



## **MINUTES OF PADIHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Monday 4th August 2025 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers**

### **Present:**

**Town Councillors:** Councillor A. Lewis (in the Chair), D. Alexander, M. Duckworth, J. Harbour, M. Harrison, P. McCann, V. Pridden, C. Smith, C. Turner, P. Turner and M. Whittaker.

**Others:** Ann Roberts (on behalf of the Town Clerk), and Claire Pilkington.

Before opening the meeting, the Mayor informed the meeting that following Andy's retirement he had met with Maureen Whittaker and Christine Turner to recommend that Claire Pilkington be elected to the Town Council. All at the meeting agreed and Claire was elected to the Town Council. Claire joined the meeting. The Chair then opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

**RESOLVED:** That Claire Pilkington be elected to the Town Council.

**TC/25/26/032** Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by K. Barsby, D. O'Neill and Steve Watson

**RESOLVED:** That the apologies are accepted.

**TC/25/26/033** Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

There were no declarations of interest.

**TC/25/26/034** 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 sent a written report that is attached.

## **Town Centre Manager Report**

The Town Centre Manager sent a written report that is attached.

Questions were raised around the lack of information regarding empty properties and the youth provision in Padiham.

**RESOLVED:**        **That Katie would be asked to provide further analysis of the empty properties and youth provision in Padiham.**

## **Public Questions**

There were no Public questions.

## **County Council Report**

The Chair informed the meeting that County Councillor Tom Pickup is in discussions with Burnley Borough Council regarding two benches and that tenders have gone out. No further updates were made available for the meeting.

Bridge repairs will be starting in the Autumn and are due to finish early 2026. Funds have been allocated from the UK Property Fund by Burnley Borough Council to repair the bridge, however, not to the standard it was previously.

## **Padiham Organisations Reports**

There were no reports.

**TC/25/26/035        Formally reconvene the Town Council meeting.**

**TC/25/26/036        Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025.**

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025 were considered.

**RESOLVED:**        **That the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025 are approved.**

**TC/25/26/37        Town Council WhatsApp Group**

It was highlighted that when a Councillor leaves the Town Council they should be removed from the WhatsApp Group for Councillors. Also, new councillors should be added to the group.

**RESOLVED:**        **That the Town Clerk remove Alderman Andy Tatchell and add Claire Pilkington to the WhatsApp Group for councillors.**

**TC/25/26/038        Town Clerk's Report including Administration and Correspondence.**

There were no actions to be taken under the Minutes.

Keith Barsby to follow up regarding the black stage curtains.

The Bar Manager's position has been filled, and the successful candidate will start on 11<sup>th</sup> August.

The wording for the Telephone Box is to be checked with the Town Clerk.

The new flags have been ordered.

### **Anti-Terrorism Briefing**

Councillors Pridden and Smith had attended the Anti-Terrorism Briefing where it was established that every event needs to have Anti-Terrorism Awareness Training.

Details of the training are to be circulated to the Councillors.

### **TC/25/26/039 Correspondence**

A copy of a letter sent to the Planning Enforcement Team, Burnley Borough Council by Liam Veitch, raised concerns regarding the change of use without planning permission and associated nuisance to a unit opposite a commercial building in Padiham.

The Chair is aware of the issues and has emailed the local Police Inspector and Burnley Borough Council to facilitate a meeting.

**RESOLVED: To write to Burnley Borough Council to facilitate a meeting.**

### **TC/25/26/040 Finances**

a) 5<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

	Starting Balance	Payments	Receipts	Transfers Out	Transfers In	
Current	£402.61	£8,874.35	£2,454.66	£414.69	£10,000.00	£3,568.23
Ballroom Management	£6,106.38	£3,147.49	£1,943.30	£0.00	£0.00	£4,902.19
Business Reserve	£89,901.61	£0.00	£0.00	£10,000.00	£0.00	£79,901.61
Petty Cash	£353.07	£166.52	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£186.55
	£96,410.60	£12,188.36	£4,397.96	£10,414.69	£10,000	£88,558.58

**RESOLVED: That the above accounts are approved**

A query was raised regarding the cost of the Mayoral chains, as £750 had been budgeted, however £1,500 had been spent on chains.

**RESOLVED: That the cost of the Mayoral chains be clarified and brought back to the next meeting**

### **TC/25/26/041 Events Working Group**

The Duck Race went well and was well attended. There were issues around the limited access for card readers, with lessons learnt for future events. Final figures and costs have yet to be

confirmed. All banners need to be removed.

Party in the Park – planning is going well.

**TC/25/26/042          Planning Working Group**

Nothing to report

**TC/25/26/043          Strategic Planning & Finance Working Group**

The Working Group had not met since the last Town Council meeting.

**TC/25/26/044          Items for Discussion**

**Men's Shed Project Update**

Councillor Harrison had been in touch with Burnley West NHS Network to establish whether the Town Council would be liable if it were to make a bid. It was confirmed that the Town Council would not be liable. The bid would be for £10k to alleviate storage issues at the Hive.

A discussion took place around the location and activities.

It was reported that there is a successful Men's Shed at Bacup and it was suggested that a visit might be possible.

**Markets Update**

There were no further updates available on the legalities query.

**TC/25/26/045          Mayors Business**

Nothing to report

Councillor Whittaker advised that a plan will need to be put in place should the Town Clerk be out of the office for more than two weeks.

The Mayor reported that an Advice Surgery booking, which is non-political, had been checked with Burnley Borough Council and it was confirmed that there are no issues with this booking.

**TC/2526/046          Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next Town Council meeting is at 7pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 in the Council Chambers, Padiham Town Hall.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance.

### July 2025

CRIME	July 2024	July 2025
Assault	36	53
Burglary	4	15
Criminal Damage	9	11
Drug Offences	3	1
Nuisance/Personal	54	44
Public Order	9	5
Theft	7	10

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

Burglaries – 2 x Network 65 (No lines of enquiry), Fire Station – ongoing, 8 x Commercial breaks – 6 closed and 32 with lines of enquiry, 1 x attempt commercial break – no lines of enquiry, Memorial grounds container – no lines of enquiry, 1 x empty property and 1 x shed – No lines of enquiry.

Nuisance/Personal – ASB reports received regarding Peel Street / Bright Street area however no specific address details provided, NPT have visited residents to discuss issues.

On 25/08/25 a new PCSO will be allocated to cover Hapton. Initially they will be in company with another PCSO for a period of 10 weeks, and this may be covering various areas of Burnly/Padiham.

*\*\*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 July 25 -**

Criminal Damage – 8

Burglary - 2

Nuisance/personal – 58

Theft – 35

Assault – 35

Public Order – 11

Drug – 4

#### **Rosegrove and Lowerhouse July 25 –**

Criminal Damage – 7

Burglary – 10

Nuisance/personal – 23

Theft – 5

Assault – 20

Public Order – 3

Drugs – 0

PC 654 Anne Ingham  
Community Beat Manager for Padiham  
[654@lancashire.police.uk](mailto:654@lancashire.police.uk)

## **Town Centre Officer Update – August 2025**

### **Pop-Up Shop at 33 Burnley Road**

The pop-up shop initiative at 33 Burnley Road, aimed at supporting entrepreneurs looking to trial their business ideas over a 3-6 month period, has unfortunately had to be paused. Due to ongoing maintenance issues at the property, we are not accepting any new tenant applications at this time. We hope to have further information soon regarding when we can safely reopen the space for use.

### **Town Centre Concerns: ASB, Littering & Pavement Parking**

We've received several reports from local businesses about rising concerns related to anti-social behaviour (ASB), littering and pavement parking. These issues are being taken seriously. The Council will be working in partnership with the Neighbourhood Policing Team, Streetscene and the Community Safety Officer to explore appropriate actions and interventions to address these concerns.

### **Youth Provision in Padiham**

To support the positive engagement of young people in the area, youth provision is now being delivered on different nights of the week by *Participation Works and Inspire*. These sessions aim to provide structured, supportive activities for local young people and form part of the wider approach to addressing ASB and encouraging positive community involvement.

### **Upcoming Business Engagement Meeting**

Building on the two previous engagement meetings held with Mayor Alun Lewis, we will be organizing another session in the coming weeks. Local businesses and police representatives will be invited to attend, with a focus on discussing recent concerns and identifying collaborative solutions. Further details, including the date and venue, will be circulated.

### **Business Support: Rental Assistance & Shop Front Grants**

The Council continues to work closely with local businesses to provide practical support. This includes rental assistance and shop front improvement grants, which are available to both new and existing businesses in the town centre. These initiatives are designed to help attract new investment, improve the appearance of the high street and support long-term sustainability.