

Blackrod Town Council

Minutes of a Meeting of Blackrod Town Council held on Monday 1st November 2021

Councillor. Mr Nick Bell (**Chairman**)

Councillors

Mr A Bury
Mr J Price
Mrs S Gaskell
Mr M Hollick
Mrs I Seddon

Also Present: Mrs S Lewis (**Town Clerk**) and Ward Councillor David Grant and 6 members of the public

95. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Mrs Baines and the reasons for absence accepted.

96. **Declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

97. **Planning Applications.**

12188/21

23 Highfield Road

Demolition of existing
Garage & erection of
Single storey side ext & canopy

Councillors considered the application and offered no objections

12267/21

23 Meadow Way

erection of a 2 storey ext at
Side & single storey ext at
Rear & canopy at front

Councillors considered the application and raised no objections

98. **Planning Decisions**

1. Cllr Price updated members of planning application 11608/21 and questions raised through Bolton's Director of Place.

Resolved.

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

99. **Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 4th October 2021**

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

Resolved

1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 4th October 2021 be received and signed as a true record with the following amendments.

Minute No: 86 that the location should read 'parking at the junction of Half Acre Road not Vicarage Road

Minute No.88 that the location should read 'on the corner of vicarage road and Manchester road

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

Councillors voted to adjourn the meeting temporarily for the next item

Ward Councillor Grant Updated members in relation to the planning application for Chapel Street in relation charging point/ solar panels.
Councillor Bury commended Cllr Grant for the support he had made in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan when consulting Bolton colleagues.

Councillors re commenced the meeting of the Town Council

Councillor Price requested that an invitation be extended to Bolton Planning Committee to meet with the Town Council so that they can be fully brought up to date with aspects of how planning is affected by the approved points detailed in the Neighbourhood Plan. It was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Bury and voted in favour by all present and

Resolved.

- 1. That the information be received and noted**
- 2. That the Town Clerk extend an invitation to Cllr Walsh and committee members to attend an informal meeting with the Town Council to explore and discuss aspects of planning alongside the Neighbourhood Plan.**

101. Correspondence

Bolton Council

LDF Consultation

Councillors noted that the Town Council had already commented as part of this consultation.

Bolton Council

Library

The Town Clerk provided members with a communication from Bolton Libraries in regard to the possibility of usage of the Library building by schools but when the Library is not open. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had responded to the Bolton Officer and shared copies of that communication with members to keep them fully informed. Councillors expressed their commitment to supporting the Town Clerk decisions and working environment.

102. Public Participation

A member of the public provided clarity for the Town Clerk and members in regard to fire protection and earlier discussions regarding use of buildings/ key holders etc.

103. Council vacancy Update

The Town Clerk brought members up to date with the vacant position of council member for the South Ward in Blackrod and timescales with a Closing date for

interested parties of 30th November 2021. Updates will appear on the December agenda.

104 Matters involving the forthcoming Remembrance Service

The Town Clerk provided members with an update in regard to the service being held at Adlington.

The Town Clerk also provided members with a request which had been raised through Ward Councillor Peter Wright in relation to the service at the cenotaph.

The Town Clerk also advised members on a question which had been raised in regard to the RBL connection in Blackrod. It was

Resolved.

- 1. That the updates be received and noted**
- 2. That appropriate responses be transmitted to external parties**
- 3. That the Town Clerk liaise with appropriate personnel on the matter raised in relation to RBL connection in Blackrod.**

105. Neighbourhood Plan update.

Councillor Bury brought members up to date with progress in regard to the Neighbourhood Plan. Members also received a document by earlier communications which referred to general matters to consider after a Neighbourhood Plan has been formed and planning applications. Councillor Bury informed members that a document would be designed for use by members with tracking aspects in relation to any future planning applications received, so that members would keep themselves fully informed as to how planning applications fitted with the proposals agreed in the Neighbourhood Plan. It was proposed by Councillor Bury and seconded by Councillor Price and voted in favour and

Resolved.

- 1. That the information be received and noted**
- 2. That a document for use by council members would be made available when complete.**

106 Unsworth Doctors Practice Update.

Councillor Price provided members with an update following a meeting by representative members with the Unsworth Doctors practice and a general discussion took place. A set of slides provided by the Unsworth practice were also distributed to members on the practices way forward. Members felt that the meeting had been fruitful and showed a way forward.

Resolved

1. That the papers and update be received and noted.

107 Horwich & Blackrod Town Centre Regeneration Fund

Councillor Bury brought members up to date with the situation regarding the project outcomes that had been submitted through the Town Centre Steering Group some time ago. Bolton Council had provided feedback against all 6 items, which was felt by members to be unsatisfactory. General discussions took place around Blackrod Town Council's current position on the group and it was proposed by Councillor Bury and seconded by Councillor Price and voted in favour and

Resolved.

1. That a letter be sent to the Bolton Project Officers outlining Blackrod Town Council's concerns over the lack of communications, which had taken place with the Town Council and the misinterpretations in regard to some of the items.

108 Zebra Crossing outside Blackrod Primary School

Councillor Bury raised the issue of the unsatisfactory situation regarding the children crossing the road outside the Primary School, where a number of near misses had recently taken place with vehicles, with matters not being helped by inconsiderate parking in the area. Following discussions it was proposed by Cllr Bury and seconded by Councillor Mrs Seddon and voted in favour and

Resolved.

1. That the information be received
2. That the Town Clerk write to Bolton Authority to assess the possibility of the current zebra crossing becoming a 'Pelican' crossing type.
3. That Ward Councillors assistance be sought in connection with the matter of yellow lines be revisited on the road opposite the school, which had disappeared through recent improvement made to the road.

109. Roads and Footpaths & Maintenance Issues

Councillors were advised that they can 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.

Reports included:-

Dark Lane bin, bench and continued rubbish. (ward Councillor to request an update from Bolton Council)

Sinking road area on Little Scotland

That a number of disabled ramps be reported to Bolton Council due to overgrown vegetation making them unsuitable for wheelchair access

That the speed sign had been damaged on the A6 leading in to Blackrod and reported

Resolved.

- 1. That the information be received and noted and any communications with Bolton Council relayed as required.**

110. Finance

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

Resolved

That the Chairman, Clerk and two members sign an authorisation amounting to £5754.53 (five thousand seven hundred and fifty four pounds & 53p only) dated 1st November 2021

- 1. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed**

111. Site Visits

None planned for the immediate future..

112. Other Matters/ Future Agenda Items for consideration

Other Matters

The Town Clerk advised members that a late request had been made for a donation towards insurance costs for a forthcoming fair being held in Blackrod. A decision was reached based on the destination of raised funds which did not benefit any Blackrod Organisation. Therefore the matter raised did not go forward to a future council meeting .

The issue with the number of police attending incidents in Blackrod was raised and suggestion that GMP are asked for reports where possible.

Outstanding issues included the bench replacement on Dark Lane and the Vicarage Road signs.

Agenda Item

None raised at the meeting.

113. Ward Councillor Updates.

Ward Councillor David Grant updated on:-

Advised that Adele Warren was now the Executive member for regeneration and may be a future contact in regard to Town Centre Regeneration Funds
Awaiting feedback on the condition of Ainse Road and possible Highway Repairs Reports have been given to police in regard to vehicles parked on the zigzag lines outside the schools

A group has been set up for direct intelligence gathering on incidents requiring police intervention and information could be supplied to the chair of the group.
(Name advised)

Provided a link for council members on Doctor access issues

Ward Councillor Mrs Susan Baines

(Not present) Provided an updated email directly to members.

All ward Councillors were thanked for their contributions to the meeting

The Town Clerk requested that the final item on the agenda be heard without the presence of public and press and other officials.

114. Correspondence item relating to provision within the village.

Members discussed a further piece of correspondence which had been received relating to earlier matters already debated. It was proposed by the Chairman Cllr Bell and seconded by Councillor Price and voted in favour by all and

Resolved

- 1. That an agreed response be sent to the authors of the letter dated 18th October 2021**

- 115. The next meeting of the Town Council was confirmed as being held on 6th December 2021 at 7pm. This meeting will be held under normal guidelines and**

following the meeting the Town Clerk invites those present and family members for seasonal refreshments.

Signed.....Chairman