

## **Blackrod Town Council**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of Blackrod Town Council held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Chairman Cllr Mrs Baines

Councillors

Mr M Hollick  
Ms N Birley  
Mr J Price  
Mr G Farrington

**Also Present:** Ward Councillors David Grant and Peter Wright, and 3 members of the public

#### **24. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Bury, Councillor Mrs Seddon, Councillor Mrs Gaskell, Councillor Bell.

#### **25. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were made

#### **26. Planning Applications.**

**13670/22**

**Crowshaw House**

Councillors offered no comment

**13930/22**

**363 Manchester Road**

Councillors offered no comment

**13863/22**

**458 Manchester Road**

Councillors asked planning officers to note that the property as listed is not a farm but a haulage contractor business. The site can be seen from the main road, with the entrances opposite a school. The area is identified as green belt land. Councillors would request that a site visit takes place by the committee.

**13732/22**

**8 Rydal Close**

Councillors offered no comment

**13870/22**

**Markland Farm**

Councillors discussed the application and have requested that a site visit by the planning team take place, together with a review of working conditions and material dumping in the same area.

## **27. Planning Decisions**

### **Resolved.**

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

**28. Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

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

**Resolved**

- 1. That the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 be received and signed as a true record.**

**29 Planning Correspondence/ Items on planning matters**

**There was no planning items at the time of the agenda preparation.**

### 30. Correspondence

**Local Resident**                      **concern re TfGM bus management**

Councillors were given an update from a local resident in regard to the lack of services on a certain route to Blackrod at various times throughout the day, which had already been actioned by the Town Clerk. Following the update from the resident, councillors received the response from TFGM on the issue, sent to the Town Clerk which indicated that in order to maintain a service elsewhere, a certain timetables route had been excluded from current timetables. Councillors felt that this was not appropriate action from TfGM and it was therefore proposed by Councillor Hollick and seconded by Councillor Farrington and

**Resolved.**

- 1. That the Town Clerk write to Andy Burnham in regards to the matter.**

## Bolton Council

## Response from CEO to Town Council's letter

The Town Clerk asked members to consider the response which had been received from Cllr Cox and Bolton's CEO. Members considered the request that had been made re further information and it was proposed by Cllr Farrington and seconded by Councillor Price and voted in favour and

**Resolved.**

1. That the information be received and noted
2. That the Town Clerk write to the leader of Bolton Council inviting him to a meeting with members, including a representative from Bolton Council, following the summer recess.

**31 Public Participation**

A local resident informed members about a serious water leak in the area of dark Lane/ Hill lane which once reported had been initially fixed but which was still overflowing (*Confirmed reported to United Utilities*) Additionally, that roadsweepers had been along the road and swept it (*following a request to do so*) that the bench was still missing from its location and that sandbags were still at the location.

**Resolved.**

1. That the information be received
2. That the resident be thanked for her continued reflections and updates.

**32. Draft Business Plan (Asset transfer)**

In the absence of authors of the above document, the Town Clerk requested that the matter be deferred and included in an Extraordinary Meeting – date to be arranged. It was therefore proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Hollick and

**Resolved**

1. That the current draft information be received and noted
2. That the Town Clerk proceed to arrange an ECM in due course to review the document.

**33 Proposals for area of lands at Blackhorse Street**

The Town Clerk re introduced the topic, from the previous meeting, where the topic had been introduced and members of the council were to visit the location in question and advise on their individual findings. The Town Clerk also provided members with a selection of photographs taken of the location in question and updated members on input which had been received from local services incl various, though not confirmed overall costings. Cllr Price raised a strong objection to the proposals for the area in question, which was duly noted. Following a vote by those present, together with

proxy votes received from members absent from the meeting a 6:3 vote was passed in favour of the proposals) it was thereby

**Resolved.**

1. That the Town Clerk proceed with creating the outlining proposals for the area as discussed.
2. That the Town Clerk proceed with further preparation of costings for the initial agreed works ( based on initial outlines) and meetings with service providers. Other suggestions for the area in question to be brought back to future meetings.

**34. Hedgerows and Parking outside Blackrod Primary School**

Cllr Price brought up the issue of overgrown private hedgerow in the vicinity of the Blackrod Primary School, which were causing concerns to those parking in the area for school drop off and pick up by creating a reduced area of pavement for those walking safely to and from school. The discussion amongst members also included the parking on yellow lines in the area of the school and Cllr Hollick reminded members that when this had been reported to the various authorities no action had been taken. It was therefore

**Resolved**

1. That the Town Council would again write to the police to request unscheduled visits to the area
2. That Bolton council be advised of the overgrown hedges with a request that they contact the owners of the area with a request to cut back the bushes from overhanging the pavements.

**35 Blackrod Methodist Church Building**

Councillor Birley provided members with an update in relation to the use of the Methodist Church building. Councillor Birley informed that a meeting had been held there to discuss plans for the future use of the building. Members of the Blackrod Community were in attendance. Attendees had suggested the formation of a Steering Group that would explore the viability of leasing the building for community use, if that would prove beneficial to the church organisation. Further discussions are ongoing.

**Resolved**

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

**36. First Aid in Village update**

Councillor Birley provided members with an update in relation to First Aid provision in the village, which she has been working upon. Councillor Birley informed members that Bolton CVS have offered dates for Community First Aid Training, which will be cascaded through to groups in the village, with the potential to offer a bespoke course if enough interest is shown. Councillor Birley also updated on the matter of a defibrillator for the community where plans are being actioned towards a community defibrillator through the help of Sponsorship and a specialist defibrillator charity. More information to come to future meetings.

**Resolved.**

- 1 That the information be received and noted.**
- 2. That further information will be brought to future meetings via Cllr Ms Birley.**

**37. 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. Meeting advises include:-

Chorley Road – bad potholes  
Little Scotland surfaced area remains incomplete  
Hill lane Trees on corner of Ainse Road appear to be overgrown  
Signage missing in above location  
Little Scotland – water cover missing  
Dark Lane seating still missing

**38. Finance**

It was moved by Councillor Hollick 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 £5221.59 ( five thousand two hundred and twenty one pounds & 59p only) dated 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022**
- 2. That the Council authorise the payment of cheques as listed**

**39. Site Visits**

None planned other than to look at the pavement area outside the Primary school in passing

**40. Other Matters/ Future Agenda Items for consideration**

**Other Matters**

Cllr Farrington informed members that following a complaint re grass cutting on Scot lane that the area had been trimmed back with a day or so.

Cllr Price spoke again in relation to De Havilland Way and its affects on Blackrod

It was detailed that the bin outside Greenhalghs appears to have been taken away.

The Town Clerk stated that she had ben in touch with the two local schools and dates for next academic year meetings with School council members would be agreed and distributed at the next meeting.

**Agenda Item given at the meeting.**

None given at the meeting

**41. Ward Councillor Updates.**

**Councillor Wright reported:-**

That the bin on Dark Lane had been replaced but he had requested that the bin be cemented on to a concrete base for added stability

Had reported road surface damage at the junction of Manchester Road with Vicarage Road and that this had been placed on the list for repairs. Councillor Wright would be chasing a date for this work

Had spoken with a Bolton Officer in relation to the replacement bench on Dark lane  
Vandalism had been cleaned off the Station road bridge following reports to Network Rail

That he had attended the recent Civic Service of the Blackrod Mayor , which had been well attended and received.

**Councillor Mrs Baines updated on:-**

Provided members with a borough wise update on covid rises

Informed that the 2021 census had indicated a population rise in Bolton area of 6.9%.  
((296,000) together with other population statistics

Holiday and school meal arrangements for the Borough's children has been  
announced re activities as well as some free childcare provision and in Blackrod a free  
sports camp is being offered ran out of Blackrod Sports and Community Centre for 8-  
16 year olds.

Free mental health offer being offered

De havilland Way highway proposal if it goes ahead will be delivered by 2025 and  
although Junction 7 is not included in this venture plans are being talked about with  
Mps and Chorley council to look at this venture for the future.

Blackrod Primary school will be offering provision for the Blackrod Childrens Hub.

**Councillor Grant updated on:-**

**Updated on the issue of overgrown hedges on Manchetsre Road near the  
primary school which he has requested action for.**

**The next meeting of the Town Council was confirmed as being held on 1<sup>st</sup>  
August 2022 at 7pm**

**The Town Mayor gave thanks to those members and guests who had helped her  
have a very enjoyable Civic Sunday and thanked all for their attendance.**

**Signed.....Chairman**