

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF
BOLTON BY BOWLAND, GISBURN FOREST & SAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 6th NOVEMBER 2017 AT SAWLEY VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr. H. Fortune (Chairman), Cllrs. A. Clements, C. Curry, A. Foster, L. Holt, E. Moorhouse, R. Park, E. Twist, M. Walsh, I. Willock, P Wilson.

Also in attendance: LCC Cllr. A. Atkinson (late), RVBC Cllr. R. Sherras, Mr. C. Hirst (RVBC Head of Regeneration & Housing), Clerk. and 24 residents

Chairman welcomed all to the meeting

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies had been received from RVBC Cllr. R. Elms and it was

RESOLVED that these apologies be received & approved

2. Adjournment for Public Session

2.1 A number of residents spoke to voice various considerations ; some of these views had been expressed previously at Parish Council meetings and during the Ribble Valley Consultation Period. A number wished the Plan to be withdrawn, whilst others felt that democracy should be served by allowing the Plan to go to referendum. It was agreed that the Examiner had carried out a thorough report but his findings may have meant that the Plan no longer had viability. It was pointed out that the very experienced Examiner had recommended that basic conditions had been met & that the Plan, after his modifications had been applied, could go to Referendum.

3. To receive declarations of pecuniary or personal interest

3.1 There were no Declarations of Interest

4. To consider and approve any actions to be taken regarding Bolton by Bowland & Gisburn Forest Neighbourhood Plan prior to Ribble Valley Borough Council Planning Committee decision on 30 November 2017. Councillors will note that, as previously informed, Mr. Colin Hirst (Ribble Valley Head of Regeneration & Housing) will attend to clarify any queries.

4.1 Members then discussed whether the Neighbourhood Plan (The Plan) should be withdrawn, or that Ribble Valley Borough Council should amend the Plan as per Examiner recommendations and take the Plan to residents by referendum.

4.2 Mr. Hirst explained the possible procedures open to Parish Council, responding to queries in order to clarify. The Parish Council may make the decision (legally it has the right to do) to withdraw The Plan, as the decision on a possible referendum stage will be taken by Ribble Valley Planning Committee on 30th November 2017, however the paperwork for this meeting needs to go to members by 20th November. Mr. Hirst expressed his professional view that although the Examiner had proposed a series of clear modifications, with recommendations, The Plan had met basic conditions and therefore, subject to Ribble Valley Planning Committee, The Plan could go to referendum.

4.3 Discussion followed. The breadth of the Examiner's modifications, particularly in regard to housing site allocations was considered a major reason to consider withdrawal. In response to a query regarding the meaning of "small scale developments", Mr. Hirst explained that this needed to be considered within the context of the area, usually fewer than 10 dwellings, which could include conversions and / or new build. He highlighted the context difference between Clitheroe & Tosside to illustrate this point. Members noted that 8 developments / conversions in the Holden & Settle Road area were shown on the parish council website and these had been approved.

4.4 There was much further discussion and points raised on both sides of the argument by the majority of members and subsequently the following motion was proposed & seconded: a Named Vote was proposed, seconded and resolved for this motion

4.5 That Bolton by Bowland, Gisburn Forest & Sawley Parish Council requests the withdrawal of its Neighbourhood Plan from Ribble Valley Borough Council

4.6 An amendment was then proposed and seconded :

4.7 That a word processed document combining the Submission Version with Examiner Report be published on the Parish Council website for all villagers to see, followed by an Open Meeting to decide upon the future.

4.8 It was RESOLVED that the Amendment was lost by a majority of 3 in favour, 7 against with 1 abstention and the original motion was then voted upon.

4.9 The motion was proposed by Cllr. Twist, seconded by Cllr. Willock. Votes in favour were :
Cllrs. Twist, Willock, Fortune, Wilson, Moorhouse, Foster & Walsh

Votes against were : Cllrs. Clements, Park, Curry & Holt.

4.10 It was therefore

RESOLVED that The Parish Council formally request to Ribble Valley Borough Council that the Bolton by Bowland & Gisburn Forest Neighbourhood Plan be withdrawn.

5. To approve payment of invoices necessary prior to December Parish Council meeting (in the absence of any delegated powers) Clerk will bring forward such invoices.

5.1 Clerk brought forward invoices to pay Lancs. & Merseyside Training Partnership, Lancs. Federation of Young Farmers Clubs, Parish Lengthsman & Clerk. She will give full report of invoices at December meeting and it was **RESOLVED that these invoices be paid**

6. Date of next meeting MONDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2017 Bolton by Bowland Village Hall

Chairman thanked all for their attendance & input and closed the meeting at 9.06 pm