



MINUTES OF PADIHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 7th October 2024 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers

Present:

Town Councillors: Councillor M. Harrison (in the Chair), D. Alexander, M. Duckworth, P Haigh, J. Harbour, A. Lewis, D. O'Neill, V. Pridden, C. Smith, and M. Whittaker.

Others:

Steve Watson (Town Clerk), PCSOs Cole Whitehead and Liv Jones, County Councillor Alan Hosker and Borough Councillor Barbara Dole. Will Haines, Infrastructure Director of Sustrans, Suzanne Pickering (Burnley Borough) and 1 resident from the Friends of Padiham Greenway also attended.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

TC/24/25/053 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Keith Barsby, Peter McCann, Andy Tatchell, Chris Turner and Phil Turner who were all away.

TC/24/25/054 **Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.**

There were no declarations of interest.

TC/24/25/055 **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:

PCSO Whitehead informed the meeting that he had just completed his basic training and he would be the new PCSO for Hapton. A written report had been provided which is attached.

It was noted that there is a lack of youth provision in the Town and that the area around the Leisure Centre has youth nuisance problems. A request for more Police patrols around the area and more support for the Leisure Centre staff was made. It was explained that a DOCU report is a police report identifying specific problems.

PCSOs Cole Whitehead and Liv Jones were thanked for their attendance.

County Councillor Alan Hosker left the meeting.

Sustrans

Will Haines, Infrastructure Director of Sustrans and responsible for Sustrans property across the UK attended to provide an update on the Greenway bridge. Discussions are still ongoing with the Coal Authority as Sustrans is convinced the bridge damage is due to mining subsidence. There are 2 mining roads under the bridge, which are likely to be the reason the bridge has subsided. A formal response has been received from the Coal Authority that they do not believe the subsidence is due to mining activities and therefore it is not their responsibility. Further investigation work is needed before the bridge can be reopened and a structural engineer has been appointed. There is a challenge around funding, although other greenway funds may be able to be diverted to the bridge. Resolving the issue of the bridge closure is a priority, but resources are limited and Sustrans, as a charity, must ensure it keeps costs as low as possible. There is currently no danger of the bridge collapsing, but the structural engineer is needed to confirm this. There are some small jobs needed prior to reopening to ensure the bridge is safe, such as fallen bricks from the archway. A Judge will be needed to make the decision on responsibility, which will add further costs. The promised signage on the Greenway advising of the latest position was again requested and a press release to update residents. The signs only need to be a laminated sheet.

A letter from the Friends of Padiham Greenway was considered. The Friends asked if the Council could send a letter of support for the Martholme Greenway group attempts to extend the Greenway by creating a link from Rosegrove to Great Harwood. The Council agreed to write to the MP to show their support, although the MP is aware of the issue and is already looking into it. The majority of the disputed land is in Pendle and the Pendle MP is to also be contacted. 3 sections are privately owned which is causing issues.

Will was thanked for his attendance and candid update.

Padiham Green & Well Project

Suzanne Pickering explained that the Borough had received Shared Prosperity Funding as part of the Levelling Up support. The plan was to make improvements to the former Baxi site, but this was now not feasible in the necessary timeframe due to the delay in the flood defence work being completed. The money will now be diverted to 7 smaller projects throughout Padiham and the project report is attached. The original plan was for the Environment Agency to improve the Centennial Garden and now that the funding has been confirmed, this may be taken out of the Green and Well project.

It was asked if the steps to 'Padiham Beach' could be included. There are complexities around land ownership, but this will be considered. Kieron is to be asked to provide more details on the plans for the pavilion and it was suggested that the funding from the Centennial Garden could be used on the Greenway Bridge.

Suzanne was thanked for her attendance and report.

Town Centre Manager Report

The Town Centre Manager advised that there were no further updates from her report last month.

Public Questions received in advance

There were no public questions in advance.

Borough Councillors Report

Borough Councillor Barabra Dole was welcomed and thanked for attending. She advised that in future she will provide a written report. The last Borough Council meeting was lengthy but items of note included a Playing Pitch and Outdoor Strategy is being developed for Fennyfold. The Landlord Licensing scheme is now with the Secretary of State. She had joined a walk around Hargrove Avenue play area with Greenspaces and overgrown paths and unsafe surfaces were identified and these are to be included in the winter program.

Barbara was thanked for attending and her report.

County Councillor Report

County Councillor Alan Hosker had left the meeting therefore there was no County Council report.

Padiham Organisations Reports

There were no Organisations Reports.

TC/24/25/056 Formally reconvene the Town Council meeting.

RESOLVED: That the meeting is formally reconvened.

TC/24/25/057 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 2nd September 2024.

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 2nd September 2024 were considered.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 2nd September 2024 are approved.

Councillor Pridden is to provide the names and addresses of the Party in the Park volunteers for thank you letters from the Mayor.

TC/24/25/058 Town Clerk’s Report including Administration and Correspondence.

The Greenway letter was dealt with earlier.

Planning Working Group

The Working Group had not met, Councillors were advised to submit comments and concerns on applications to the Clerk. The following Applications were tabled.

- i. **FUL/2024/0405** - Change of use of first and second floors, from flat to C4 6 bed HMO. External alterations to the rear including external staircase from yard to first floor. New doorway at first floor and alteration to window. Bin store and gate added and accessed from the lane.5 Burnley Road Padiham Lancashire
- ii. **TPO/2024/0452** - Proposed pruning of trees T12 (oak) and T13 (oak), protected by the Burnley (Arbory Drive, Padiham) Tree Preservation Order 1989.
 - 1. To remove and cleanly trim branches from trees T12 and T13 where major damage has been sustained owing to Storm Lilian on Friday, 23 August 2024.
 - 2. To rebalance trees T12 and T13 following the work in point 1 according to professional recommendations and advice given by our tree surgeon.
 - 3. To undertake a routine crown reduction and crown clean for trees T12 and T13 in order to benefit the continuing health of the trees and protect the local amenity, again after taking professional advice from our tree surgeon. 15 Arbory Drive Padiham Lancashire
- iii. **FUL/2024/0467** - Demolition of existing drill tower and replacement with training tower and alerter mast. Fire Station Station Road Padiham
- iv. **TPO/2024/0494** - Application to remove one oak tree (T19) protected by the Burnley (Slade Lane, Padiham) Tree Preservation Order 1984. 40 Slade Lane Padiham Lancashire
- v. **TPO/2024/0487** - Application to prune two Oak trees (T5 and T6) and two Lime trees (T4 and T9) protected by the Burnley (Arbory Drive, Padiham) Tree Preservation Order 1989 17 Arbory Drive Padiham Lancashire
- vi. **FUL/2024/0348** - Erection of eight dwellings Grove Lane Padiham Burnley
- vii. **FUL/2024/0493** - Proposed change of use of an existing retail unit to a motorcycle showroom and service/MOT facility including new signage and external perimeter fencing. 7 Sowerby Street Padiham Lancashire

Events Working Group

The Beer Festival had a budgetary underspend of £494.45 which will be moved to a contingency budget for other events. The Beer Festival Income of £1,259.95 is to be transferred to the Mayor Community Fund account. Councillors Duckworth, Haigh, Pridden and Whittaker were thanked for their help in covering the door.

RESOLVED: That £494.45 is moved to an Events Contingency Budget and £1,259.95 is transferred to the Mayor’s Community Fund Account.

Remembrance Sunday service is at St. Leonard’s this year at 9:30am. The road closure is set for 10:30am with a walk up to the Cenotaph and back down for the final Blessing. The scout groups are to be invited. Councillor Haigh volunteered to help at the Cenotaph whilst the Service is being held.

Everything is now in place for the Christmas Light Switch on and everyone has been informed of the change of date and time. Stadium are doing the road closure again. It was suggested that the Council invest in 10 body cameras for events safety at £34.99 each, wearing of the cameras is to be on a voluntary basis.

RESOLVED: That 10 Body Cameras are purchased at £34.99 each.

TC/24/25/060 Items for discussion as listed.

Brian has now agreed to trial the new bar project.

Website training is to be carried out at 10:00am this Wednesday.

The meeting was interrupted by fireworks from the Henna Party in the Ballroom and this is to be an agenda item at the next meeting.

The telephone box has been moved to a workshop where it is to be repaired and powder coated with an expected installation in the next couple of weeks. Sabden have completed their box.

Town Centre Regeneration is to be taken off the agenda.

A quote for £930 was provided for the rear stage curtains.

RESOLVED: That the stage curtains replacement at £930 is approved.

2 more like-for-like quotes are to be obtained for a new laptop with docking station option. It was suggested that the laptop is also fitted with a tracker.

Burnley are seeking legal advice about the Market licenses and no charges will be levied until this is clarified.

An amendment to Standing Orders for a Sponsorship Procedure was tabled.

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders as amended are approved.

The bus link is on-going.

The Fire Safety Strategy was considered. As the document is 68 pages, those elements pertinent to the Town Council are to be extrapolated and circulated for consideration at the next meeting, following a Fire Safety meeting to discuss.

Councillors are to be asked who wishes to undertake Evac Chair training.

Discussions are to continue with the Town Centre Manager regarding the Business Awards concept. The Town Council did not wish to be a sponsor.

It was agreed not to grant a start up rate for the Artisan Markets using the Ballroom as this may set a precedent.

£50 worth of Business Vouchers were requested for the Halloween Trail.

RESOLVED: That £50 of Business Voucher are given for the prize for the Halloween Trail.

It was agreed that the Peer Review would go ahead.

The Town Clerk would cover the set-up day for the Hub jumble sale, therefore there would be no additional room hire charge,

TC/24/25/061 Finances

a) The following financial information was circulated for the period 1st August 2024 – 31st August 2024

Account	Starting Balance	Payments	Receipts	Closing Balance
Current	4,251.47	19,393.20	16,093.31	951.58
Ballroom Management	9,431.06	2,283.23	2,719.75	9,867.58
Business Reserve	135,000	0.00	0.00	135,000.00
Petty Cash	19.30	103.78	0.00	-84.48
Totals	148,701.83	21,780.21	18,813.06	145,734.68

RESOLVED: That the above accounts are approved.

The External Audit Report was considered.

RESOLVED: That the External Audit Report is approved.

A draft 2025 budget recommendation from the Strategic Planning Working Group was considered. Burnley Council are to be contacted with regards to the 2025 Service Charge amount. It was suggested that Padiham on Parade should consider a donation to the Padiham Mayor’s Community Fund.

RESOLVED: That the 2025 budget recommendation is approved.

The Annual Governance Statement and Annual Accounts can now be processed as agreed.

TC/24/25/062 Mayor’s Business

There was no additional business.

TC/24/25/063 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Town Council meeting is at 7pm on Monday 4th November 2024 in the Council Chambers, Padiham Town Hall.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance.

Report for Padiham Town Centre

Please can it be noted that the current Neighbourhood Policing Team for West Burnley/Padiham is as follows:

- NPT Sergeant - PS 282 Foster
- Community Beat Manager - PC 654 Anne Ingham
- Community Beat Manager - Vacant
- Hapton with Park - PCSO 7240 Cole Whitehead

Gawthorpe - **PCSO 7355 Charlotte Ingham**
Gannow / Ightenhill - **PCSO 7519 Ashley Holding**

Due to various movements within the department, PC 5765 Butterworth has no gone to Burnley South, therefore we have a vacancy for 1 x PC.

We also have a new recruit PCSO 7240 Cole Whitehead who is currently in company, he will be independent in 10weeks.

The following statistics are general statistics for the whole ward area and are **not** tailored to the immediate town centre area.

Hapton Crime Statistics - July 2024

7 x Assaults
1 x Burglary
3 x Criminal Damage
1 x Highway Disruption
9 x Nuisance
14 x Road Related Offence
5 x Theft
3 x Theft of motor vehicle

Gawthorpe Crime Statistics – July 2024

3 x Assaults
1 x Burglary
8 x Criminal Damage
1 x Highway Disruption
24 x Nuisance
10 x Road Related Offence
8 x Theft
0 x Theft of Motor Vehicle

Issues raised by partner agencies:

ASB Bikes around Hargrove Ave and Hambledon Hill

Parking/speeding

Youth Nuisance

Whilst there is a lack of provisions for youths in Padiham I believe this will be an issue.

I have liaised with Burnley FC in the community with a view to obtaining funding to book out facilities, however finding a suitable location is proving difficult.

We have a multi agency meeting at Padiham Leisure Centre in October to ascertain who is responsible for the building and implementing any of the changes suggested with the DOCU report. Once this is established we should be able to move forward and target harden the facility. In the mean time we are taking a proactive approach in dealing with youths involved and submitting Youth Referrals which will help us to see whether any support is needed or signposting.

Nuisance bikes

Nuisance bikes are still a problem, with members of the public providing information, Rural Task Force and working with the council to get CPW's issued to those responsible.

Members of the Public are sending footage and information through to us and requests are being made to identify those responsible.

The Padiham Green & Well

1. Introduction

1.1 The Padiham Green & Well project sets out to deliver seven smaller initiatives within the town centre focussed on greening and wellbeing, which will make a big difference to those who live, work and visit the area.

1.2 This funding from SPF was originally intended to undertake environmental improvements to the former Baxi site in Padiham. However, due to continued flood risk and complex ground conditions, this project is no longer feasible to deliver within the SPF timeframes.

To this end, it is proposed the funding is repurposed to support other worthwhile environmental and wellbeing initiatives that will benefit the local community.

2. Proposal

2.1 The Padiham Green & Well Project would deliver the following activities:

2.2 Riverside Centenary Garden Improvements - The Centenary Garden offers a valuable pocket of accessible greenspace in the centre of Padiham, which could offer an attractive sitting area with south facing views over the river with a flat paved and grassed area.

However, the garden has become overgrown with trees and vegetation and looks outdated. Funding would revitalise this area into a green space to be enjoyed by resident and visitors and as a space that can be made more flexible for events such as Padiham on Parade and Painting Padiham. Estimate £60K.

2.3 Bridge Garden Improvements - The bridge garden is set below the road on the west side of Padiham bridge. The boundary wall to the road was recently replaced with railings following a road traffic accident that demolished the boundary wall. There is a paved area with a single seat and bin which is tucked out of site and backs onto residential properties and the area can attract anti-social behaviour. Funding would enable thinning of trees and tidying of shrubs to open-up this area and reduce shade (which is acting as a cover for anti-social problems). Also, upgrading of paving with an aspiration to potential create feature paving in the footway. Estimate £20-35K

2.4 Station Rd Seating Area Improvements – Funding would transform this prominently placed, underutilised seating area into an interactive space of beauty. The project would include repaving of the seating area to match recently public realm upgrades within the town centre. Renewed seating and planting and opportunities to incorporate

patterns/games into the paving. Estimate £35K

2.5 Burnley Rd Greenspaces - Undertake pruning/tidying and replanting of green spaces along Burnley Rd including Mill Street, St Leonards Church frontage and the green space around the public toilets to improve the amenity within the town centre retail core.

Estimate £10K

2.6 Padiham Wellbeing Hub – Conversion of the former bowling green and pavilion into a wellbeing hub: which will include an accessible cycle track for people to practice riding a bike before venturing further out onto the Greenway. Also, development of wellbeing hub in the former (unused) bowls pavilion that can be used by different groups across the community improving the health and wellbeing of local residents through the provision of community led outdoor town activities, including as a base for the green volunteering activities. Estimate £35K

2.7 Padiham Youth Shelter - The youth shelter was refurbished in 2023 but the area around the youth shelter, which was used as the access for the engineering works undertaken to the greenway bridge is in a terrible condition and requires landscaping. This scheme proposes to surface around the youth shelter with tarmac to create a rollerblading/small wheel scooter area and mark with street games. This scheme could be easily implemented and will complement the other SPF funded improvements in the area. This will also improve the provision of youth facilities within the town centre, which is currently lacking, and in turn help to support work being done in the community to tackle youth anti-social behaviour. Estimate £25k

2.8 Tennis Court Improvements - the tennis courts were repainted in 2023 using LTA funding and a gate access system installed. The fencing is in very poor condition and requires replacement. If there is funding remaining, this scheme could be easily and quickly implemented and will complement the other SPF funded improvements in the area and encourage local participation in outdoor activities. Estimate £30K

2.9 Associated design fees to support the above projects is estimated at £5K.

2.10 Total Project Cost: £200,000

3. Project Management

3.1 The project will be coordinated by the Council's Development Officer, working closely with the Council's Greenspaces Team to develop and deliver the scheme. The Development Officer will be responsible for the day-to-day coordination of the scheme, administration of funding, reporting and monitoring and evaluation. The Greenspaces Team will be responsible for ordering of goods and services, delivery of activities and sourcing external services where needed. We will also work closely/engage with Burnley Culture & Leisure, who will be responsible for ongoing management and maintenance of leisure facilities improved. The Greenspaces Team will be responsible for maintenance of green spaces improved.

4. Project Benefits

4.1 Improvements to green spaces will:

- Develop and improve local green spaces/community gardens in three town centre locations.
- Improve access to green spaces for local people.
- Reduce anti-social behaviour.
- Rehabilitate/repurpose underutilised land.
- Improve the amenity and visitor experience in the town centre.
- Build upon recent investment in the town centre and in turn strengthen local pride of place.

4.2 Improvements to said facilities will include:

- Redevelopment of parks/leisure & recreational facilities.
- Regenerate existing parks in an area of deprivation and poor-quality facilities.
- Improving access to leisure & recreational facilities.

- Through investment, improve the built and green environment into quality places that people want to live, work, play and learn in.
- Reduce anti-social behaviour and in turn building resilient and safer neighbourhoods.

5. Outputs/Outcomes

OUTPUTS Total Number

Amount of green or blue space created or improved (greening projects) 1359.1 sqm

No of new/improved cycle/footpaths (bowling green and pavilion) 15 sqm

Number of trees planted 2

Amount of public realm improved (Station Rd seating area) 104.4 sqm

Number of facilities supported/created (Pavilion and tennis courts) 2

Number of neighbourhood improvements undertaken (pavilion, tennis courts and youth shelter) 3

OUTCOMES Total Number

Increased use of cycle/pathways (number of users) 20

Improved perception of facilities/amenities 75%

6. Contacts

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