



MINUTES OF PADIHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 3rd July 2023 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers

Present:

Town Councillors: Councillor P. Haigh (in the Chair), Councillors, M. Duckworth, J. Harbour, M. Harrison, A. Lewis, P. McCann, V. Pridden, C. Smith, A. Tatchell, C. Turner, P. Turner and M. Whittaker. Dianne O'Neill was also in attendance.

Others: Steve Watson (Town Clerk), Inspector Rob Grey, PC Anne Ingham, County Councillor Alan Hosker and Borough Councillor Joanne Broughton.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, especially our new Borough Councillor and our prospective Co-optee.

TC/23/24/027 Casual Vacancies and Co-options recommendations

4 Candidates were interviewed. The Interview Panel recommended that Dianne O'Neill and Keith Barsby are Co-opted onto the Council to fill the two vacant positions and Thomas Ryland is placed as first reserve should a further vacancy arises, to be appointed without further interview.

RESOLVED: That Dianne O'Neill and Keith Barsby are Co-opted onto the Council.

RESOLVED: That Thomas Ryland is placed as first reserve for any future vacancies, without interview.

Dianne was welcomed to the meeting as a newly appointed Councillor.

TC/23/24/028 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Dave Alexander and Keith Barsby who were away.

RESOLVED: That the apologies for absence and reasons given are approved.

TC/23/24/029 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

There were no declarations of interest.

TC/23/24/030 Formally Adjourn the meeting to allow for Public Participation.

RESOLVED: That the meeting is formally adjourned to allow for participation from the Public.

Police Report

Inspector Rob Grey introduced PC Anne Ingham the new Community Beat Manager covering Padiham. He then provided the follow crime statistics:

Assaults 24 compared with 27 last year.

Burglary 4 compared with 5 last year.

Criminal Damage 9 compared with 11 last year.

Drug Related Crime 0 compared with 1 last year. The Police are aware of drug problems but have had no reports this month.

Nuisance 40 compared with 46 last year.

Public Order 12 compared with 10 last year.

Thefts 15 compared with 21 last year.

There has been a minor decrease in reports in Gawthorpe and Hapton but not everything gets reported.

Operation Centurion is starting today with £2Million secured by the Crimes Commissioner to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour across Burnley and Padiham. The Operation will be over 4 evenings Thursday to Sunday for 6 months. There will be extra resources and will focus on Tesco, Lidl, the Leisure Centre and the Greenway hot spots. High visibility foot patrols will be carried out for 6 hours a day. There will be a push on reporting and tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and there will be a focus on kids on e-bikes.

The Summer Fair could be part of an Operation with plain clothed Police attending.

Burnley in the Community want to get back onto the football pitch and the new pump track should provide some distractions over the summer.

It was noted that this was the most positive Police report given and everyone was encouraged to report any issues. There are no plans for a long term solution but further funding can be applied for later.

Rob and Anne were thanked for their attendance and report and left the meeting.

County Councillor Alan Hosker left the meeting.

Town Centre Manager Report

The Town Centre Manager provided a written report which is attached. Council was pleased that there was a demand for office space and thanked Katie for her report.

There were no Public Questions

There were no public questions.

County Councillors Report

There was no report.

Borough Councillor Report

There was no report.

Padiham Organisations Reports

The Archive Group are getting ready for the September Exhibition and preparing the 2024 calendar. Junior Park Run has had a steady increase in volunteers and runners.

TC/23/24/031 Formally reconvene the Town Council meeting.

RESOLVED: That the meeting is formally reconvened.

TC/23/24/032 Minutes of Town Council Meeting held on the 5th June 2023.

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 5th June 2023 were considered.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Town Council meetings held on the 5th June 2023 are approved.

TC/23/24/033 Town Clerk's Report including Administration and Correspondence.

The Clerk reported that there was no correspondence and all matters were up to date.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's report is approved.

TC/23/24/034 Report back from Working Groups

Events Working Group.

Padiham on Parade was excellent and gets bigger and bigger each year, it was agreed it is a great asset to the Town.

The Summer Fair and Duck Race is on the 5th August with a 9:00am set up and the event runs 11:00 to 4:00pm. Ducks go in the water at 1:00pm and there will be stalls inside the Ballroom and in front of the Town Hall. An Event Management Plan is to be drawn up.

County Councillor Alan Hosker re-joined the meeting.

Planning Working Group

Councillor John Harbour declared an interest and left the meeting.

It had been a quiet month for Planning Applications. Both applications FUL/2023/0325 and CND/2023/0371 had no observations.

Councillor John Harbour rejoined the meeting.

TC/23/24/035 Items for discussion as listed.

The disabled toilets are to be funded by a Disability Facilities Grant and an application has been submitted to the Youth Investment Fund for the Ladies and Gents toilets.

Two feather banners are to be provided for the Archives at a cost of £62.31 each £8.90 delivery plus VAT. Councillor Chris Turner declared an interest and did not take part in the vote.

RESOLVED: That the Council purchases 2 feather banners for the Archives.

Memorial Park is looking quite shabby with many items needed a refurbishment. Direction signs need painting and there is a moss covered bench. Railings need painting and the plaque over the shelters is rusty. The kids play area need a refresh and there is a blocked drain. The issues are to be raised with the Friends of Memorial Park and Burnley Council. There should be a program of refurbishment and Simon Goff is to be asked when the park is due a refresh.

There are 8 blocked drains from Whalley Road to the Lawrence Hotel which were reported 55 days ago and still show as in progress. Councillor Hosker was asked if he could raise this issue at the County Council at which point he became verbally abusive and left the meeting. The blocked drains are to be reported on LoveCleanStreet app.

157 vehicles were parked half-way onto the pavement around the Top Club. The Borough Council are to be asked if there is anything that can be done to ease the situation. Lancashire County have done an analysis and reported some problems. There was a County budget proposal to increase the Enforcement Team but this was rejected on a vote.

The Benches on Station Road need refurbishing, a Projects Group is to be set up to look at Town Project, Councillor Duckworth will lead.

A suggestion to put back a removed disabled parking bay at the library side of the Town Hall was explained.

The buying of a Painting Padiham Picture is to be discussed at the next meeting.

TC/23/24/036 Finances

The Budget Monitoring Report and Bank Reconciliation was circulated.

RESOLVED: That the Budget Monitoring Report and Bank Reconciliation are approved.

A Payment list, a Receipts List a Petty Cash Report and a Credit Card Report were circulated.

RESOLVED: That the Payments, Receipts Petty Cash and Credit Card Reports are approved.

The Internal Audit Report was circulated with the Annual Governance Statement and Annual Return. The Borough is to be contacted about investing some of the reserves and it was agreed that the Strategic Planning Working Group would monitor the Financial Reports and recommend implementation of the Internal Audit Report.

RESOLVED: That the Internal Audit Report, the Annual Governance Statement and Annual Return are approved.

County Councillor Alan Hosker's behaviour was discussed.

RESOLVED: That the County Councillor's behaviour is reported to the County and Borough Council's Monitoring Officers as a formal Code of Conduct Complaint. County Councillor Alan Hosker will not be invited to or permitted to attend Town Council meeting unless he apologises to both The Mayor and The Town Council.

TC/23/24/037 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Town Council meeting is at 7pm on Monday 7th August 2024 in the Council Chambers, Padiham Town Hall.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance.

Padiham Town Centre Officer Report - July 2023

Town Centre Business Support

The Town Centre Officer continues to support local businesses and provide Shop Front Improvement grants to those eligible, to improve the external appearance and security of their premises. Recent beneficiaries include The Fat Giraffe Café who have been awarded funding for replacement signage.

Room & Power Business Hub

All fixed offices have now been leased and we are building up a waiting list for businesses wanted fixed office space in Padiham, we currently have about 10 businesses on the waiting list. Age UK took a fixed office almost a year ago and the team seem to have settled in well. Relocating from their old offices in Memorial Park which was badly in need of renovating.

We now have 16 co-working members in the hub, various types of businesses and a lot of these from outside of the Borough.

Earlier this year we ran the set of 3 Go For It workshops all aimed at new and recently started businesses. These were so popular that we are running another set of 3 delivered in the co-working hub in an evening. The first one has taken place and was attended by 19 local entrepreneurs all thinking of starting their own business. The workshops are free and funded by Burnley Borough Council who may look at putting more dates on later in the year. By delivering these workshops in the co-working hub it again raises awareness. Feedback on the venue has been really positive.

Town Centre Events

The Painting Padiham event in May was a huge success, with 67 artists painting throughout the town and free activities that brought a large number of visitors to the area. The event has continued to grow year on year and has received a lot of attention and positive comments from local press and on social media. Footfall data in the town centre is still being collected and the Town Centre Officer is awaiting updates for the Painting Padiham and Padiham on Parade events.

A new Event application form is now available via the Burnley.org.uk website under Event Safety ([Event safety - burnley.gov.uk](http://Event%20safety%20-%20burnley.gov.uk)) for anyone planning an event on council land, in the town centre, or if it involves a road closure.

Public Realm

35 and 33 Burnley Rd ground floor shops are advertised to let and submissions of interest are being reviewed.

12-14 Burnley Rd has received an approved scheme for funding external repair and restoration work.

Repair and improvement works will also start within the next month to 25 and 27 Burnley Rd.

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