



# **WESTHOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL**

## **REPORT OF THE COUNCIL 2020 - 2021**

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

# 1. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS – ALL MEETINGS VIA ZOOM

From May 2020 to April 2021 the Town Council held 9 Town Council Meetings and 9 Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee Meetings,  
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
<b>CONSERVATIVE</b>												
D J Bullock	L	L	L	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 1
M Cox	L	L	L	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1
T J Hewitt	L	L	L	0 0	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0
A P Morgan	L	L	L	0 0	1 1	0 0	1 1	0 0	1 1	0 0	1 1	0 0
<b>WESTHOUGHTON FIRST</b>												
R M Brennan	L	L	L	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0
Miss M Maley	L	L	L	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0
C Reilly	L	L	L	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0
Mrs L M Reilly	L	L	L	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0
J Speight	L	L	L	0 0	0 1	0 0	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
<b>LIBERAL DEMOCRAT</b>												
Mrs A B Eckersley-Fallon	L	L	L	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0
Miss R S M Fairhurst	L	L	L	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1
Mrs C H Kirkman	L	L	L	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1
N Maher	L	L	L	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0	1 1
Miss D J McGeown	L	L	L	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0
Mrs J M Nicholson	L	L	vacancy	A Younge	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1
Mrs M E M O'Riordan	L	L	vacancy	A Price	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1
Mrs A M Seddon	L	L	L	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	0 0	1 1	0 0	1 1	1 1
D A Wilkinson	L	L	L	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1

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

	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Cllr R M Brennan (W'hton First Ind)	07941114767	cllrrichardbrennan@gmail.com
Cllr Mrs C H Kirkman (Lib Dem)		carol@westhoughton-libdem.org.uk
Cllr N Maher (Lib Dem)		neil@westhoughtob-libdems.org.uk
Cllr Mrs A M Seddon (Lib Dem)	07926097657	angela@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk

### CHEQUERBENT WARD

Cllr D J Bullock (Con), 1 Rushbank, W'hton, BL5 2JF	07732083631	derekbullock52@btinternet.com
Cllr J Speight (W'hton First Ind), 60 Clough Avenue, W'hton, BL5 2NQ	07977262022	cllrjackspeight@hotmail.co.uk

### DAISY HILL WARD

Cllr Miss R S M Fairhurst (Lib Dem)	07731867336	rebekah@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk
Cllr Miss D J McGeown, (Lib Dem) 9 Churnet Close, W'hton, BL5 3LF	07764949922	deirdre@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk
Cllr A Younge (Lib Dem) 61 Quakerfields, Westhoughton, BL5 2BJ	01942 811743	a.younge@sky.com

### HOSKERS AND HART COMMON

Cllr T J Hewitt (Con), 10 St Georges Street, Tyldesley, M29 8HH	07857649806	tobyhewitt@gmail.com
Cllr Mrs L M Reilly ( W'hton First Ind), 1 Ivy Road, Westhoughton, BL5 2NU		cllrlisareilly@gmail.com
Cllr D A Wilkinson (Lib Dem) 12 The Crescent, Westhoughton, BL5 2AE	01942 819456	david@westhoughton-libdems.org.uk

### WHITE HORSE WARD

Cllr M Cox ( Con) , 1 Regent Drive, Lostock, Bolton, BL6 4DH	07802935406	martyn.cox@bolton.gov.uk
Cllr Miss M Maley, (W'hton First Ind), 306 Wigan Road, W'hton, BL5 2AR		cllrmarinamaley@gmail.com
Cllr A P Morgan (Con), 34 Corner Brook, Bolton, BL6 4GX	01942 804080	andrew.morgan@bolton.gov.uk
Cllr C Reilly (W'hton First Ind), 1 Ivy Road, Westhoughton, BL5 2NU		cllrcharliereilly@gmail.com

### WINGATES WARD

Cllr Mrs A B Eckersley-Fallon ( Lib Dem )	07500016523	eckersleyfallon@gmail.com
Cllr A Price (Lib Dem) 11 Broomway, Westhoughton, BL5 3TZ	01942 790497	arthurprice54@icloud.com

Councillors A Younge and A Price were co-opted to the Town Council in September, 2020.

## 2. CIVIC MATTERS

During the year, the Mayoral Sunday Service, the Remembrance Day Parade and Services, the Annual Carol Service and the Pretoria Pit Disaster Memorial Services were cancelled due to Coronavirus.

3. When it was able to meet, the Town Council continued to consider 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 no grants in 2020-2021.
5. The Town Council repeated its successful Christmas Lights initiative along Market Street, with a donation of £250 from Bolton Council, and provided a Christmas Tree for Westhoughton Market.
6. The Westhoughton Town Council web site address is: [www.bolton.gov.uk/westhoughton](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/westhoughton)
7. The Town Council continues to maintain liaison with the Police.
8. The Town Council will soon appoint a Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer who will encourage the formation of new Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and Bolton Council funds and sites the Neighbourhood Watch 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 and it is funding new, replacement speed signs.
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, although many activities did not take place due to coronavirus.

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 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 Mrs Lynda Winrow-Baker and Mr David Kaye in recognition of their outstanding charitable works and great service to Westhoughton. Mrs Winrow-Baker and Mr Kaye 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 21<sup>st</sup> December, 1910. The 2020 Services of Remembrance were cancelled due to Coronavirus.
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. The Town Council has funded and arranged the siting a "Rainbow Bench" in Ditchfield Garden in honour of N.H.S. Staff and Key Workers who have worked tirelessly during the Coronavirus Pandemic.
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, although this was not possible during 2020 due to Coronavirus
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 two years. 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 have taken place via Zoom. 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](mailto:westhoughtontc@tiscali.co.uk)  
The Town Clerk has been working mostly from home due to Coronavirus and Westhoughton Library has been closed for several months.

## SECTION 137 PAYMENTS

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables Parish Councils to spend up to the product of £8.32 per head of electorate in 2020/21 for the benefit of people in the Westhoughton Parish area on activities or projects not specifically authorised by other powers. (Electorate approximately 19,381)

No Grant payments were made in 2020/21.:

### BANK RECONCILIATION AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021

<b>CURRENT ACCOUNT</b>	19,164
<b>UNCLEARED PAYMENTS</b>	
Bacs	2,606 -
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<b>CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE</b>	16,558
<b>LIQUIDITY MANAGER RESERVE ACCOUNT</b>	50,063
<b>LIQUIDITY MANAGER CAPITAL FUND</b>	31,046
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<b>TOTAL:</b>	97,667

### GRANTS 2020 - 2021

Nil

## BALANCE SHEET 2020– 2021

Total Assets	94,790.91
Funds:	
Prepayments	6,159.24
Liquidity Manager Reserve Account	31,045.83
Liquidity Manager Capital Fund	50,063.76
Current Account	16,557.87
VAT to be reclaimed	2,922.94
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	106,749.64
Creditors (outstanding invoices)	11,958.73
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	94,790.91

## CHARITIES ACCOUNT

### BANK RECONCILIATION AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2021 CONFIRMED BANK BALANCES

Instant Access Current Account	3,105
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### SUMMARY 2020/21

Balances Forward	
Instant Access Current Account	105
Add Total Receipts	3,000+
Less Total Payments	00-
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Balance shown in Receipts & Payments	3,105

### TOWN MAYOR'S CHARITY 2020/21

The former Town Mayor, Councillor D A Wilkinson (2019/20), served again for 2020/21 and has not yet paid his Charity Fund.





