

## **Blackrod Town Council**

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

#### 181 **Apologies for Absence**

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

#### 182. **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Bury declared and interest in Agenda Item 8

Horwich Town Centre  
Development

Cllr Hollick declared an interest in agenda item 7

Donation request.

**183. Matters arising from previous minutes.**

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

**184. Planning Applications.**

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Seddon 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> March 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>10270/21</b>	<b>164, New Street</b>	<b>Extension of single storey ext at front</b>
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Councillors considered the application and offered no objections or comments

<b>10447/21</b>	<b>Windy Ridge, Mcr Rd</b>	<b>Demolition of existing Side ext &amp; erection of Single storey ext at side</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

185. **Planning Decisions**

**Resolved.**

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

186. **Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021**

It was moved by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Bell and voted in favour and

**Resolved**

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

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

**Bolton Council**

**Highway road Closures**

The Town Clerk presented members with a list of approved road closures (previously circulated)

**Resolved**

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

*Enforcement Updates.*

**33 Station Road**

**Dog Boarding kennels**

The Town Clerk provided members with a communication from Bolton Council in relation to the above where matters are still on-going and advices being sought by a Bolton Council Principal Planning Officer.

**Resolved.**

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

**188. 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 a list of collated responses were given to councillors to consider for Blackrod. The majority of councillors felt that Blackrod would be best served as a Ward on its own including population numbers from another local area from any such as Butterwick Fields/ Vale Ward/Rivington Chase, with Butterwick Fields casting the majority of votes. Feedback on the above as well as comments from council members to be forwarded to the Local Boundary Commission.

**Resolved.**

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

## **Donation Request**

## **Blackrod Scarecrow Committee**

The Town Clerk provided members with a donation request from the Blackrod Scarecrow Group to be used to provide chocolate treats for local children. The Town Clerk pointed out that this donation request had since been modified to include a competition as part of the proposal. Councillors considered the request and it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and seconded by Councillor Bury and voted in favour and

### **Resolved.**

- 1. That a donation of £250.00 be provided to the Scarecrow Committee towards the Easter treats for children**
- 2. That the Town Clerk arrange the process ongoingly whilst at the same time advising the Committee on the arrangements being appropriate to cover Covid guidance.**

## **Donation Request**

## **St Katharine's Church (Clock)**

The Town Clerk provided members with a letter from St Katharine's Church requesting consideration towards providing a donation for the extensive repairs required for the Church clock – which the Town Clerk advised that the Town Council also provides an annual maintenance sum for the clock and suggested to members that this should be included as part of the donation ) The quote received in connection with works to be carried out on the church clock were quite extensive. Following suggestions made by members it was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and voted in favour and

### **Resolved.**

- 1. That the information and request be received and noted**
- 2. That a donation amount of £500.00 be allocated to the costs associated with the clock repairs in addition to the annual maintenance allocation.**
- 3. That the Town Clerk to liaise with St Katharine's in relation to the donation and maintenance costs.**

## **189. Public Participation**

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

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

The Town Clerk provided members with an update from the meeting between Cllr Bury and Cllr Mrs Brady (Horwich Town Centre Steering Group Chairman) and attended by the Town Clerk. The update advised members that the meeting had taken place following the January meeting of the Horwich Steering Group in order to follow up as to why items had not been discussed as going forward from Blackrod's collated shortened list ( only 2 projects being ear marked for consideration currently). From the discussions it became clear that Blackrod has received a mismatch of information regarding the Horwich Town Centre Development Funds (to include Blackrod) and as such it was made clear that

- (i) Funds are not actually being allocated in the first instance as a lump sum.
- (ii) Funding is allocated at first to carry out feasibility studies on suggested projects
- (iii) Funding figures announced in the Steering Group meeting to date are for those feasibility studies
- (iv) There is no methodology to allocate a portion of regeneration monies to Blackrod. Amounts will be made clear by confirmation of projects by Bolton Council.

Both Cllr Bury and the Town Clerk made it clear that Blackrod Town Council must be kept in the loop in regard to any matters appertaining to Blackrod as projects for consideration and as such requested that the Chair of the Horwich Steering Group advise Bolton Council of this matter and that the Town Clerk will also liaise with the Project planners in Bolton.

**Resolved.**

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

**191. Financial Accounts . Quarterly Reconciliation 2020-2021**

The Town Clerk provided members with a set of quarterly reconciled accounts for the period to 31/12/20. It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Seddon and seconded by Councillor Mrs Baines and voted in favour by all and

**Resolved**

- 1. That the financial accounts be received and approved for the period up to 31/12/20**

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

Following The Town Clerk providing 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 suggestions but decided to go ahead with only lamppost wraps. It was therefore proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Hollick and

**Resolved**

- 1. That the change to include only lamp post wrappers be noted**
- 2. That the Town Clerk liaise with the manufacturers ongoingly for the items for the lamp posts**

**193.    Deputy Mayor Elect 2021/2022**

Councillors offered nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor Elect for the year 2021/2022.(Deferred from the February meeting) The Town Clerk advised that she would contact those nominated and bring the matter back to the next Council meeting.

**Resolved**

- 1. That the Town Clerk speak with nominees to ascertain their decisions**
- 2. That the item of Deputy Mayor Elect be considered at the next meeting of the Town Council**

**194.    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.

**Resolved.**

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

**195. Finance**

It was moved by Councillor Bell 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 £5150.99 ( five thousand one hundred and fifty pounds & 99p only) dated 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**
- 2. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed**

**196. 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 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.**

**197. 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**

- 198. The next extraordinary special meeting of matters of the Town Council was confirmed as being conducted on March 29th 2021 (in lieu of the bank holiday date of 5<sup>th</sup> April) 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**