

WESTHOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL
PLANNING AND FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

8th August 2022

PRESENT: The Town Mayor, Cllr Miss D J McGeown. Councillors N Maher, A Price, C Reilly, Ms G Wroe, J Speight, D A Wilkinson, A Younge, Cllr DJ Bullock, Cllr A Jackson, Cllr M Tighe.

Locum Town Clerk.

4 members of the public.

TC130/2022 FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

The Chairman explained the Fire Safety Procedure.

TC131/2022 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO ACCEPT REASONS

Resolved that the following apologies for absence and reasons be accepted by the Town Council :, Cllr Mrs LM Reilly, Cllr R M Brennan, Cllr C Kirkman, Cllr M Cox, Cllr L Maher, Cllr B Eckerseley-Fallon.

TC132/2022 TO READ THE NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

The Chairman read the notice convening the meeting.

TC133/2022 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED

Cllr D A Wilkinson declared an interest in Agenda item No. 7 – To Discuss Planning and Development Matters and to approve any action because he is a member of the Bolton Council Planning Committee.

TC134/2022 ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW PUBLIC QUESTION TIME RELATING TO TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES AND ITEMS WITHIN ITS POWERS

A discussion took place regarding the use of chemical pesticides and the effect of these on urban wildlife. Members of the public were concerned about conservation and if it would be possible for a natural alternative to be used. There were also concerns about ragwort growing in the area. The Clerk will contact Bolton Council for more information on the composition of the chemical pesticides and the plans for clearing ragwort.

TC135/2022 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.: 14269/22 Approved

Application No.: 14259/22 Approved

Application No.: 14292/22 (Discussed first with Chairman's approval) Members of public in attendance to discuss this application. Concerns were expressed with this planning application due to the issues caused to local residents in relation to the following:

- Loss of parking space
- Loss of definitive footpath
- Loss of trees with potential TPO in force
- Proximity to a well used footpath
- Location and flow into adjoining roads

Note: The previous application for this plan was rejected.

Council refuse the planning application 14292/22 on the above grounds.

(b) DISCUSSION ON PLANNING APPEALS

None

(c) TO NOTE PLANNING DECISIONS

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

TC136/2022 To note the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Wednesday 29th June, 2022 and Monday 25th July 2022.

Resolved that the minutes be noted.

TC137/2022 DISCUSSION ON THE CURRENT TOWN CLERK RECRUITMENT AND DEPUTY TOWN CLERK RECRUITMENT AND TO APPROVE ANY ACTION

Ongoing.

TC138/2022 TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

None.

TC139/2022 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK

The following was noted by the Town Council:

1. Premises applications list received.
2. Letter of invitation from Chief Executive at Bolton Council.

TC140/2022 DATE OF NEXT PLANNING AND FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 12th September, 2022.

The meeting closed at 7:18 p.m.