

WESTHOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING AND FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

26th September 2022

PRESENT: The Town Mayor, Cllr Miss D J McGeown. Deputy Mayor Cllr A Younge. Councillors N Maher, A Price, A Jackson, Ms G Wroe, R Brennan, J Speight, Cllr L Maher , Mrs LM Reilly, C Reilly, M Tighe, C Kirkman, D Bullock.

Locum Town Clerk.

9 Members of the public.

TC155/2022 FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

The Town Mayor explained the Fire Safety Procedure.

TC156/2022 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO ACCEPT REASONS

Resolved that the following apologies for absence and reasons be accepted by the Town Council :,
Cllrs M Cox, B Eckersley-Fallon, A Morgan, D Wilkinson, D Bullock.

TC157/2022 TO READ THE NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

The Town Mayor read the notice convening the meeting.

TC158/2022 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED

Cllr C Reilly – Item 12. As an employee of the organisation to be discussed.

TC159/2022 ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW PUBLIC QUESTION TIME RELATING TO TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES AND ITEMS WITHIN ITS POWERS

A member of the public raised a question on the cost of living crisis and if the Town Council had any plans to offer warm spaces for vulnerable people, this is to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Employees from The Hub attended the meeting in relation to item 12. It was noted that they were not informed that this was going to be on the agenda where they feel it would have been appropriate to do so.

An update on the planning details for Carnegie Hall was requested, further information will be sought and this will be brought back as an agenda item at a later meeting.

A member of public pointed out the the bench that was planned for the Jubilee in May may now be more fitting as a commemorative or memorial bench. This will be brought back to be discussed at a later meeting.

TC160/2022 TO DISCUSS PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MATTERS AND TO APPROVE ANY ACTION

(a) TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS The Town Council requested that its comments on the following Planning Applications are placed before the Bolton

Council Planning Committee:

Application No.: 14469/22 This planning application states an incorrect address, which made matters confusing. This application includes the use of more areas than the original plan and will mean a loss of businesses and employment. It will impact already oversubscribed schools and medical facilities and will also have a negative impact on access and traffic. Council refuse this application on the above grounds.

Application No.: 14476/22 - Approved

Application No.: 14536/22 - Approved

Application No.: 14549/22 - Approved

Application No.: 14571/22 - There is a lack of parking for the number of properties and will impact already oversubscribed schools and medical facilities. Council refuse this application for these reasons.

Application No.: 14589/22 - Approved

Application No.: 14608/22 - Approved

Application No.: 14624/22 - Approved

(b) DISCUSSION ON PLANNING APPEALS

None

(c) TO NOTE PLANNING DECISIONS

Resolved that the Planning Decisions, as circulated, be received and noted.

TC161/2022 To note the minutes of the PFGP Committee meeting held on Monday 11th July, 2022 and the Town Council meeting held on Monday, 22nd August 2022.

Noted.

TC162/2022 DISCUSSION ON THE CURRENT TOWN CLERK RECRUITMENT AND DEPUTY TOWN CLERK RECRUITMENT AND TO APPROVE ANY ACTION

Locum Town Clerk to follow up progress with Bolton Council.

TC163/2022 Discussion and comments on the proposed use of funding for footpath maintenance using Council funding.

Council approve the recommended maintenance. The maintenance for footpath 105 will be discussed at a later date.

TC164/2022 Policing issues in Westhoughton and to invite GMP to a future meeting

It was discussed that there was little police presence in Westhoughton and that Officers should be invited to an upcoming meeting to discuss various issue in the area. This will be combined with a review of the CCTV and placement of cameras.

TC165/2022 The bid by Bolton Council for road funding for alterations to various roundabouts Hilton House A6 to the Beehive, Horwich

The bid has been reduced from £50m to £23m, information as to why this has significantly reduced will be request from Bolton Council.

TC166/2022 Information from Mr. G Brough regarding The Hub and former Family Centre on Washacre.

This item was deferred to the next meeting pending further information.

TC167/2022 TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved that the Town Council approve the payment of the following accounts;

SLCC £947.52

Walk the plank fireworks £300.00

TC168/2022 Discussion on councillors responses to Bolton Council's consultation on the draft planning validation checklist.

This item was deferred to the next meeting pending further information

TC169/2022 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK

A report was received from the Locum Town Clerk.

TC170/2022 DATE OF NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday 10th October PFGP Committee and 24th October Town Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 19:41