PENWORTHAM TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Meeting of the Council held at Penwortham Community Centre, Kingsfold Drive, Penwortham on Tuesday 1st July, 2025 at 6:30pm.

Present:	The Mayor:	Cllr W Adams
	Councillors:	D Ashton, D Bennett, G Crewe, H Crewe, P Cronin, H Hancock, D Howarth, K Martin, J Patten, A Rae, D Shaw, R Taylor, and A Turner.
	In attendance:	Marie Curran, Town Manager Daniel Guise, Democratic Services Officer
		Members of the Public: 1

34. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Alban Cassidy, Sarah Emery, Tracey Flannery and Ian Watkinson.

35. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were made.

36. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Councillor Patten proposed that the minutes of the last meeting be approved. Cllr Howarth seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the mayor.

37. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

No matters were raised.

38. Communications by the Town Mayor

The mayor noted that the Summer Gala had been a great success, and thanked all the volunteers, officers and members who had helped. He especially thanked the charity collectors from the youth club, who raised approximately £275 for the mayoral charities. The mayor noted the great community feel of the event, and that it was good to see so many people out for it.

The mayor reported on the plant sale held at Priory Lane Community Centre on 10th June. He thanked the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Flannery, for attending on his behalf, and the organisers Elizabeth & Geraldine, who raised £242 for the mayoral charities.

The mayor also reported on his attendance at the collation service for the new vicar at St Leonards, the Reverend Simon King, where the Mayor welcomed Rev King on behalf of the Town Council. This event took place on 19th June, and the mayor noted that it was a nice service.

39. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager reported as follows:

i) HILL ROAD CEMETERY AND PENWORTHAM WAR MEMORIAL

The lengthsman has been carrying out responsive work throughout the town, such as cutting back hedges, litter picking, weeding and general tidying at Cromwell Avenue, Howick Park Avenue and Skew Bridge area.

The lengthsman provided a valuable contribution in preparing for the procession and gala on Hurst Grange Park as well as ensuring the park was left in a good standard after the event on the site.

If you would like the lengthsman to tidy a particular area of public land in Penwortham or if you would like to volunteer at Hill Road Cemetery please email: marie@penworthamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Please report highways issues such as potholes, street lights, damaged signs etc to: Report it - Lancashire County Council

ii) WHAT'S ON AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRES

In addition to the regular activities that take place at Priory Lane Community Centre, please make a note of the following events and support where you can.

Priory Lane Community Centre

15th July – Mini Market from 10:45am to 3pm – woodwork, crafts, cosmetics, jewellery, knitted gonks and more.

28th July – Fun day by the Children and Family Wellbeing Service (LCC). This may include a climbing wall outside, but details to be confirmed.

Penwortham Community Centre

First Kick Football have been supported by Penwortham Town Council and Lancashire Partnership against Crime (LANPAC) to provide a summer programme of evening activities for young people over a 7-week period based at Penwortham Community Centre. The programme aims to actively educate and deter young people from entering into criminal activity and reduce anti-social behaviours. This will take place on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturday evenings commencing on 8th July, 2025.

It is envisaged that Prime Sports will be providing youth provision during the 2025 school summer holidays during the mornings, funded through the Holiday, Activities and Food Programme (HAF) and during the afternoons, funded by the Town Council at Penwortham Community Centre commencing 28th July, 2025.

It is with regret that Penwortham Community Centre has recently been a target for anti-social behaviour. The extent of the vandalism caused required several expensive repairs to the building. The incident is being progressed to the Youth Offending Team to pursue. We are working closely with the Neighbourhood police and the youth clubs to monitor and address anti-social behaviour in the neighbourhood.

WHAT'S ON AT THE VENUE

Here's what's on at The Venue in July:

- Thursdays 03, 10, 17, 24, 31 July – Guitar Workshop
- Fri 11 July – Penwortham in Bloom Event
- Fri 18 July – Cinema Afternoon
- Fri 18 July – Comedy Night
- Weds 23 July – Mental Health First Aid Course (Day 1/2)
- Thurs 24 July – Mental Health First Aid Course (Day 2/2)
- Sat 26 July – Band: TBC
- Wed 30 July – Cinema Evening

For tickets and full details on events, please see: Eventbrite. www.tinyurl.com/the-venue-penwortham Please contact the Town Council office, view the notice boards located around Penwortham or follow us on our social media channels for more information on events and services in the town.

If you would like to meet new friends in a social setting and volunteer with us at The Venue, please contact rodney@penworthamtowncouncil.gov.uk

- **FURTHER UPDATES AND REPORTS;**

The 2025 LALC Conference took place on 7 June 2025 at The Delta Marriot Hotel, Preston. This was attended by Councillors David Shaw, Keith Martin and Andy Rae.

The project team at Whiteley Eaves Ltd, the property and construction consultants approved to project manage the development and refurbishment works at Priory Lane Community Centre and Penwortham Arts Centre are near to finalising the scope of works ready to enter the tender process. Members will be notified once the first draft is received, for their consideration.

Penwortham Gala – A very big thank you to everyone that came along and supported this year's gala. The event was a great success with local community groups raising funds for their projects. A more detailed report will be presented to the Events Committee later in the month. Thank you to the young people from our youth clubs that collected for the mayoral charities during the procession. They collected a total figure of £274.49.
The Mayor awarded the best group in the procession to the Riverside Girl Guides and the runner up prize went to dance group Spectrum Association.

Lancashire County Council has published the draft Lancashire Local Nature Recovery Strategy for public consultation Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Lancashire County Council The consultation is open until the 3rd August.

The strategy aims to stop species loss, help local wildlife flourish and provide a wide range of environmental benefits, whilst making our environment more resilient. It also has a focus on improving life for local people, by providing more equitable access to nature, and improved health outcomes.

Please visit the webpages Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Lancashire County Council which provides a guide to the contents of the strategy and where you will find;

- A link to our summary video
- **Have your say** by responding to **the Strategy Consultation Survey**
- **The full draft strategy document**, along with a summary document and Evidence and Technical Information document (which explains more about the processes we have followed to develop the strategy)
- Information on our **24 LNRS target species.**

LCC would like to get as many responses to the consultation as possible, to ensure the final strategy is as effective as it can be, and informed and understood by local communities.

The Town Manager reported that First Kick had been awarded new funding from the Police & Crime Commissioner, which meant they would probably be able to recruit another youth worker for outreach outside the community centre. She also noted that she would have a meeting with the Estates team at South Ribble Borough Council the day after the meeting, regarding the lease at Penwortham Community Centre (PCC). Finally, the Town Manager noted a letter received from local residents regarding the works ongoing at Penwortham Girls' High School.

Cllr Bennett requested that, given the Anti-Social Behaviour at PCC, the police be asked to attend the Town Council meeting in September. He also suggested that the Community Centres Management Committee meet in September, to discuss the buildings.

40. **Questions from Councillors**

Cllr Martin noted some issues with parking outside PCC, and suggested asking SRBC to re-paint the double yellow lines.

41. **Questions from Members of the Public**

It was noted that a seat and litter bin on Cop Lane had been removed, in the vicinity of the new school building work. It was understood that it had been removed by South Ribble Borough Council. It was also reported that the builders at the site in question had offered to build a new plinth for it.

A meeting had recently been held with the MP for South Ribble, concerning Leyland Road. Although unable to be at the Town Council meeting herself, a member of the public had sent her thanks to Cllrs Rae, Flannery and Bennett for attending the meeting with the MP.

42. **Development Control – Plans List**

No comments were made.

43. **Minutes of Committee Meetings**

The Council was asked to approve the minutes of the following committee meeting:

Strategy & Finance Committee – Tuesday 17th June 2025

Cllr Bennett proposed that the minutes be approved. Cllr Hancock seconded the proposal

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2025 be approved as a correct record.

44. **Dates of Committee Meetings**

The Council was asked to approve the proposed dates of forthcoming committee meetings:

Events Committee – Tuesday 15th July 2025
Strategy and Finance Committee – Tuesday 15th July 2025
Community Centres Management Committee – Not Applicable
Cemetery Committee – Not Applicable
Environment Committee – Not Applicable
Planning Committee – Not Applicable

Cllr Bennett proposed that the date be approved, and that the Community Centres Management Committee meet on the same date. Cllr Shaw seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the proposed date be approved, and that the Community Centres Management Committee meet on the same date.

45. **Delegates' Reports**

Cllr Rae reported on the proceedings of the LALC conference on 7th June. Subjects covered included Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and devolution, including the fact that the aggregate of Precepts across the county was increasing. Statutory IT requirements for Parish Councils, such as using a correct .gov.uk domain, were also covered. Cllr Martin noted that there would be a LALC management meeting the day after the Council meeting.

With respect to LGR, Councillor Ashton noted that election dates should be aligned, as parish & town councils did not want to be out of sync with the new unitaries. Cllr Howarth noted that, if the elections were not so aligned, the question was who would pick up the bill for the parish & town elections.

Cllr Martin also reported on a meeting of CPRE on 27th June, and noted that it would be the centenary of CPRE in 2026.

46. **Accounts for Payment – June 2025**

The Council was asked to note the below accounts for payment:

JUNE 2025 ACCOUNTS FOR AUTHORISATION

FOR	AREA	AMOUNT	VAT
MAYORAL ALLOWANCE	ADMIN	£ 650.00	£ -
LHB SUPPLIES LTD	ADMIN	£ 64.25	£ 10.71
CLEANING MATERIALS LIQUIDATION			
NATWEST CREDIT CARD	ADMIN	£ 193.20	£ -
VODAFONE LTD	ADMIN	£ 24.24	£ 4.04
PHONES & BROADBAND	ADMIN	£ 382.51	£ 63.75
OFFICE STATIONERY	ADMIN	£ 22.81	£ 3.80
PPL/PRS MUSIC LICENCES	ADMIN	£1,345.87	£ 224.31
VAN MOT	CEMETERY	£ 117.30	£ 10.80
FUEL	CEMETERY	£ 100.58	£ 16.76
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	CEMETERY	£ 13.91	£ 0.66
WATER INVOICE	CEMETERY	£ 20.62	£ -
C&W BERRY LTD WORKWEAR	CEMETERY	£ 108.58	£ 11.77
J HORNE REIMBURSMENT	CEMETERY	£ 45.00	£ -
LAWNMOWER REPAIR			
WATER INVOICE	PRIORY LN	£ 108.69	£ -
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	PRIORY LN	£ 302.30	£ 14.40
GAS INVOICE	PRIORY LN	£ 497.17	£ 82.86
ELECTRICAL TESTING	PRIORY LN	£ 810.00	£ 135.00
SCAR FIRE SAFETY	PRIORY LN	£ 60.00	£ -
BOILER SERVICE	PRIORY LN	£ 302.94	£ 50.49
REPORT & CERTIFICATE			
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	PEN CC	£ 478.24	£ 22.78
GAS INVOICE	PEN CC	£ 269.19	£ 12.82
WATER INVOICE	PEN CC	£ 101.73	£ -
CROWD SAFETY SOLUTIONS	GALA	£2,295.35	£ -
VENTBROOK LTD	GALA	£1,800.00	£ 300.00
S&B MEDICAL SERVICES	GALA	£ 850.00	£ -
PROCESSION BAND	GALA	£ 450.00	£ -
SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENT	GALA	£ 200.00	£ -
M CURRAN	GALA	£ 103.01	£ -
GALA REIMBURSEMENT			
GUIDE ASSOCIATION	GALA	£ 75.00	£ -
PROCESSION AWARD			
WATER INVOICE	THE VENUE	£ 81.01	£ 4.39
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	THE VENUE	£ 267.63	£ 12.74
BOOKER LTD	THE VENUE	£1,140.38	£ 190.06
GAS INVOICE	THE VENUE	£ 119.64	£ 5.70
ELECTRICAL TESTING	THE VENUE	£ 406.80	£ 67.80

XSOLVE MEDIA LTD COMEDY NIGHT	THE VENUE	£ 708.00	£ 118.00
BOILER SERVICE REPORT & CERTIFICATE	THE VENUE	£ 302.94	£ 50.49

Cllr Turner asked what the PPL/PRS item related to. The Town Manager advised that this was a licence required to play music at all the community centres, as well as films at The Venue. She also noted that the charges to the credit card had been for printer cartridges.

Cllr Martin noted that officers required delegated authority to pay urgent invoices, since the Council would not meet in August.

Cllr Patten proposed that the presented accounts be noted. Cllr Howarth seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: i) that the presented accounts be noted; and

ii) that, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, the Town Manager, in consultation with the Town Mayor, be authorized to pay outstanding invoices and take any other action considered urgent before the September meeting. Any action taken to be reported to that meeting.

47. **Hill Road Cemetery – June 2025**

The Democratic Services Officer reported that in June 2025 there were 5 interments at Hill Road Cemetery. Of these, 2 were full coffin burials and 3 were for cremated remains. Two of the interments were in new plots.

The Democratic Services Officer requested permission for the Mayor to sign the two new deeds.

RESOLVED: that the presented deeds be approved.

……Town Mayor

(The meeting finished at 7:00pm.)
The minutes of this meeting will be published on the website
www.penworthamtowncouncil.gov.uk