



MINUTES OF PADIHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 2nd March 2026 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers

Present:

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

Others: Steve Watson (Town Clerk) and Andy Perry (Ballroom Manager).

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

TC/25/26/082 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Peter Haigh who was away and John Harbour who had been unwell.

RESOLVED: That the apologies and reasons given are accepted.

TC/25/26/083 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

There were no declarations of interest.

TC/25/26/084 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 Kira Morris had sent a written report that is attached. It was noted that there were no outcomes within the report.

Town Centre Manager Report

The Town Centre Manager reported that there were no updates this month.

County and Borough Reports

The Borough Council is trying to resolve the problems with the closure of the Parish Food Bank in April. They are looking at amending their budget to provide a community grocery in Padiham.

Public Questions

There were no public questions.

Padiham Organisations Reports

There were no reports.

TC/25/26/085 Formally reconvene the Town Council meeting.

TC/25/26/086 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 2nd February 2026.

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 2nd February 2026 were considered.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 2nd February 2026 are approved.

It was confirmed that the £100 contribution for the telephone box has been sent. Sustrans have announced that they are hoping to re-open the railway bridge for the early May Bank Holiday weekend. The Cinema Club was well attended in February with around 20 tickets sold.

The Mayor thanked everyone who attended the Fundraising Quiz Night. He especially thanked Andy Tatchell for preparing the quizzes and announced they had raised £526 for the Mayor's Community Fund.

TC/25/26/087 Town Clerk's Report including Administration and Correspondence.

A meeting still needs to be held with Katie Nolan to discuss plans for the empty properties in Padiham. It was noted that there appears to be a lot of work on these at the moment and Katie is to be asked to provide convenient dates. It was agreed this would be a Planning Working Group meeting.

There is an outdoor market on the 12th September so the Beer Festival has been moved to the weekend of the 18th September.

The Waterside Mews element of the flood defenses work has been moved forward.

The Mayor will liaise with Burnley Council regarding an official opening of the railway bridge on the first bank holiday in May and use it as a fund-raising event for the Mayor's Community Fund.

The Planning Working Group have not been able to arrange a meeting to discuss the complaint with regards to parking on Cowley Crescent. A Councillor has carried out a site visit and didn't find any real problems. The issue is to be reported to Lancashire County Council and a request

made for an Officer to visit. The light pollution and gas cylinder storage parts of the complaint will be considered by the Planning Working Group.

The proposal from the Line Dancers is Minuted as “charges will remain the same”, as this is the full price, it will remain the same at full price even if the hire prices are increased under a review.

The Mechanics have sent over a couple of events to be held in the Ballroom.

The Bar profits since the Council took over the Bar were £4,386.77.

There was no correspondence that wasn't already covered on the agenda.

TC/25/26/088 Finances

The stage curtains have been postponed until the next financial year as they want 50% as a deposit prior to production.

The gent's toilets are hopefully to be finished for the Battle of the Bands weekend on the 14th March.

Updated figures below from statements dated 05/02/26.

	Starting Balance	Payments	Receipts	Transfers Out	Transfers In	Balances
Current	£5,490.79	£9,072.18	£580.00	£0.00	£5,000	£1,998.61
Ballroom Management	£10,206.35	£1,122.59	£1,998.35	£0.00	£0.00	£11,082.11
Business Reserve	£10,289.72	£0.00	£0.00	£5,000	£0.00	£5,289.72
Petty Cash	£250.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£250.00
	£26,236.86	£10,194.77	£2,578.35	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£18,620.44

RESOLVED: That the above accounts are approved

The Lead Councillor for Finance stated that he felt comfortable that the Year End bank balances would be positive and that the Quilter investment now stood at £58,107.45. He is hoping this will be around £59,500 by Year End.

The Finances were tight as the Budget had a £10,000 income from the bar take-over that was supposed to happen in February but didn't actually take place until October.

It was agreed to leave the Quilter investment interest in the account.

RESOLVED: That the Quilter investment interest is left in the account.

TC/25/26/089 Events Working Group

The Working Group has met and ran through this year's event. The Lead is to meet up with Nathan to discuss requirements for the events.

TC/25/26/090 Planning Working Group

The Group has not met.

TC/25/26/091 Strategic Planning & Finance Working Group

Strategic Planning had a meeting. It was agreed to take no further action on the Lancashire County Council Devolution consultation.

Past Mayor's badges were discussed and it was agreed that each Past Mayor can decide whether to have a badge or something else of a similar value.

RESOLVED: That the option of a badge or something similar is down to each Past Mayor's own choice.

A VAT refund of over £3,000 has been submitted and the Archive Group are to be invoiced for their contribution towards the rent.

The Budget is to be reviewed at the end of April.

A meeting has been held with the Borough Council regarding the red stage curtains.

A site visit has been promised with regards to the banging radiators in the Community Room.

It was agreed to apply for a Barclaycard Charge Card for the Bar equipment, maintenance and stock with a £5,000 credit limit.

RESOLVED: That a Barclaycard Charge Card is applied for with a £5,000 credit limit.

The lost fob and keys would be dealt with at the end of the meeting.

It was noted that the room hire charges haven't been reviewed since 2018. The current booking forms are to be circulated to all Councillors and a one agenda item Strategic Planning and Finance meeting is to be called.

The Bar cooler is faulty and needs to be replaced.

RESOLVED: That a replacement secondhand unit will be installed at the cost of £1,000.

A new budget line is to be created of Bar Equipment and Maintenance.

The website still does not function correctly and T2 are to be chased for a response.

It was suggested that the temporary minute taker continues to take the minutes. After an explanation it was agreed to continue with the Clerk taking the minutes.

TC/25/26/092 Items for Discussion

Volunteers were requested by Burnley Council for the outdoor markets starting in March. Volunteers who have been trained on traffic management were asked if they would put out the road closure barriers. It was agreed that Burnley could use the Town Council barriers and a reminder for the volunteer request is to be sent out a few days prior to each market day.

New bank signatories need to be set up.

TC/25/26/093 Mayors Business

Battle of the Band is on the 14th March and tickets are available. The event starts at 6:00pm with 5 bands competing, each performing a 45 minute set then the audience will select a winner that will receive half of the door takings, they also receive a free booking of the Town Hall to put on a further performance and the event promoter will provide a free sound recording studio session

Tickets for the Mayor's dinner at the Cellar on the 26th Mach are now available from Eventbright and the Town Hall.

TC/25/26/094 Date of Next Meeting

Due to the Bank Holiday the date of the next Town Council meeting is at 7pm on Tuesday 7th April 2026 in the Council Chambers, Padiham Town Hall.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance.

Padiham Town Council Meeting
February 26

CRIME	Feb 2025	Feb 2026
Assault	17	24
Burglary	6	6
Criminal Damage	8	5
Drug Offences	0	0
Nuisance	26	11
Public Order	2	10
Theft	16	6

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

Burglaries –
Residential – x3
Non Dwelling – x3

PC 654 Anne Ingham
Community Beat Manager for Padiham
654@lancashire.police.uk

PCSO 7434 Morris – Hapton
PCSO 7355 Ingham - Gawthorpe