved

- 1. That the information in regard to the above enforcement actions be received and noted.**

45. Public Participation

Due to the nature of the extraordinary meeting there was no public participation or verbal requests for participation made by the public.

46. Correspondence

Local Resident

Request to donate a memorial bench

Local resident

Request to donate a replacement bench

(As both matters involved donations in regard to benches within the village, both items were taken together)

The Town Clerk provided members with information regarding two separate requests from local residents in regard to donations involving seating within the village. One matter involved the siting of a memorial bench , whilst the other was an offer to replace broken seating. Councillor decision making was not unanimous and in view of the implications, the Town Clerk elected to defer the matter to a future meeting until additional information could be obtained and further debate to be concluded.

Resolved

- 1. That the information regarding the donations be received and noted**
- 2. That the Town Clerk obtain further information in regard to the public seating**
- 3. That the matter be deferred until a future meeting takes place.**

47. Update My Space Housing - Rivington Street

The Town Clerk provided a further update in relation to the new provision which is moving to New Street/ Rivington Street. The Town Clerk outlined to members that the new business would like to develop communication channels in the village as well as with the Town Council and had invited the Town Clerk to view the premises at a date convenient and in line with the current Covid regulations restrictions. The Town Clerk also reminded members that at a previous meeting in regard to previous tenants of the same address, the Town Council had elected Cllr Mrs Gaskell to be the link person for that provision going forward. Having spoken to Cllr Mrs Gaskell in this connection the Town Clerk requested that members consider Cllr Mrs Gaskell as the link person of the new provision within the village. Cllr Mrs Gaskell accepted the invitation. It was therefore proposed by Councillor Bury and seconded by Councillor Hollick and voted in favour and

Resolved

- 1. That the council member representative for liaison with the new provision at 171 Rivington Street (My Space Housing) is elected as Cllr Mrs S Gaskell**
- 2. That the Town Clerk continue to liaise with My Space Housing on behalf of the Town Council**

(Update: The Town Clerk accompanied by the Chairman Cllr J Price attended an introductory viewing with My Space Housing at the premises on Rivington Street on 15th July 2020. Updates will be given at the next meeting of the Town Council.)

48. Update in relation to Town Council land at Blackhorse Street

The Town Clerk provided members with an update on the work that continues on Blackhorse Street. This included:-

Concerns over the condition of the current Christmas Tree – which is being assessed
All Town Council owned flower troughs (old and new) have been planted up for the season.

Weed killing at Blackhorse Street has been undertaken

Additional planting will take place later in the year at Blackhorse Street

The seating at Blackhorse Street has been put in place

A request has been made in connection with water connection

Railings will be in place towards the end of July/ early August.

Resolved

1. That the update be received and noted.

49. **Staffing Information**

The Town Clerk provided written information in relation to a private staffing matter related to a financial procedural change. It was proposed by Cllr Bury and seconded by Cllr Bell and voted in favour by all and

Resolved.

1. That the information be received and noted
2. That the Town Clerk make all amendments required.

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

Councillors advised that due to the current circumstances they had made their own arrangements to advise Bolton Council of repairs required for roads.

Resolved.

1. That the information be received and noted.

51. **Finance**

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

Resolved

1. That the Chairman, Clerk and two members sign an authorisation amounting to £4161.47 (four thousand one hundred and sixty one pounds 47p) dated 6th July 2020
2. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed

52. **Site Visits**

No site visit were arranged other than those in connection with ongoing works at Blackhorse Street (Garden area) which are continuing to be constructed and developed.

(Councillors were also requested to examine themselves any planning application areas on-going to aid feedback as required on applications)

53. Other Matters/ Future Agenda Items for consideration

No agenda items were reported

Other Matters.

The Town Clerk advised that work has taken place to ascertain the ownership of trees and bushes on the grassed area on Blackhorse Street. This has been confirmed as in the ownership of the Town Council and land and papers from the land registry have been noted by Bolton Council. This may require the Town Council to undertake annual surveys and maintenance of the trees and bushes but the Town Clerk has written to Bolton Council asset management to ascertain whether or not this could form part of Bolton's annual inspection.

The Town Clerk asked members to note that a local resident had already removed an extensive amount of branches from one of the Lime Trees without reference and that this would be addressed

54. Ward Councillor Updates.

As previously agreed in the current climate Ward Councillor updates will be circulated as and when they are received to enable information to reach members as soon as is convenient. As they have not been read at the extraordinary meeting they are not included in the minutes but are noted as received and circulated.

Cllr Mrs Baines
Cllr Wright

55. The next extraordinary special meeting of matters of the Town Council was confirmed as being conducted by 3rd August 2020 unless otherwise informed and the Town Clerk will advise members of any Agenda items or matters for discussion in the week prior to that date.

Signed.....Chairman

