

## **Blackrod Town Council**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of Blackrod Town Council held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

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

Councillors

Mr G Farrington

Mr J Price

Mrs S Gaskell

Mr M Hollick

**Also Present:** Mrs S Lowis (**Town Clerk**) and 2 members of the public

*Prior to the meeting the planned Declaration of Oath ceremony was postponed due to the incapacity of the newly appointed candidate. The item was deferred until the next meeting of the Town Council in February.*

#### 134. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Bury, Cllr Mrs Seddon, and Cllr Mrs Baines and the reasons for absence accepted.

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#### 135. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

**136. Planning Applications.**

Due to issues with the Bolton Council planning portal , no applications were able to be viewed for the meeting. In liaison with Bolton planning these items will for at of the next Blackrod Town Council Planning Committee meeting.

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the list of planning applications will go forward to February meeting.**

**137. Planning Decisions**

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the list of planning decisions received from Bolton Council be received and noted.**

**138. Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

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

**Resolved**

- 1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 be received and signed as a true record with the following amendments.**

**Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

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

**Resolved**

- 1. That the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Town Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 be received and signed as a true recorded.**

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

The Town Clerk provided members with an email, previously circulated, from Ward Cllr Grant in relation to a planning enforcement case in the village. Councillors acknowledged the letter from Bolton Planning Enforcement Team but expressed concerns that the officer concerned had not responded accurately in terms of the items which had been brought to their attention. The item was moved by Councillor Hollick and seconded by Councillor Farrington and voted in favour and

**Resolved.**

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

**140. Correspondence**

**Letter of thanks**

**St Katharine's Church**

The Town Clerk read a letter from St Katharine's Church thanking members of the Town Council for their kind donation towards running costs within the church (whilst council functions were being carried out) IT was proposed by Councillor Mrs Gaskell and seconded by Councillor Price and

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the letter from St Katharine's be received and noted.**

**141. Public Participation**

There were no items raised through the public participation section of the meeting.

**142. Proposal raised by Ward Councillor Peter Wright**

In the absence of the Ward Councillor, the Town Clerk read out the request (previously circulated) being made by Ward Councillor Wright in relation to Development Support Workshops. Councillors noted the concerns of the Town Clerk in relation to offering the services of the Town Council Chamber and complying with the Covid 19 guidance. The Town Clerk stated that she would supply various

telephone numbers to the Ward Councillor for other venues within the village that may be able to assist with the Ward Councillor's queries. It was therefore

**Resolved**

1. For the information to be received and noted.
2. That the Town Clerk advise Ward Councillor Wright of other possible local venues.

**143 February Meeting Date**

The Town Clerk advised members that the need to change the day and date of the next council meeting was no longer necessary and it was

**Resolved.**

1. That the February meeting date of 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 go ahead as indicated.

**144. Proposed meeting dates for meetings of the Town Council for 2022-23**

The Town Clerk provided members with a list of proposed dates for the forthcoming 12 months of meetings dates. The Town Clerk also advised that the meetings dates for both the AGM and Annual Meeting if they were to go ahead would be agreed at a forthcoming meeting. It was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Hollick that the draft dates be accepted and go forward to the agreed meeting for full approval.

**Resolved**

1. That the proposed meeting dates for the forthcoming 12 months be accepted.

**145 Quarterly Financial Accounts.**

The Town Clerk provided members with a copy of the audited accounts for the half year quarter period ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The Town Clerk apologised for the delay which had been due to issues with the bank's paperwork trail. It was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Farrington and voted in favour by all and

**Resolved.**

1. That the information be duly received, noted and approved with no matters arising.

**146. 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:-**

- 20mph sign knocked down on corner of Dark Lane with Aulsebrook Road (Now fixed)
- The state of all of the roads through Blackrod which are deteriorating
- White linings required to be upgraded, particularly outside Blackrod House corner
- The mess that comes out of Blackrod Industrial Estate and blocked drains
- Dog Fouling

**Resolved.**

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

**147. Finance**

It was moved by Councillor Price 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 £5422.30 ( five thousand four hundred and twenty two pounds & 30p only) dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**
- 2. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed**

**148. Site Visits**

**Cllr Farrington requested that members visit Scot lane and the Industrial Estate for their own perusal of items which keep being reported.**

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

### **Other Matters**

The matter of Japanese Knotweed as reported in the paper (6000 cubic mtrs) which is being dug out from the loco works area and moved to landfill off Station Road. This is an environment hazard and should be queried and consider reporting it to the NFU.

The parking situation outside the primary school, which continues to get worse. Advising the community support officer to deal.

Councillor Price raised the matter of the building work on Nightingale Road, which Ward Councillor Grant had raised with Bolton Planning. Councillor Price made members aware that he had written to Bolton Planning with concerns that the matter hadn't been given appropriate attention in their findings and awaits a response.

The Town Clerk advised members that Cllr Bury had listed a number of incidents where attempted robberies and criminal damage had been reported and requested that the Community Police Team be notified.

The Town Clerk reported that a matter too late for the Agenda had arrived from Bolton Regeneration Team in connection with the letter that had been sent from the Town Council against items which had been submitted for the Blackrod Public Realm Schemes. The Town Clerk asked members to note that the Bolton Team were organising a visit by Highways at each of the site and discuss the issues raised by the Town Council and requested that the Town Clerk attend, together with a couple of nominated Town Councillors. The Town Clerk advised that she would be putting plans for this dates for visit together over the next week.

Councillor Price listed the numerous items where no answers had been forthcoming from various departments. These included:-

The bench on Dark Lane and waste bin  
Samp list and land at Vicarage Road and the Rose garden  
Steering Group at Horwich  
Street signs on Vicarage Road  
Parking on vicarage road

Councillor Price requested that members noted the above with the emphasis being on the lack of support from Bolton Council on the matters.

### **Agenda Item**

Scot Lane Indl estate (revisiting queries already raised in connection with mine shafts/ pallets/ no walkways with environmental health..) and the possibility of reporting the issues to the fire service.( **Cllr Farrington**)

Yellow lines on Church Street (**Cllr Hollick**)

Lights outside the Barbers on Blackhorse Street (**Councillor Mrs Gaskell**)

**150. Ward Councillor Updates.**

**There were no Ward Councillor reports for the meeting.**

**151. The next meeting of the Town Council was confirmed as being held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7pm. This meeting will be held under normal guidelines.**

**Signed.....Chairman**