

## **Blackrod Town Council**

### **Minutes of an Extraordinary special Meeting of Blackrod Town Council held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021**

*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** )

#### 158 **Apologies for Absence**

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

#### 159. **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Bury declared and interest in Agenda Item 11

Horwich Town Centre  
Development

**160. Matters arising from previous minutes.**

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

**161. Planning Applications.**

It was moved by Councillor Hollick 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 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021, 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.**

<b>09973/20</b>	<b>9, Castlecroft</b>	<b>Extension of raised decking &amp; erection of steel/glass Structure over existing patio</b>
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Councillors considered the application and subject to confirmation that the land over which the proposal is owned by the applicant, and building works legal, have offered no objections.

<b>09974/20</b>	<b>Crowshaw Farm</b>	<b>Demolition of existing Conservatory &amp; erection of Single storey ext.</b>
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Councillors offered no comment to the application

<b>10101/20</b>	<b>8 Dorning Street</b>	<b>Erection of 1<sup>st</sup> floor ext at Rear &amp; conversion of loft</b>
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**To habitable room with roof  
lights**

Councillors offered no objection to the application

**10119/20**

**9, Highfield Rd**

**Erection of single storey  
At front side & rear ext**

Councillors offered no comment to the application

162. **Planning Decisions**

**Resolved.**

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

163. **Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

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

**Resolved**

1. That the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 be received and signed as a true record.

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

**There was no correspondence at the time of the meeting**

*Enforcement Updates.*

**A6 Bypass  
33 Station Road**

**Caravan removal  
Dog Boarding kennels**

The Town Clerk advised that the outcome on the above is still outstanding by Bolton Council and updates will follow when they are received but are frequently being chased.

**Resolved.**

1. That the matters in hand be received and noted.

**165. Correspondence**

**Local Boundary Commission**

**New Council Wards and Ward Boundaries  
For Bolton**

Following a note of the communication from the Local Boundary Commission, being circulated to councillors to offer their comments on the local ward boundaries.. The collated comments will be brought back to the March meeting to confirm prior to being forwarded to the commission.

**Bolton Council**

**Licensing Unit. Statement of Policy  
Consultation**

**The Town Clerk informed members that the current licensing policy is due for review but due to the restrictions it has been suggested that the current policy be rolled over to allow people a longer period to review the policy thoroughly.**

**Resolved.**

1. That the information be noted and agreed.

**166. Council meeting dates for 2021-2022**

The Town Clerk presented members with a list of proposed dates for Council meetings to be held during 2021 and 2022. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and seconded by Councillor Bell and voted in favour and

**Resolved**

- 1. That the information on council dates be received and noted**
- 2. That the amendment to the January date 2022 be noted.**

**167. Public Participation**

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

**168 Blackhorse Street memorial Stone**

The Town Clerk advised members that the final stages of the Blackhorse garden project was imminent, with the selection of rockery stone and wording for the memorial piece to be agreed.(Papers attached) All stones are being donated to the project from Armstrong Aggregates, including the related masonry workings, delivery and settings. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Seddon and seconded by Councillor Farrington and voted in favour and

**Resolved**

- 1. That the wording as detailed on circulated papers be agreed**
- 2. That the Town Clerk proceed with the continuation of the project as discussed**
- 3. Once completed a letter of thanks be sent to Armstrongs Aggregates to thank them for their generous donation.**

*(Town Clerk: it is also intended that all local businesses who have donated any items/ service or time to the overall project should be thanked upon completion of the project and their names recorded within the project grounds and council papers>)*

169 **Horwich Town Centre Development Fund ( incorporating Blackrod)**

The Town Clerk updated members that meeting of the Horwich Steering Group on the above was held via Microsoft Teams on 26th January 2021, which Cllr Bury attended as your named representative. Most of the discussions were about Horwich Town Centre developments and its progress together with some wider district discussions. i.e. the SAMP process and District Centre Funding. The Town Clerk reminded members that Blackrod had been given no direct Town Centre Funding but following various discussions a decision has been made to allocate some of the Horwich Town Centre funds to Blackrod- the total amounts are yet unknown) Under the Steering Group's Agenda Item , prioritisation and Costings , Blackrod was mentioned, where two of the 6 items Blackrod council members had indicated and submitted for suggested development were mentioned and an indicative costing given . There was a brief discussion about these areas as well as those that had not been included in the costings and it was agreed that the chair of the Horwich Steering Group come to Blackrod Town Council to discuss matters further. Cllr Bury also asked for a copy of the slides that were shown at the beginning of the meeting to be forwarded for your attention.

**Resolved.**

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

*(footnote: Town Clerk. A copy of the slides and minutes from the meeting were duly circulated to members when received from the project co-ordinator from Bolton. The date of the meeting with Cllr Mrs Brady will be Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February and will be reported upon in the next Council meeting)*

170. **Financial Estimates 2021-2022**

The Town Clerk referred to a set of documents previously circulated containing the financial estimates for the forthcoming year April 2021 to March 2022. Members having carefully considered the estimates thoroughly both the proposals for increases/ decreases where applicable , confirmed that in order for the Town Council to meet financial obligations as well as continue to carry out works and promote community cohesion it was proposed by Councillor Bury and seconded by Councillor Mrs Baines and voted in favour by all and

**Resolved**

- 1. That the financial estimates be received noted and approved**
- 2. That a precept request of £71847.00 be made to Bolton Council**
- 3. That the Town Clerk be thanked for the works involved in bringing the estimates in such detail to members of the Town Council.**

**171 Improving the vulnerability of shops within Blackrod**

The Town Clerk provided members with copies of lamp post and bollard wrap arounds which could be displayed in order to encourage localised shopping as well as reinforcing the message of staying safe. Council members gave a positive response to the items for consideration, both Bollard and lamppost wrap. It was also suggested that a only lamp post items be bought of a smaller number.

**Resolved**

- 1. That the information be noted**
- 2. That the Town Clerk request pricing on a smaller quantity before an order is made.**

**172. Date of the Annual Parish Meeting**

The Town Clerk in keeping with appropriate procedures asked council members to consider the date of the next Annual Parish Assembly (2020 cancelled due to Covid legislation). It was proposed by Councillor Farrington and seconded by Councillor Bell and voted in favour and

**Resolved**

- 1. That the date of the next Annual Parish Assembly be held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (Covid legislation to be confirmed)**
- 2. That the Town Clerk proceed with the process ongoingly.**

**173. Mayor Elect 2021/2022**

Councillors considered nominations for the position of Mayor Elect for the year 2021/2022. Following the nomination process, It was proposed by Councillor Bury and seconded by Councillor Mrs Baines and voted in favour and

**Resolved**

- 1. That Councillor Bell be duly nominated as Mayor elect for the year commencing May 2021.**

*(the Town Clerk duly advised members that appointment and dates will be subject to Covid 19 legislation for the date of the proposed Mayoral change)*

174. **Deputy Mayor Elect 2021-2022**

*The Town Clerk received nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor Elect and due to the extraordinary position Town Councils are currently finding themselves within, deferred the decision making and vote until candidates themselves could be given more time to reflect on the proposals.*

**Resolved**

1. That the Town Clerk approach the nominees following a period of time for reflection
2. That the position of Deputy Mayor Elect be held over until the next meeting of the Town Council.

175 **Annual Meeting 2021**

In keeping with appropriate council procedures, councillors considered the date for the Annual Meeting 2021 (2020 meeting cancelled due to Covid legislation). It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and second by Councillor Hollick and voted in favour by all and

**Resolved.**

1. That the date of the Annual Meeting 2021 be held on May 10<sup>th</sup> 2021 (Covid legislation to be confirmed).
2. That the Town Clerk proceed with making the appropriate arrangements.

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

Councillors were advised that due to the current circumstances they should continue to make their own arrangements to advise Bolton Council of repairs required for roads in addition to those reported through the office of the Town Clerk. Some of those reported this month include, blocked drains, flooded areas and roadway on Hill lane near to the Goose and Gander has started to see deteriorating areas.

**Resolved.**

1. That the information be received and noted.

177. **Finance**

It was moved by Councillor Bell and seconded by Councillor Hollick and voted in favour by all and



### **Resolved**

- 1. That the Chairman, Clerk and two members sign an authorisation amounting to £4019.32 ( four thousand and nineteen pounds & 32p only) dated 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021**
- 2. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed**

### **178. Site Visits**

**None advised.**

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

No agenda items were reported, other than the matters already deferred.

### **Other Matters.**

**The Town Clerk advised that she was still waiting for information from Bolton Council on the request made in regard to District Land and Assets. (Jan meeting)**

**The Town Clerk advised that she had been informed by the PCSO for the area of complaints being raised around the Community Centre. The PCSO advised that she had responded to Ward Councillor Mrs Cunliffe on the matter.**

**The Town Clerk advised members that she had spoken with the Bolton Elections Officer and May 6<sup>th</sup> had been designated as the date for the local elections as well as the Neighbourhood Plan referendum.**

### **179. 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 and a copy kept within the Town Clerk's papers from

**Updates circulated from Cllr Mrs Baines**

- 180. The next extraordinary special meeting of matters of the Town Council was confirmed as being conducted on March 1st 2021 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**