



MINUTES OF PADIHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 7th April 2025 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers

Present:

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

Others: Steve Watson (Town Clerk)

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

TC/24/25/113 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Maurice Duckworth who was away and Councillor Phil Turner who had another meeting.

TC/24/25/114 **Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.**

There were no declarations of interest.

TC/24/25/115 **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:

PC Anne Ingham provided a report which is attached. It was agreed that the format was better with the comparisons and the Burnley figures compare a similar area with a supermarket. It was agreed that the Police had handled the incident at the Cricket Club extremely well and should be commended for this. It was also noted that the parents and children had made arrangement to join the Cricket Club on their annual repairs weekend.

Town Centre Manager Report

The Town Centre Manager advised there were no updates at this time.

Public Questions received in advance

There were no public questions in advance.

Borough Councillors Report

There was no report.

County Councillor Report

There was no report.

Padiham Organisations Reports

The minutes from the Friends of Memorial Park and the Sports Club had been circulated.

TC/24/25/116 Formally reconvene the Town Council meeting.

TC/24/25/117 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 3rd March 2025.

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 3rd March 2025 were considered.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 3rd March 2025 are approved.

TC/24/25/118 Town Clerk's Report including Administration and Correspondence.

The County Councillor and Leader had been sent letters to which a reply had been received. It was agreed that it was not down to the Council to apologise.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended the open event of The Hive, which will be positive for the town.

The red telephone box has been installed and will be planted up in the next few weeks after the risk of frost has passed. A yale lock is to be installed by Fennyfold and thanks were given to Steve Barnes and his associates for repairing and installing the phone box. A letter of thanks is to be sent from the Mayor. A plaque in memory of Councillor Bob Clark is to be installed.

The Banking Hub application was appealed, but has again been rejected, however further work is to be carried out as the reasons contradict themselves. Councillors have been advised that Slade Lane/Moor Lane has been put onto a list, it was thought the parking problems could be staff from the school and the school is to be contacted to ask for consideration as it is dangerous for the Lollipop attendant.

The Leisure Centre has secured the remaining funding for the CCTV project, therefore the £500 Council grant has been sent.

The stage curtains have been ordered but is awaiting a response from the Borough for the front curtains as they may just spray them.

The Mayor did a press release regarding applications to the Community Fund, however this has not proved successful. A Facebook post has also been sent. The Mayor has posted several articles on Facebook and these should also go on the website.

The Cricket and Football Club Membership have been done.

A welcome to Quilter pack has been received and a letter has been sent asking the Council to support an application to the 2025 Above and Beyond Awards for the Sports Club. It was agreed that the Council would support the application.

A 6-year-old had sent in a letter of complaint about the outdoor ladies' toilets. The Mayor is to write back to her and thank her for her letter. Burnley are also to be notified of the toilets.

TC/24/25/119 Finances

- a) The following financial information was circulated for the period 6th February – 5th March 2025

| | Starting Balance | Payments | Receipts | Transfers Out | Transfers In | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------|------------|---------------|--------------|------------|
| Current | £4,429.63 | £21,574.96 | £12,766.56 | £0.00 | £8,500.00 | £4,121.23 |
| Ballroom Management | £1,253.90 | £947.82 | £3,959.16 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £4,265.24 |
| Business Reserve | £65,809.89 | £0.00 | £252.83 | £6,000.00 | £10,000.00 | £70,062.72 |
| Petty Cash | £80.33 | £301.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | -£220.67 |
| Credit Card | -£429.98 | £552.34 | £429.98 | £0.00 | £0.00 | -£552.34 |
| | £71,143.77 | £23,376.12 | £17,408.53 | £6,000.00 | £18,500.00 | £77,676.18 |

RESOLVED: That the above accounts are approved

TC/24/25/120 Report back from Working Groups

Events Working Group

The Event Working Group asked Council to consider if the stages were needed for the Duck Race as the fencing off of the riverbank and lifebelts covered the Health & Safety needs. It was also suggested that the race is live streamed in the Ballroom for those that want to see it there.

RESOLVED: That the stages would not be provided this year.

Planning Working Group

There were no applications of note. The Unitarian Church has put in a revised application.

Strategic Planning and Finance Working Group

The Group recommended that a Lone Working alarm system is investigated further.

RESOLVED: That a Lone Worker alarm system is investigated further.

The Group recommended the adoption of the Employee Handbook and Complaints Procedure that had been circulated.

RESOLVED: That the Employee Handbook and Complaints Procedure are adopted.

The Clerk made a request for an agreement that a £10,000 budget in 2026 is approved for the Ballroom Gents toilets and that reserves are used to have the toilets started in January 2026.

RESOLVED: That a £10,000 budget for the Gents toilets is approved in the 2026 budget and that reserves are used to permit the work to be carried out in January 2026,

TC/24/25/121 Items for discussion as listed.

The Event Stall proposal was discussed. Whilst it was agreed that this was a kind offer, the Council agreed to keep the event stalls and kitchen inhouse so as to control the costs to stall holders.

RESOLVED: That the Event Stalls Proposal is declined.

A request has been made for the Council to pay for the Padiham on Parade Road Closure so the VAT could be reclaimed, however VAT rules do not permit this. The Council could pay for the road closure with the £3,000 grant and reclaim the difference from the Committee, this would allow the Council to reclaim £600 of the VAT.

The Friends of Memorial Park had asked for a grant to help replace and repair benches in the park. Local volunteer help is to also be sought.

RESOLVED: That a budget of £1,750 is made for a Friend's of Bench fund and £500 budget is made for roadside bench fund if needed.

A Ballroom chairs rack has been broken and it was suggested that 2 smaller racks are purchased to replace it. The rack will be checked out and reported back to the next meeting.

The Bar Working arrangement and 10-year business plan will be brought to the next meeting.

A request was made for a budget to provide some artificial flowers in the ladies' toilets. Options are to be checked.

TC/2024/122 Mayor's Business

The Mayor reminded Councillors of the Business breakfast in the morning and that all Councillors and partners are invited to the Fairwell Bash on the 16th May.

TC/24/25/123 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next Town Council meeting is at 7pm on Monday 19th May 2025 in the Council Chambers, Padiham Town Hall and will be the Mayor Making.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance.

Padiham Town Council Meeting

March 2025

| CRIME | March 2024 | March 2025 |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Assault | 28 | 21 |
| Burglary | 10 | 4 |
| Criminal Damage | 16 | 12 |
| Drug Offences | 4 | 6 |
| Nuisance/Personal | 47 | 46 |
| Public Order | 2 | 4 |
| Theft | 18 | 10 |

Above are the crime statistics for Hapton and Gawthorpe wards combined.

Burglaries – Shed break, container on allotment and residential flat burglary - All closed with no suspect identified and no further lines of enquiry. Shop burglary, lines of enquiry.

Nuisance/Personal – ASB in the Town Centre has remained relatively low. None of the other reports are repeat locations. All reporters should be contacted back for reassurance and info – youths identified and visited.

We are aware of the incident at Padiham Cricket Club and dealing. The youths have been identified and it is believed to be an isolated incident. The youths are to be dealt with and details recorded on our system.

***Comparing Hapton and Gawthorpe statistics with other wards is difficult as it has different demographic dynamics to any other area. I have therefore provided stats for Burnley Town centre and then Rosegrove/Lowerhouse due to its demographics being most similar.*

Burnley Town centre statistics for March 25 -

Criminal Damage – 17

Burglary - 2

Nuisance/personal – 58

Theft – 40

Assault – 32

Public Order – 12

Drug - 4

Rosegrove and Lowerhouse March 25 –

Criminal Damage – 12

Burglary – 7

Nuisance/personal – 19

Theft – 6

Assault – 27

Public Order – 3

Drugs - 2

PC 654 Anne Ingham

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DRAFT