



Present

Chairman

Councillor G Baron

Councillors

Councillor T Aldred

Councillor D Chorlton

Councillor A Neal

Councillor M Royds

Clerk of the Council: Miss R Hodson

2 members of public were present; no members of the press were present.

Councillor S Smith

Councillor J Whitehead

Councillor M Whitworth

112. To receive apologies and the reasons for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillors Burton and Olaolu who were unwell, Councillor Powell due to road conditions, Councillor Rhodes who had an emergency at home.

113. To receive any Declarations of interest.

None.

114. To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2024, and to approve them by the signature of the Chairman as a correct record.

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2024, copies of which had been circulated to each Member, were correct and should be approved by the signature of the Chairman as a correct record. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Whitworth.

115. Public Question Time.

None.

116. Planning Applications for consideration and comment:

a) 2024/0426 Reddish Hill Farm Market Street Shawforth Rochdale Lancashire OL12 8XD
Proposal - Prior Approval for change of use and associated operational development of
agricultural buildings to form 2 'larger' dwellinghouses

It was resolved that Council have no objections to this planning application. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Whitehead.

b) 2024/0022/TPO Braeside Market Street Whitworth Rochdale Lancashire OL12 8RU Proposal -
Canopy raised by removing small diameter lower branches (which have grown back in recent
years) Crown thinning by removing small diameter branches from the higher canopy and finally
removing dead wood less than 20 % of total tree growth . Work to be done to the BS3997
British standard for tree works (TPO REF T2/71/ and -T2/72 Land Adjacent to Braeside, Market
Street, Whitworth)

It was resolved that council have no objection to this planning application. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Whitehead.

117. To discuss giving permission to Rossendale Borough Council to put in new ashes vaults at Whitworth Cemetery.

Councillor Neal stated that RBC's Mike Forrest had had to send his apologies due to road conditions. Councillors discussed this. It was resolved that Council give permission to RBC to instal new ashes vaults at Whitworth Cemetery. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Whitworth.

118. To authorise a donation to the Royal British Legion for the Remembrance Wreath, using section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

It was resolved that Council authorise a donation to the Royal British Legion of £100 for the Remembrance Wreath, using section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Smith, who thanked the TLC for organising the event.

119. To consider making a donation to the Scouts for the use of the Scout Hut for Remembrance Sunday, using section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

It was resolved that Council approve a donation of £100 towards 41st Rochdale (Whitworth) Scouts for the use of the Scout Hut for Remembrance Sunday, using section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Smith.

120. To discuss the formation of a Remembrance Sunday and Memorial Gardens Working Group.

Councillors discussed this. It was resolved that Councillor Whitworth approach local service personnel regarding a parade marshal and that the Remembrance Sunday service will be organised by the Tourism and Leisure Committee. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Whitworth.

121. To discuss a recommendation from the Environment and Wildlife Committee for Whitworth Town Council to become a member of LancsCAN.

Councillor Royds explained the background to LancsCAN and reasoning behind the recommendation. Councillor Smith thanked Councillor Kim Olaolu for creating Environment and Wildlife Committee. It was resolved that Whitworth Town Council become a member of LancsCAN. This was moved by Councillor Royds and seconded by Councillor Smith.

122. To discuss commenting on the consultation document regarding enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings.

Councillors discussed this and provided the clerk with agreed responses to the consultation.

123. To bring to the attention of Whitworth Town Council the important issues of stone falling from quarry trucks and the deterioration of the culvert beneath Lloyd Street.

Councillor Whitworth updated members on these issues. It was resolved that standing orders be suspended to allow members of the public to speak. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Chorlton. A member of the public gave an update on the ownership of the quarry. It was resolved that standing orders be reinstated. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Chorlton. Councillors discussed this. Councillor Smith agreed to liaise with LCC, Councillor Baron agreed to liaise with the local MP and Councillor Whitworth agreed to continue to liaise with the Flood Forum.

124. To receive and note the minutes of the Finance Monitoring Committee held on Thursday 7th November.

It was resolved that Council receive and note the minutes of the Finance Monitoring Committee held on Thursday 7th November. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Royds.

125. To receive and note the six-month outturn.

It was resolved that Council receive and note the six-month outturn. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Chorlton.

126. To receive suggestions from members for projects to consider for 2025-2026 financial year.

Councillors were advised to contact members of the Finance Monitoring Committee or the clerk with any suggestions for projects to consider for the 2025-2026 financial year.

127. To discuss submitting a comment in response to the Scout Moor II consultation.

Councillors discussed this. It was resolved that Whitworth Town Council will support its residents and work together with Cubico and residents going forward with any future progress of these plans. It was also resolved that Cubico will be asked to keep the lines of communication open with Whitworth Town Council regarding future progress of the consultation. These were moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Smith.

128. To discuss a donation application received from Whitworth Playgroup, using section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

It was resolved that Council approves a donation of £500 to Whitworth Playgroup, using section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Whitworth.

129. To receive the report of the Town Mayor.

The Mayor reported that he had recently spent a really enjoyable half a day at Whitworth Playgroup. He also commented on how busy his inbox had been regarding the consultation for Scout Moor. He thanked councillors for their engagement with residents regarding this. The Mayor stated that he was looking forward to the upcoming Carol Service and Santa Express.

130. The Chairman or Clerk to answer questions from Councillors (Standing Orders 16 & 24 – 27, for information only).

None.

131. To receive reports from delegates and representatives to outside organisations (for information only).

Councillor Whitehead gave an update on Whitworth Leisure Centre.

Councillor Royds gave an update from the Environment and Wildlife Committee and thanked Councillor Olaolu for the planning of the recent planting of over 400 trees up at Waingap Woods. Councillor Royds gave an update from the Tourism and Leisure Committee and reported that the Christmas trees on brackets had all been prepped and had been fitted. He also reported that Santa Express plans were well underway and involved both the Mayors of Whitworth and Rossendale.

Councillor Neal reported that he had given the Mayor of Kandel a gift on behalf of WTC and in return had been given a signed picture of three members of Whitworth's Town Twinning Committee.

Councillor Whitworth reported that the Sports Council were now back meeting at Whitworth Leisure Centre and that the Sports Council were going to need a new lawnmower for

Leavengreave pitch. He also reported that the Sports Council were looking into fencing at Leavengreave due to damage to the pitch caused by horses and bikes recently. Councillor Whitworth also reported from the Flood Forum that a debris screen had been fitted to Daniel Street, that Tong Lane drains were on a cyclical clearing system, that the Environment Agency is examining water contamination, the drains on Whitworth Rake gullies need to be improved and that John Moores University were working with the Flood Forum as part of a study. He also spoke about the community action recently to clear drains locally. Councillor Whitehead reported that Whitworth In Bloom has recently met with RBC to discuss plans for a possible Green Flag status application at Whitworth Memorial Gardens.

132. [To receive and, if appropriate, adopt the financial statements presented by the Clerk.](#)
It was resolved that Council receive and adopt the financial statements presented by the Clerk. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Royds.

133. [To authorise the signing of orders for payment: schedule 8, 2024-2025.](#)
The clerk explained the Schedule of Accounts Payable in the form of Report 8, 2024-2025 and asked for approval. It was resolved that approval be given for the Schedules of Accounts payable. This was moved by Councillor Neal and seconded by Councillor Chorlton.

134. [To carry out the internal audit.](#)
Members carried out an internal audit of bank statements, invoices and Schedule of Accounts Payable, balances against bank statements and receipts and petty cash. All was found to be in order.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.45pm.