PENWORTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY CENTRES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Penwortham Community Centre on Monday 27th January 2025 at 6:00pm.

Committee Members Present: Councillors D Bennett (Chair), H Crewe, J Patten, A Rae, D Shaw (Vice-Chair), R Taylor, A Turner, and I Watkinson.

In attendance: Councillors W Adams, D Ashton, D Howarth, and K Martin.

Marie Curran, Town Manager
Daniel Guise, Democratic Services Officer

11. Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received.

12. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

13. Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the last meeting, held on 25th November 2024, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

14. Hire Policy at The Venue

The Town Manager reported on a proposal to allow private hire of The Venue to community groups, similar to arrangements at Penwortham and Priory Lane Community Centres, provided that no licensable activity was to occur during the hire period. She explained that the Council would have to make arrangements to secure the alcohol stored at the centre, at such times. This would incur some costs for joinery and shutters. The intention was for the change to take effect on 1st April 2025.

Councillor H Crewe proposed that the change in policy be approved. Cllr Taylor seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that The Venue be made available to community groups for private hire.

15. **Request for a Plaque at Penwortham Community Centre**

The Town Manager explained that a request had been received for a plaque to be installed on the exterior of the centre.

Some years prior, to remember their terms of office as Mayor of Penwortham, former Town Councillors Dorothy and Melvyn Gardner donated a Christmas tree to Penwortham Community Centre. It was planted outside the building, at the north-west corner. At the time, Mr & Mrs Gardner requested that a plaque be installed to inform the public of the purpose of the tree. Mr Gardner had renewed this request, and advised that he would pay for it.

Mr Gardner had supplied some proposed wording, as follows:

"The nearby Christmas tree was presented to the people of Penwortham by Melvyn and Dorothy Gardner, in gratitude for their terms as Mayor of Penwortham.
Dorothy Gardner: 2007-08
Melvyn Gardner: 2012-13"

Cllr H Crewe proposed that the installation of the plaque be approved. Cllr Patten seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the proposed plaque be installed.

Cllr P Cronin entered the meeting.

16. **Review of The Venue and Priory Lane Community Centre**

The Town Manager asked the committee to set a date in February for a daytime meeting. The purpose was to discuss future plans for The Venue and Priory Lane Community Centre, including business plans and future maintenance and repair work. Cllr Turner asked that a programme of user groups at Priory Lane be provided to the daytime meeting.

RESOLVED: that a daytime meeting of the Community Centres Management Committee be held on Thursday 20th February.

……Chairman

(The meeting finished at 6:15pm.)
The minutes of this meeting will be published on the website
www.penworthamtowncouncil.gov.uk