

WESTHOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

22nd August 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, D A Wilkinson, A Morgan.

Locum Town Clerk.

10 Members of the public.

TC141/2022 FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

The Town Mayor explained the Fire Safety Procedure.

TC142/2022 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 C Reilly, Cllr M Cox, Cllr B Eckersley-Fallon, Cllr L Maher.

TC143/2022 TO READ THE NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

The Town Mayor read the notice convening the meeting.

TC144/2022 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.

Cllr G Wroe as a member of Central Park bowling Club.

TC145/2022 ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW PUBLIC QUESTION TIME RELATING TO TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES AND ITEMS WITHIN ITS POWERS

A question was raised in relation to the Bolton News article about the sale of land property and the mention that £1M was for Westhoughton and was this additional money for Westhoughton Town Centre

An answer was provided on the historical funding for Westhoughton Town Centre and that the £1M was already part of the funding, a brief overview of the SAMP process was provided.

A question was raised regarding the Westhoughton Town Precept.

An answer was provided on the precept and examples of Town Council funding provided, further information in the Town Council Annual Report.

A question was asked regarding if the Carnegie Hall could be rented by the public.
Information would be requested.

A question was asked about items which have been provided by Westhoughton residents to the historical section of the library and their future use and could such items be reclaimed by the residents.

Information would be requested from the Head of Libraries.

A number of questions were asked about the bowling green/pavilion and Central park. These were also raised in item 9 and are listed there.

A question was asked about the possible use of the former Family Centre on Washacre. An answer in relation to the building and The Hub had been provided by Mr G Brough and the information would be on the agenda of the next meeting for discussion.

A question was asked in relation to the press report by Cllr M. Cox that the consultation into the future use of Westhoughton Civic buildings would be relaunched.

Information would be requested on this matter.

TC146/2022 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.: 14278/22 No objections

Application No.: 14333/22 No objections

Application No.: 14357/22 No objections

Application No.: 14396/22 No objections

Application No.: 14407/22 No objections

Application No.: 14414/22 No objections

Application No.: 14421/22 No objections

Application No.: 14431/22 Councillors were concerned that if the agricultural land was Green Belt would this status be changed by becoming garden and potentially allow for future development. - clarity is required on this.

Application No.: 14428/22 No objections

Application No.: 14424/22 That Bolton planning take into account the impact of a two storey extension at the front of the property

(b) DISCUSSION ON PLANNING APPEALS

None

(c) TO NOTE PLANNING DECISIONS

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

TC147/2022 TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8TH AUGUST

Resolved that the minutes of the Planning and Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 8th August 2022 be accepted.

TC148/2022 DISCUSSION ON THE CURRENT TOWN CLERK RECRUITMENT AND DEPUTY TOWN CLERK RECRUITMENT AND TO APPROVE ANY ACTION

Ongoing.

TC149/2022 Discussion on the future activity and funding of Westhoughton Park Bowling Club, as requested by Cllr A Price.

The club is working with BLGC about the possibility of BLGC and young person working with the bowling club and this initiative will be reported back to the Council.

A number of issues affecting the bowling club were raised.

- The condition survey of the pavilion
- The use of the Town Centre funding earmarked for the park.
- Security of the bowling from vandalism including the height of the boundary fence.
- Vandalism to the pavilion and climbing on the roof by youths and the danger to those persons, the possible use of anti vandal paint.
- The reopening or provision of new toilets in the park.
- The provision of a defibrillator in the park.
- The future of the bowling club with regard to £72 fee
- The cost of to the bowling club of £1500 payment to Bolton Council
- The cost cutting of the 2nd green
- Misuse of the bowling by youths, vandalism and the height of the boundary fence
- Possibility of street lighting through the park

Resolved that the council request information from Mr Russel and Mr Phil Lamb in relation to the issues in park and the town centre funding. and the matters be reported to a future council meeting.

TC150/2022 Discussion on the review of the speed limit at Hartford Road / Daisy Hill village, and the potential HGV ban at Daisy Hill village, as requested by Cllr D Wilkinson.

It was resolved that the council request that Bolton Council review the following;

- A. Speed limit on Hartford Road
- B. Speed limit in Daisy Hill village
- C. Possibility of a HGV ban in Daisy Hill village.

TC151/2022 Discussion on the GP surgery in Westhoughton, as requested by Cllr A Price.

Due to the difficulties faced by residents of Westhoughton in getting through to Peter House and Stable Fold surgeries and the availability of appointments it was resolved that the council approach both surgeries for information on these issues and what the practices and health authorities are doing to reduce these issues.

TC152/2022 TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

£3460.50 Bolton Lads and Girls Club

£153.22 Canon

TC153/2022 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK

None.

TC154/2022 DATE OF NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 26th September, 2022.