



MINUTES OF PADIHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 7th April 2026 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers

Present:

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

Others: Steve Watson (Town Clerk), PCSO Kira Morris and Jess.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

TC/25/26/095 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Dave Alexander who had other commitments, Maurice Duckworth and Vince Pridden who were away and John Harbour who had been unwell.

RESOLVED: That the apologies and reasons given are accepted.

TC/25/26/096 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

There were no declarations of interest.

TC/25/26/097 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 and Jess attended and answered question. Kira handed out a written report that is attached. There is a new PCSO for Padiham called Abby Ferguson. The Police are continuing the close working relationship with both Tesco and Lidl. Three records of Anti-Social Behaviour from the same person are now classed as harassment. Electric bikes are still a problem and especially for the shops. The police will seize bikes if they catch them. Drug offenses have gone down. The Police were thanked for their attendance and report.

Town Centre Manager Report

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

County and Borough Reports

The County Councillor was not present. The Mayor in his role of Borough Councillor reported there is now a budget for a Community Grocery for Padiham and there is a meeting about this next week.

The County and Borough Councillors are to be written to asking for their attendance at meetings to provide a report.

Public Questions

There were no public questions.

Padiham Organisations Reports

There were no reports.

TC/25/26/098

Formally reconvene the Town Council meeting.

TC/25/26/099

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 2nd March 2026.

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

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 2nd March 2026 are approved.

Sustrans are still hoping to reopen the railway bridge on the first Bank Holiday weekend in May.

Fennyfold Allotments have agreed to plant up the telephone box again for the summer and it was noted that an on-going budget is needed for continued maintenance. It was agreed to use the projects budget.

The Community Room radiators have been looked at again and it is believed that the water pump needs to be replaced with a vary-flow pump to stop the banging.

The website is still not working and it was agreed to get 3 quotes to set up a new website.

TC/25/26/100

Town Clerk's Report including Administration and Correspondence.

The railway bridge was covered earlier. It was noted that an official reopening is not being planned and residents need to be advised when it does reopen. The pathway still needs to be resurfaced. It is not known if the smaller metal bridge will also be reopened. Access to the Park is the top priority.

The Planning Working Group has not yet met to discuss the empty shops.

The stage curtains are awaiting the Precept prior to the deposit being paid.

It was noted that the gent's toilets are now complete and the Council will pay its £10,000 contribution once the Precept is paid.

There was no correspondence of note.

The Ballroom Manager circulated a report. It was noted that the contractors had paid to fix the roof leak and Andy was thanked for his excellent job with the Ballroom bookings and Bar.

The Mechanics have provided one show in the Ballroom and another two are being planned.

The Mayor's battle of the Bands made £730 profit on the bar. The Mayor advised that the Cask Ale wasn't available on the night and £1.00 from each pint was to be donated to the Mayor's Fund.

RESOLVED: That £91.68 is donated from the Bar Profits to the Mayor's Community Fund.

It was suggested that the Ballroom Manager is allowed to attend training on how to prepare Cask Ales.

There has been one show from the Mechanics and two more are planned.

TC/25/26/101 Finances

a) Updated figures below from statements dated 04/03/26.

	Starting Balance	Payments	Receipts	Transfers Out	Transfers In	Balances
Current	£1,998.61	£15,524.08	£500.00	£0.00	£16,500	£3,474.53
Ballroom Management	£11,082.11	£877.50	£5,451.98	£12,500.00	£0.00	£3,156.59
Business Reserve	£5,289.72	£0.00	£20.47	£4,000	£0.00	£1,310.19
Petty Cash	£250.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£250.00
	£18,620.44	£16,401.58	£5,972.45	£16,500.00	£16,500.00	£8,191.31

RESOLVED: That the above accounts are approved

TC/25/26/089 Events Working Group

The Working Group has not met.

TC/25/26/090 Planning Working Group

The Working Group has not met.

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

The Working Group has not met.

It was noted that there is currently a ground swell against any events that support patriotism.

Volunteers are needed for Painting Padiham on the 16th May and the Mayor's Music Festival on the 18th April as there will be a gazebo on the Plaza selling programmes.

Dedicated Town Council email addresses are need for each Councillor, this will be included in the quotes for the website.

The Litter pickers have lost their main sponsor. A replacement has been approached. The Council is to check if this goes ahead and find out the costs for a quarter page advert.

RESOLVED: That the decision to advertise in the Litter Pickers Magazine is delegated to the Clerk in consultation with all Councillors.

TC/25/26/093 Mayors Business

The Mayor advised that there is a second Quiz Night on Saturday 11th April.

TC/25/26/094 Date of Next Meeting

1. Date of next Town Council meeting: Monday 1st June at 7:00pm
 - a) Annual Town Council Meeting Tuesday 5th May at 7:00pm
 - b) Mayor Making Monday 18th May at 7:00pm

The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance.

Padiham Town Centre Officer Report – April 2026

Burnley Council continues to support businesses in Padiham town centre. Since the last report, a further three businesses have benefited from the grant support scheme, enabling improvements to shopfronts and enhancing the overall appearance of the high street.

The Painting Padiham event is scheduled to take place on Saturday 16 May. The event will welcome up to 50 artists who will paint live throughout the town, creating a vibrant and engaging atmosphere. This will be complemented by a range of free activities for visitors to enjoy, supporting increased footfall and community participation.

In addition, footfall monitoring measures are currently being explored to provide accurate and reliable data. This will enable the Council to better track visitor numbers and assess the impact of events and initiatives. Implementation is expected in the near future.

Padiham Town Council Meeting

March 2026

CRIME	March 2025	March 2026
Assault	21	38
Burglary	4	4
Criminal Damage	12	13
Drug Offences	6	2
Nuisance	40	13
Public Order	3	10
Theft	10	12

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

Burglaries –

1 x Residential Break – Under Investigation

2 x Shed break – Closed with no lines of enquiry

1 x Garage Break – Closed with no lines of enquiry

There has been a change in the way in which we record ASB logs, hence the significant reduction above. Some of the ASB is now recorded as Harassment, dependant if it is a repeat victim or location.

PCSO 7355 Ingham is no longer covering Gawthorpe as she has left the Organisation.

PCSO 7430 Abi Ferguson has now taken ownership of the area and has been linking in with partner agencies.

PC 654 Anne Ingham

Community Beat Manager for Padiham

654@lancashire.police.uk

PCSO 7434 Morris – Hapton

PCSO 7430 Ferguson - Gawthorpe