



## WESTHOUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee on Monday 10 July 2023 at 7pm in Carnegie Hall**

Present: Councillors David Chadwick, Sarita Chohan, Derek Gradwell, Ryan Hough, Alison Jackson, Alan Kaufman, Deirdre McGeown, Arthur Price, Jack Speight, Christine Strawbridge, John Strawbridge, Martin Tighe, David Wilkinson and Gillian Wroe.  
Members of the public: Michelle O’Riordan, Matthew Kemp, Abi Scaldwell, Gaynor Ratcliffe, James Copper, Ollie Younge

**FGP64/23/23** Fire Safety Information (Chair)

The fire safety information was read out by the Chair.

**FGP65/23** To receive apologies for absence and record reasons

Councillors Anna Homfray (ill), Alison Jackson (ill), Martyn Cox (holiday), Neil Maher (holiday), Linda Maher (holiday)

**FGP66/23** To read the notice convening the meeting

The notice convening the meeting was read out by the Chair.

**FGP67/23** To record declarations of interest from members in any item to be discussed

Councillor David Wilkinson on planning matters as a member of Bolton Council’s planning committee.

**FGP68/23** Adjournment to allow public question time, relating to Town Council activities. This is the only opportunity for members of the public to speak at the meeting unless the question/statement relates to a planning application.

a.	<b>Question from James Copper:</b> What progress has been made on the appointment of the Town Clerk? Councillor Deirdre McGeown, as lead member on the recruitment panel,
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	stated that three candidates had been selected and are moving to interview stage.
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b.	<p><b>Question from James Copper:</b> Is there a Neighbourhood Watch Officer?</p> <p>The post is currently vacant and will be filled after the completion of the Town Clerk recruitment.</p>
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### FGP69/23 Planning and Development Matters

The Town Council raised no objections to any of the planning applications:

16281/23	3 Peter Street, Westhoughton, BL5 2DF
Erection of porch to front.	

16189/23	19 Wharfedale, Westhoughton, BL5 3DP
Erection of single storey extension to rear and porch to front.	

16186/23	6 Readymoor, Westhoughton, BL5 2BF
Installation of two ground floor side facing windows, together with the removal of the rear window and installation of French doors and support chimney stack.	

16203/23	2 The Pewfist Spinney, Westhoughton, BL5 2UN
Loft conversion and dormer to rear to include roof alterations.	

16115/23	Hallgate, Westhoughton, BL5 2SF
Installation of bay window and partial render to front of property.	

16246/23	10 Bentworth Close, Westhoughton, BL5 2GN
Certificate of lawful development (S192) for the proposed conversion of garage and erection of single storey extension to rear.	

**Planning appeals** - none

**Planning decisions** - lists circulated

**FGP70/23 Accounts for payment**

**FGP71/23 To note the minutes of the meeting of 12 June 2023, previously circulated**

The minutes were noted.

**FGP72/23 Grant application from Westhoughton Lions**

A grant of £500 was approved.

**FGP73/23 Investigate Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity training for town councillors by Bolton Council**

Councillor Wilkinson explained that training was being given to Bolton councillors, which he had attended and had spoken to Ruth Seddon, officer in charge at Bolton, about the possibility of training being provided for town councillors. The Town Council approved to explore the possibility of training being given to town councillors.

**FGP74/23 Consultation regarding Washacre Primary School**

The consultation was noted.

Date of next meeting - Town Council, Monday 31 July 2023

The meeting closed at 7.15pm.