

## Meeting of the Council 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 – Order Of Business

# Bolton Council

1. Prayers
2. Mayor's Communications (if any)
3. Petition – None received.
4. Declarations of Interests.
5. Vote of Thanks to Madam Mayor and Consort.
6. Proceedings of the Meeting of the Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2022.

*Motions, amendments and questions of which notice has been given and items upon which comment will be made*

Date and Time 2022	Page and Item Number	Amendment Motion, Question Or Comment	In the name of	Subject	Motion, Amendment or Question
<b>7. Constitution</b>					
16 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022	Council Summons	Motion	Councillor Cox	Council's Scheme of Delegation	That the amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation for 2021/2022, as circulated, be approved.
<b>8. Changes In Committee Membership and Appointments To Other Bodies</b>					
<b>None</b>					

Date and Time 2022	Page and Item Number	Amendment Motion, Question Or Comment	In the name of	Subject	Motion, Amendment or Question
<b>9. Questions/Comments under Standing Order 9(a)</b>					
18 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 12:05 p.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Cox)	Councillor Flitcroft	Rock Hall heritage site in Farnworth	Can the Leader of the Council please update us as to what level of support from Bolton Council is being given in their role as “joint grantee” to Banana Enterprise Network who are the bid team that is seeking National Lottery Heritage Funding to renovate the Rock Hall heritage site in Farnworth. Specifically what expert support is being made available for due diligence checking of proposed bid documentation and if any progress is being made to access funding opportunities, for example Landfill Communities Fund for heritage buildings which could be utilised as a significant element of the 10% Partnership funding requirements to be put in place should the Lottery funding bid be agreed?
18 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 12:12 p.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader (Councillor Mrs. Fairclough)	Councillor Bullock	Heritage Action Zone	With the excellent news recently that the nationally important Bolton & Leigh Railway 'Chequerbent Embankment' of 1828 has now received the highest level of protection possible-a 'Scheduled Monument', by 'Historic England' planning is underway to celebrate the bi-centenary of the Bolton & Leigh Railway's Act of Parliament in 2025. Would the Council commit to supporting an application jointly with Wigan Council for a 'Heritage Action Zone' to be established that would help permanently protect Bolton's historic pioneering railway route?
18 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 12:12 p.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader (Councillor Mrs. Fairclough)	Councillor Bullock	Urban Greenheart	With the recent 'battles' with developers over 'greenspaces' across Bolton in mind (Haslam Park/Hulton Park Estate) and similar proposals for the establishment for an 'Urban National Park' agreed to by the West Midlands Elected Mayor and the Government, will Bolton Council now

					progress with both the GMCA/Elected Mayor and Government what Bolton Councillors unanimously agreed with a Motion in March 2019 to establish an 'URBAN GREENHEART' GM National Park that would permanently protect both Bolton's and GM's greenspaces?
18 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 12:12 p.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Galloway)	Councillor Bullock	Greater Manchester Clean Air Zone	With the GM CAZ now totally discredited, either as a 'charging' or 'non charging' Zone does the Council not agree with me that with all types of road vehicles being rapidly transformed by either 'electrified' or other low/non emission systems, in parallel with an ever expanding electrified rail/Metro network across both Bolton and wider GM the setting up of any kind of CAZ is now rapidly becoming totally unnecessary! Should the CAZ not now be scrapped?
20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 05:11 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor Warren)	Councillor Heslop	Fair Funding for Farnworth	<p>In response to a question presented by Cllr Paul Heslop at the full Council of 16th March 2022 about Council loans to the Manchester Airport Group, the Leader advised in that this year's budget revealed, 'the largest capital investment programme this town has ever seen'.</p> <p>Of the locally raised funds for all the Masterplans in this borough, Bolton received £88 million whilst four remaining towns in the borough received just £3 million each with a possible further £4 million to be shared between these smaller towns depending on the sale proceeds of land in this borough.</p>
					It is my belief, and also that of many residents that the commitment of Council funds to Farnworth is both inadequate and unfair. Disregarding land sales – also known as SAMP - Bolton is receiving £88 million yet Farnworth is receiving only £3 million. It should be noted that this Council's funding for the library/health centre in Little Lever

				<p>is more than the none-land-sale commitment to the entire town of Farnworth.</p> <p>Along with other Councils that bid for the first tranche Future High Street Funds [FHSF], Farnworth received only 69% of its original bid resulting in a nearly £6 million shortfall. Of the proposed combined £23 million taxpayer funding, Farnworth received only £17 million, and the Farnworth Masterplan had to be scaled-down to reflect the – reduced - secured funding from central government.</p> <p>The main throughfare through Farnworth is Market Street and between the Longcauseway and Rawson Street junctions of Market Street – a distance that is actually longer than Deansgate in Manchester – there are rows of shops and the vast majority of these shops are shuttered. The same stretch of road is also the main section of the ‘Streets for All’ scheme. In other parts of the UK, many shutter-blighted High Streets have been transformed using innovative adaptations to shop frontages including the main windows and doors being slightly set back and at an angle so that more attractive methods of security can be used. The scaled-down version of the proposed Farnworth Masterplan included the removal of funding for shop-frontages on</p>
				<p>Market Street and this is hugely disappointing given the opportunity to truly transform the town, and in the very least make up for the decades of neglect of the second town of the borough.</p> <p>We were previously told that this Council is capital rich. When it comes to Bolton Town Centre, there appears to be a determination – no matter what it costs – to ensure that the Masterplan there is successful. In contrast, Farnworth has to make do with whatever scraps of finance this Council</p>

					<p>wants to give.</p> <p>Could the relevant Executive Cabinet Member explain to the residents of Farnworth and Kearsley why – in a capital-rich era – this Council will not fully fund the originally proposed Farnworth Masterplan including the shop-fronts along Market Street?</p>
20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 10:39 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader (Councillor Mrs. Fairclough)	Councillor Silvester	Residual Waste Collections from blocks of flats	<p>Could the Executive Cabinet Member confirm relating to residual waste collections from blocks of flats where there are communal large blue moveable waste bins in working order (which can be wheeled and all wheels working) and which are within waste capacity and not overflowing, if it is Council policy for our bin operatives to skim waste bags from the communal bin, taking a few physically by hand to the bin lorry and to leave others behind for a future residual waste collection, or whether it is Council policy for all of the residual waste bags to be collected and for no bin bags to be left behind? If it is the latter, is the Executive Cabinet Member happy to look into any instances to find out the</p>
					<p>reasons why our bin operatives skim waste bags from communal flat bins leaving other waste bags behind and why residents then have to ring the Council to ask for a collection team to come back a second time, costing this Council extra resources and time?</p>
20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 15:16 p.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Cox)	Councillor Grant	Great British Railway Headquarters	<p>I ask this question on behalf of the residents of Horwich and Horwich Town Councillors</p> <p>Having seen the communication, you had in February with Cllr. Chadwick where you thank him for bringing this to your attention and you would work something up with Regen. at what point did you and your cabinet decide to hijack our initiative and write Horwich out of this expression of interest</p>

					<p>and effectively put Bolton first and Horwich Last!</p> <p>Why were Horwich Town Council or the ward representatives for Horwich &amp; Blackrod not involved in any discussion about your decision and reasons why until after the bid had been submitted.</p> <p>Why when the rules and guidance state that there can be multiple sites for each bid was Horwich NOT included as a possible site along with Bolton?</p> <p>One of the reasons the officers stated Bolton over Horwich was because of issues with negotiations with developers and land owners ... Bolton is the or certainly was the 3rd largest land owner on the locoworks where has this land gone and what vehicle was used for its disposal and for what value. If the land is still available then it renders the officer's argument meritless.</p>
					<p>Was the Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration involved and if so, should she not have recused herself of any decision-making responsibility in this matter due to her clear, vocal and disrespectful bias towards the bid by Horwich and Cllr. Chadwick on social media over her desire to see the expression of interest made by Bolton rather than Horwich. This would be a clear conflict of interest</p>
20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 15:43 p.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Chief Executive	Councillor Hayes	Council Policy on Covid Infections for Employees	<p>We are aware that there is still a major problem with Covid infections in the country, and that in many areas it appears to be rising again.</p> <p>Can the Chief Executive please clarify what the Council policy is in relation to employees who test positive, or who have a close family member who tests positive?</p> <p>Can he also clarify what the payment situation will be for an employee who does not come into work due to Covid 19?</p>

20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 15:43 p.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader (Councillor Mrs. Fairclough)	Councillor Hayes	Robertsons Contract – Smithills Estate	Can the Executive Cabinet Member confirm that the contract with Robertsons includes all matters arising on the Council owned portion of the Smithills Estate, particularly maintenance of roads, lighting on roads, car parks etc.  Can she also please inform Council how residents and Councillors should communicate problems to Robertsons to ensure a swift response?
20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 21:17 p.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Galloway)	Councillor Ayub	Crossing Guide from Long Lane and Bury Road junction	I have been informed by various parts of the Borough and in particular Brightmet. The crossing guide from Long Lane and Bury Road junction has disappeared. Can the Executive Cabinet Member inform us whether this is another reduction in essential service delivery because of the funding cuts and when was the decision taken?
20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2022 21:19 p.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Chair of the Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Silvester)	Councillor Jiva	City Status	At the meeting of the Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee held on the 13th December 2021, in the discussion which followed the question which was asked regarding if this Council had submitted an application for City Status, the Leader of the Council revealed that he had taken the decision in private and that no application would be made and that he had no mechanism to report his decision to this Council. I know that the Chair of Scrutiny is concerned about this so can he clarify how Scrutiny can find out if the Leader of the Council has made or is making other decisions which affect this Council behind closed doors in private without reporting those decisions to this Council?
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 07:23 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor Warren)	Councillor D. Wilkinson	Overgrown Hedges	The Executive Cabinet Member will be aware of the danger posed by overgrown hedges and trees which block footpaths.  This can be dangerous for pedestrians having to step into the road but even more dangerous for residents with disabilities and visual impairments.

					<p>Can the Executive Cabinet Member inform council if the authority does have enforcement powers on this type of problem and will they use those powers.</p> <p>Can the Executive Cabinet Member inform council on how many occasions have enforcement powers have been used in the last three years?</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 07:47 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor Warren)	Councillor D. Wilkinson	SAMP Process	<p>The Executive Cabinet Member at the last council meeting gave information about the number of sites and amounts to be raised.</p> <p>To allow complete transparency will the Executive Cabinet Member agree to change the reporting measures to the relevant Executive Cabinet Member meetings to show who has bought council land and property and how much was raised?</p> <p>Will the Executive Cabinet Member also agree to reports showing which land and property has been disposed off outside of the SAMP process under delegated powers by officers?</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 07:54 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader (Councillor Mrs. Fairclough)	Councillor D. Wilkinson	Westhoughton Library	<p>The Executive Cabinet Member will be aware of the problems of the heating system of Westhoughton Library and its replacement and an a new air heat pump.</p> <p>The Executive Cabinet Member will be aware that the library was to have reopened in February, therefore could the Executive Cabinet Member explain what are the reasons for the delays and overrun?</p> <p>Will these delays cost more expenditure than planned for?</p> <p>Can a definitive date of the reopening of the library facilities be provided?</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March,	Council	Question to the	Councillor	Road Traffic	In my ward, and across the borough, we are seeing more



2022 08:02 a.m.	Summons	Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor Warren)	Cowen	Accidents/ Speed Cameras	and more road traffic accidents, often as a result of speeding, aggressive driving, and drivers under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. When can we expect to see increased patrols by traffic police in our town? And do we have any plans for the introduction of average speed cameras along the more dangerous stretches of roads? For example would it be possible to mimic the system in place through Belmont to the M65 junction from, say, Bull Hill on Blackburn Road down to the junction with Crompton Way?
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 09:02 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Cox)	Councillor Donaghy	Council Lighting on Victoria Square	<p>The lighting on Victoria Square is now at a very poor level which makes the square look unwelcoming, and unsafe at night for the people of the borough.</p> <p>Can the Executive Cabinet Member Cllr Haslam assure the council that this problem will be addressed as a matter of urgency, and further can he ensure that Highways and town centre management work together to address this issue.</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 09:04 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Cox)	Councillor McGeown	Data from Driver Feedback Signs	<p>The Executive Cabinet Member will be aware of the failings of the previous mobile DFS signs and the data recording system which depended on a single member of staff who emigrated.</p> <p>Will the vehicle data be recorded from the new fixed location DFS signs be used to provide information of speed related issues and future speed reduction measures.</p> <p>Can the Executive Cabinet Member ensure that ward members/forums and the relevant town councils are informed on a regular basis of the information produced?</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 09:07	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet	Councillor McGeown	Westhoughton Town Centre	The Executive Cabinet Member will be aware of the Westhoughton Town centre refurbishment scheme which

a.m.		Member for Regeneration (Councillor Warren)			<p>she approved.</p> <p>She will be aware that the members of the town steering group were informed of the scheme but not involved in its production.</p>
					<p>This due to the fact that since the Tories took over the chairmanship of the steering group in May 2021 no meetings of the steering group have taken place.</p> <p>This is in direct contrast to Tory assurances of greater localism.</p> <p>Can the Executive Cabinet Member give an assurance that either the current chairperson is removed or there is a guarantee of the steering group being involved in other town centre projects.</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 09:14 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Chairman of the Planning Committee (Councillor Walsh)	Councillor D. Wilkinson	Hulton Park Estate	<p>At the council meeting on Wednesday 16th March I asked the question below however due to lack of time the questions posed in the last two paragraphs were not answered.</p> <p>Can the information be provided?</p> <p>There still remains under questions in relation to restrictions that there were to have placed on planning committee members on the possible site.</p> <p>Can council be informed who tried to restrict planning committee members in relation to the proposed site visit and answers to 6 question posed by Cllr Peel.</p>

					<p>With regard to the collapse of the planning portal and delays to planning applications can council be informed who arranged for the individual webpage for the Hulton Estate application and why such special treatment for this application.</p> <p>How much Officer time was devoted to creating this webpage and how were the costs covered?</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 09:17 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader (Councillor Mrs. Fairclough)	Councillor McGeown	Gully Grids	<p>The Executive Cabinet Member will be aware of the decision not to sweep roads and footpaths for the past few months which has led to a build up roadside detritus which has added to more blocked gully grids on top of those which have blocked for months and in some cases years.</p> <p>Given the number of storms we have received this year and the issues of streets flooding will a serious programme be undertaken to clear blocked grids?</p> <p>.</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 09:23 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor Warren)	Councillor Hayes	Woodstock Drive	<p>Is the Executive Cabinet Member aware that garage owners in Woodstock Drive have been attempting to buy their plots through Robertsons for nearly a year after plans to sell the garage colony on Woodstock Drive proved not to be feasible?</p> <p>Is she further aware that Robertsons have allegedly threatened to bulldoze the garages (owned by the tenants of the plots) unless rent is paid?</p> <p>Does she agree that such lack of initial response and later bullying tactics reflect very badly on the SAMP process and on Bolton Council?</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 10:44 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Cox)	Councillor Eckersley-Fallon	Traffic Issues in Westhoughton	<p>Having campaigned since 2018, on two extremely important issues within Westhoughton in relation to road safety.</p> <p>1. Speed calming measures on Chew Moor Lane, having requested data pre and post covid, from the Speed Sign,</p>

					<p>speeds have been recorded as high as 80mph on a 30mph road.</p> <p>2. Traffic Light Filters to be placed on the junction of Manchester Road/Bolton Road. This will also enable the flow of traffic, at present traffic is stationary and not allowing traffic to turn right onto the Manchester Road/Bolton Road? Please could I be provided with an update and timescales. For the same to be approved/works started.</p>
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 10:49 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Cox)	Councillor Eckersley-Fallon	Energy Bills Rebate	The Government recently announced a package of support known as the Energy Bills Rebate. Can the leader of the council please give members an update on this scheme particularly in relation to when households can expect to receive payment?
21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2022 11:48 a.m.	Council Summons	Question to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Cox)	Councillor Sanders	Farnworth Town Hall	Can the Leader of the Council confirm that Farnworth Town Hall is safe under this council? Please can the Leader explain back office staff usage, the rationale for departmental changes and the impacts of covid on office working practices? Also, can the Leader affirm that conversations between the Council Leadership, Farnworth ward members and Place Department have been taking place to explore how we may get Farnworth Town Hall open to the public and in community use again after many years as a shut-off building?
<b>10. Questions/Comments under Standing Order 9(c)</b>					
None					
<b>11. Committee Proceedings</b>					
<b>Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee</b>  Motion to be moved by Councillor Flitcroft <b>(See Section B).</b>					

<p><b>12. Scrutiny Committees</b></p> <p>None</p>	
<p><b>13. Motions Under Standing Order No 4</b></p>	
(a)	<p>Unlocking our High Streets</p> <p>Motion to be moved by Councillor Silvester</p>
(b)	<p>Energy Price Cap</p> <p>Motion to be moved by Councillor Donaghy</p>
(c)	<p>Cost of Living Rises</p> <p>Motion to be moved by Councillor Veevers</p>
(d)	<p>Renouncing of Russian Donations</p> <p>Motion to be moved by Councillor D. Wilkinson</p>