



WESTHOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL 2019 - 2020

**WESTHOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL, WESTHOUGHTON LIBRARY, LIBRARY STREET,
WESTHOUGHTON, BL5 3AU. TEL: 01942 819802 E-MAIL: westhoughtontc@tiscali.co.uk**

1. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

From May 2019 to April 2020 the Town Council held 11 Town Council Meetings, 12 Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee Meetings, 1 Annual Meeting and 1 Annual Town Meeting.
Councillors attended meetings as follows and received no payments or expenses:

COUNCILLOR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL
	AM ATM P & AM	P TC	P TC	P TC	P TC	P TC	P TC	P&TC	P TC	P TC	P TC	P TC
CONSERVATIVE												
D J Bullock	0 0 0 0	0 1	1 1	0 1	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 1	0 1	0 0	0 L	L L
M Cox	1 1 1 1	1 1	1 0	0 0	1 0	0 0	0 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 L	L L
T J Hewitt	1 1 1 1	0 1	0 0	1 0	0 0	1 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 L	L L
A P Morgan	1 0 0 0	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 1	0 1	0 0	1 0	0 0	1 L	L L
WESTHOUGHTON FIRST INDEPENDENTS												
R M Brennan	1 0 0 0	1 0	1 1	1 1	0 0	1 0	0 1	1 1	0 0	0 1	0 L	L L
Miss M Maley	1 1 1 1	1 1	1 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 0	1 1	0 1	0 1	0 L	L L
C Reilly	1 1 1 1	1 1	0 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 1	1 1	1 L	L L
Mrs L M Reilly	1 1 0 0	1 1	0 0	1 0	1 0	0 1	1 1	0 0	1 1	1 1	0 L	L L
J Speight	1 1 0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 L	L L
LIBERAL DEMOCRAT												
Mrs A B Eckersley-Fallon	1 0 0 0	1 1	0 0	0 1	0 1	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 1	0 1	0 L	L L
Miss R S M Fairhurst	1 1 1 1	0 1	1 0	0 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 0	1 L	L L
Mrs C H Kirkman	1 0 0 0	1 1	1 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 1	1 1	1 L	L L
N Maher	1 1 1 1	1 0	1 1	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 L	L L
Miss D J McGeown	1 1 1 1	1 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 1	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 L	L L
Mrs J M Nicholson	1 1 1 1	1 1	1 1	0 1	0 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 0	0 0	0 L	L L
Mrs M E M O'Riordan	1 1 1 1	1 1	1 0	0 1	1 1	0 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 L	L L
Mrs A M Seddon	1 1 1 1	1 1	1 1	1 0	0 1	1 0	1 0	0 0	0 1	1 1	0 L	L L
D A Wilkinson	1 1 1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 1	1 1	1 L	L L

From May, 2019, Cllr J Speight is not a member of the Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee. L = Coronavirus Lockdown.

THE FOLLOWING TOWN COUNCILLORS MAY BE CONTACTED DIRECTLY

CENTRAL WARD

Cllr R M Brennan (W'hton First Ind)
Cllr Mrs C H Kirkman (Lib Dem)
Cllr N Maher (Lib Dem)
Cllr Mrs A M Seddon (Lib Dem)

TELEPHONE E-MAIL

07941114767 cllrrichardbrennan@gmail.com
carol@westhoughton-libdem.org.uk
neil@westhoughtob-libdems.org.uk
07926097657 angela@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk

CHEQUERBENT WARD

Cllr D J Bullock (Con),
1 Rushbank, W'hton, BL5 2JF
Cllr J Speight (W'hton First Ind),
60 Clough Avenue, W'hton, BL5 2NQ

07732083631 derekbullock52@btinternet.com

07977262022 cllrjackspeight@hotmail.co.uk

DAISY HILL WARD

Cllr Miss R S M Fairhurst (Lib Dem)
Cllr Miss D J McGeown, (Lib Dem)
9 Churnet Close, W'hton, BL5 3LF
Cllr Mrs J M Nicholson (Lib Dem)

07731867336 rebekah@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk

07764949922 deirdre@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk
janet@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk

HOSKERS AND HART COMMON

Cllr T J Hewitt (Con),
10 St Georges Street, Tyldesley, M29 8HH
Cllr Mrs L M Reilly (W'hton First Ind),
1 Ivy Road, Westhoughton, BL5 2NU
Cllr D A Wilkinson (Lib Dem)
12 The Crescent, Westhoughton, BL5 2AE

07857649806 tobyhewitt@gmail.com

cllrlisareilly@gmail.com

01942 819456 david@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk

WHITE HORSE WARD

Cllr M Cox (Con) ,
1 Regent Drive, Lostock, Bolton, BL6 4DH
Cllr Miss M Maley, (W'hton First Ind),
306 Wigan Road, W'hton, BL5 2AR
Cllr A P Morgan (Con),
34 Corner Brook, Bolton, BL6 4GX
Cllr C Reilly (W'hton First Ind),
1 Ivy Road, Westhoughton, BL5 2NU

07802935406 martyn.cox@bolton.gov.uk

cllrmarinamaley@gmail.com

01942 804080 andrew.morgan@bolton.gov.uk

cllrcharliereilly@gmail.com

WINGATES WARD

Cllr Mrs A B Eckersley-Fallon (Lib Dem),
Cllr Mrs M E M O'Riordan (Lib Dem)

07500016523 bernadette@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk
michelle@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk

2. CIVIC MATTERS

During the year, the Town Mayor has attended numerous official functions by invitation. The Mayoral Sunday Service, the Remembrance Day Parade, the Pretoria Pit Disaster Memorial Services and the annual Carol Service were well supported.

3. The Town Council has continued to consider all Planning Applications during the year and has tried in every case to obtain the best decisions for the people of the town.
The Town Council has been active with Bolton Council on various highway, environmental, Town Centre issues and other relevant matters affecting the town. The Town Council has vigorously objected to the proposed Greater Manchester Spatial Plan, which proposed that 4,500 houses are built in Westhoughton. The Town Council has also objected to the developments at Bowlands Hey, land West of Wingates Industrial Estate, land North of Platt Lane and Hulton Park and has supported the Over Hulton Neighbourhood Plan Hulton Park
4. The Town Council has made grants to a number of deserving causes, as listed in the 2019-2020 accounts.
5. The Town Council repeated its successful Christmas Lights initiative along Market Street, with a donation of £250 from Bolton Council, and provided Christmas Trees for the Town Hall balcony and Westhoughton Market.
6. The Westhoughton Town Council web site address is: www.bolton.gov.uk/westhoughton
7. The Town Council continues to maintain liaison with the Police.
8. The Homewatch Liaison Officer has encouraged the formation of new Homewatch Schemes and Bolton Council funds and sites the Homewatch Signs.
9. The Town Council supports the Market Traders and the retention and improvement of the Market Hall.
10. The Westhoughton Town Council funds the Westhoughton Town Centre CCTV scheme.
11. With the co-operation of Bolton Council and BTCV the Town Council has donated £4,000 towards the repair of footpaths which are part of the Definitive Footpath Network.
12. In the interest of highway safety, the Town Council's two Solar Powered Driver Feedback signs and a sign on loan from Bolton Council have been sited at various locations in Westhoughton.
13. The Town Council's digital camera has been used on Town Council business and on civic occasions. A Code of Conduct has been established to govern the use of the camera and personal use is prohibited.
14. The Town Council has donated £7,000 towards the cost renovating Westhoughton Local Nature Reserves.
15. The Town Council has helped the youth of the town by providing finance for youth/sporting and recreational facilities.

16. The Town Council has funded the Get Active Westhoughton Youth Project. This exciting initiative is a partnership scheme between the Town Council and Bolton Council and is providing schemes and activities for the youth of the town. The Town Council has also funded Youth Workers and transport for the Bolton Lads & Girls Club Westhoughton Outreach and Detached Programme.
17. The Town Council produces a Newsletter, which is circulated quarterly to shops and outlets throughout the Town.
18. The Town Council has purchased and arranged the siting of an inscribed Harold Daniels M.B.E. Memorial Flag in Ditchfield Garden.
19. The Town Council awarded Civic Medals to Mr Wilf. Dillon and Mr Anthony Riley in recognition of their outstanding charitable works and great service to Westhoughton. Mr Dillon and Mr Riley were also awarded the Harold Daniels Memorial Trophy, which each keep for six months. Members of the public nominated the recipients.
20. The Town Council was very proud to confer the title of Honorary Freeman to the former Town Councillor, Town Mayor of Westhoughton, Bolton Councillor, Mayor of Bolton and Alderman, Peter L Finch, in recognition of his longstanding and devoted service to Westhoughton.
21. Town Councillors regularly attend the Westhoughton with Chew Moor Area Forum.
22. In 2010, the Pretoria Pit Disaster Centenary Memorial was sited in Ditchfield Garden by the Town Council and is a permanent memorial to the 344 victims of the Pretoria Pit Disaster of 21st December, 1910. On 21st December, 2019, the Town Council organised two special Anniversary Services of Remembrance - at the Pretoria Pit Disaster Centenary Memorial in Ditchfield Garden at 7.45 a.m. and at the Parish Church of St Bartholomew at 10.00 a.m.
23. The Annual Accounts for 2019-2020 were duly signed off and no items were raised by the auditor.
24. The Town Council has appointed a Daisy Hill in Bloom Committee which comprises of Town Councillors and members of the public. The Committee has a £1,000 budget from the Town Council and is to be congratulated on working hard to improve Daisy Hill Village by arranging litter-picks and planting out baskets and tubs.
25. In the interest of security and in order to comply with the Data Protection Act, the Town Council has a high security level shredder for the Town Clerk, and the shredder is also available for Town Councillors' use. The Town Council is committed to recycling and all paper is recycled.
26. The Town Council Notice Board is sited on the pavement at the front of Westhoughton Town Hall and Town Council Agendas, Minutes and information are regularly displayed.

27. In order to support the Police, the Town Council has funded a hire car for 12 months, which is used as a Policing Team vehicle in Westhoughton.
28. The Town Council funded the installation of a feeder pillar and double socket, and a PA System for the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.
29. In February, 2016, Historic England added the Westhoughton War Memorial to the List of Buildings of Special Historic Architectural or Historic Interest and the War Memorial is now listed at Grade 11.
30. In the summer of 2015, Bolton Council funded the siting of planters and plants in the Town Centre. In the ensuing years, the Town Council has ensured that the Town Centre is bright and cheerful by funding the planting and maintenance costs.
31. To commemorate the Centenary Anniversary of the end of WW1, the Town Council donated £200 to the Royal British Legion, purchased a WW1 Commemorative Plaque at a cost of £209 and two WW1 Commemorative Benches at a cost of £1,515. The plaque and the benches are sited next to the War Memorial.
32. The Town Council has funded the purchase and the siting of a commemorative bench in memory of Tony Berry, deceased, who was the former lead vocalist of the Houghton Weavers. Tony raised thousands for charity and was always willing to support local causes. The bench is sited outside Ditchfield Garden.
33. Thanks are due to the retiring Town Mayor, Councillor David Wilkinson for his efforts on behalf of the town in the past year. The Town Mayor's charity fundraising will see the presentation of funds to Senior Solutions and the Lads & Girls Club, Westhoughton.
34. Town Council meetings now take place in Westhoughton Library. The Town Clerk has an Office in Westhoughton Library and the office was renovated by Bolton Council.
35. Town Council Officer:
Mrs C Morris, Town Clerk, Westhoughton Library, Library Street, Westhoughton, BL5 3AU.
Tel: 01942 819802 E-Mail: westhoughtontc@tiscali.co.uk

SECTION 137 PAYMENTS

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables Parish Councils to spend up to the product of £8.12 per head of electorate in 2019/20 for the benefit of people in the Westhoughton Parish area on activities or projects not specifically authorised by other powers. (Electorate approximately 19,381)

The following payments were made in 2019/20:

GENERAL GRANTS	£
Central Park Veterans	488.11
Rotary Club of Westhoughton	284.09
Tots & Toddlers	350.00
SENIOR CITIZEN GRANTS	
Tuesday Club	500.00
Wingates Tenants & Residents	500.00
Westhoughton Sports & Social Club	500.00
Senior Solutions	500.00
CIVIC MEDALS & REGALIA	
Past Mayor's Badges	1,440.86
SUNDRIES	
Tony Berry Memorial Bench	1,074.50

NET TOTAL:	5,637.56

BANK RECONCILIATION AT 31ST MARCH 2020

CURRENT ACCOUNT	6,380
UNCLEARED PAYMENTS	
Bacs	1,013 -

CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE	5,367
LIQUIDITY MANAGER RESERVE ACCOUNT	31,016
LIQUIDITY MANAGER CAPITAL FUND	27,051

TOTAL:	63,434

GRANTS 2019-20

Rotary Club of Westhoughton	Santa Costumes & tabards	284.09
Central Park Veterans Bowling Club	Fridge Freezer & Plants	488.11
Pretoria FC	Lancs FA Coaching (part payment of grant)	340.00
Pretoria FC	Equipment	160.00
Tots & Toddlers	Christmas Party	350.00
Tuesday Club	Christmas Party	500.00
Wingates Tenants & Residents Association	Christmas Party	500.00
Westhoughton Sports & Social Club	Christmas Party	500.00
Rotary Club of Westhoughton	Father Christmas Costumes	284.09
Senior Solutions	Christmas Party	500.00

BALANCE SHEET 2019– 2020

Total Assets	70,112.15
Funds:	
Prepayments	5,995.98
Liquidity Manager Reserve Account	31,015.90
Liquidity Manager Capital Fund	27,051.47
Current Account	5,366.30
VAT to be reclaimed	2,763.36
Debtor	250.00

	72,443.01
Creditors (outstanding invoices)	2,330.86-

	70,112.15

CHARITIES ACCOUNT

BANK RECONCILIATION AT 31ST MARCH, 2020 CONFIRMED BANK BALANCES

Instant Access Current Account	105
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SUMMARY 2019/20

Balances Forward	
Instant Access Current Account	4,046
Add Total Receipts	4,228 +
Less Total Payments	8,169-

Balance shown in Receipts & Payments	105

TOWN MAYOR'S CHARITY 2019/20

The former Town Mayor, Councillor A Price has made the following charitable donations from the funds which he raised during his Mayoral Year 2018/2019:

Firwood School	1,526
Parish Church of St Bartholomew	2,000
Churchill Unit Royal Bolton Hospital	2,000

