PENWORTHAM TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Meeting of the Council held at Penwortham Community Centre, Kingsfold Drive, Penwortham on Tuesday 2nd September, 2025 at 6:30pm.

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

Prior to the start of the formal meeting, the mayor paid tribute to the late Cllr Sarah Emery, who had passed away since the previous meeting of the Council. The mayor noted that she had been a kind and compassionate person, who made a great contribution through her work as an NHS nurse and an academic.

The Council observed a minute's silence to remember Councillor Emery.

Cllr Turner noted that she had known Cllr Emery from her early 20s, and that she was a compassionate person with high integrity. She noted that Cllr Emery achieved a very senior position in her NHS career, as Head of Critical Care, and that she looked out for, and stood up for, vulnerable people.

Cllr Turner noted that Cllr Emery had been a wonderful mother, with three brilliant daughters who were pursuing a variety of scientific careers. She reported that all three had spoken exceptionally well at the funeral service, and that she had enormous respect for way they had delivered the eulogies and readings. Cllr Turner said that the thoughts of her group were with Cllr Emery's husband and children, and that she would never forget her.

48. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Tracey Flannery and Jim Patten.

49. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

50. Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the mayor.

51. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Cllr Rae asked if there had been any progress on the reinstatement of a bench and litter bin on Cop Lane, the removal of which had been raised by a member of the public at the previous meeting. The items had been removed because of redevelopment work at Penwortham Girls' High School, and it had been understood that the builder would construct a new plinth for them, a short distance away. The Democratic Services Officer replied that the same member of the public had visited the Town Council offices and reported that a new concrete plinth was already being built by the workers at the building site. So, it appeared that the street furniture would be reinstated, as had been hoped.

52. Communications by the Town Mayor

The mayor reported on events since the previous meeting:

8th July – St Catherine's Hospice Butterfly Garden Party. The mayor reported it had been a great day celebrating amazing work, and noted how much better off the community was for having St Catherine's.

11th July – Summer Fair at Kingsfold Primary School. The mayor met the headteacher and had been shown around the school. The mayor particularly noted the farm animals brought to the school for the fair, including sheep and a donkey, which had been a hit with the children.

22nd August – Derian House held a launch event for their documentary film, "The Little Things". The Deputy Mayor attended on behalf of the mayor. The mayor reported that the film showcased the work of Derian House, one of his mayoral charities, and was available on Amazon Prime.

24th August – Cricket Mayor's Cup, Penwortham Cricket Club vs Vernon Carus. The mayor reported that the event had been a success, with £220 raised for charity. He thanked Penwortham CC for hosting, and noted that it was great for the two clubs to come together for this community event.

The mayor noted the recent loss of Peter Hewitt, a community champion and volunteer for the Town Council, who was respected for keeping the area clean and tidy, including

extensive litter picking. The mayor expressed the Council's thanks to Peter, and his best wishes to Peter's family.

53. **Town Manager's Report**

In the absence of the Town Manager, the Mayor presented her written report, as follows:

i) **HILL ROAD CEMETERY AND PENWORTHAM WAR MEMORIAL**

The lengthsman and assistant have been carrying out responsive work such as cutting back over-grown hedges, Rights of Way and general tidying work throughout the town, as well as maintaining Hill Road Cemetery to a high standard, strimming and grass cutting.

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

Report It on the go with the 'Love Clean Streets' app on your mobile phone or tablet. It's simple to use and your issue can be logged in seconds.

ii) **WHAT'S ON AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRES**

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

Priory Lane Community Centre

Tuesday 16 September – Mini-Market, 10:45am – 3pm.

Wednesday 24 September – Rebuild With Hope sale, 11am – 1:30pm.

Penwortham Community Centre

Thursday 4 September – Monthly "Friends Here" ladies' group with Kings Church. This time it's "Colours of Autumn" watercolour techniques.

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 and invited members of the community to celebrate the achievement on 26

August, 2025. Young people took part in tournaments and challenges, with the chance to win voucher rewards! The youth club are looking towards decorating the outside of the community centre building with street art and hope to work with a local artist very soon.

Prime Sports Football Academy successfully provided 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 Penwortham Town Council at Penwortham Community Centre.

- **FURTHER UPDATES AND REPORTS;**

The East Irish Sea Transmission Project (EISTP) is seeking consent to bring secure renewable energy from the Mooir Vannin Generation Project in the Isle of Man's territorial waters to UK consumers. An application was submitted in March 2025 to the Isle of Man Government for consent to build the Mooir Vannin Generation Project which is located within the Isle of Man territorial waters. The project consists of up to 87 wind turbines, three offshore platforms, cables connecting the wind farm to the Isle of Man, and landfall assets on the Isle of Man. Once in operation, it will have a generating capacity of 1.4 GW. 80 MW to 100 MW of this is expected to be delivered to the Isle of Man, with the remaining power delivered to the UK National Grid through the East Irish Sea Transmission Project. The infrastructure required includes offshore and onshore transmission assets including Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI).

In October 2024 the Secretary of State determined the East Irish Sea Transmission project should be considered a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under Section 35 of the Planning Act 2008. Given that determination, the project requires a Development Consent Order and scoping studies are now underway. The project has been introduced to the local community and community engagement began during August with an information booklet posted to local residents inviting them to attend a local event taking place at Penwortham Arts Centre on Saturday 13 September.

As the project scoping boundary overlaps with Penwortham's parish boundary, this is an opportunity to find out more and have the opportunity to ask questions. The event will take place from 11am until 4pm on Saturday 13 September, 2025.

Recent changes to staffing at Penwortham Arts Centre 'The Venue' have meant that the Council will consider a number of options and proposals for the arts centre at the forthcoming Committee meetings to be held in September, whereby a more detailed report will be presented.

Planning App: 07/2025/00610/DIS - Discharge of conditions 10 (Construction Management Plan), 12 (Dust Management Plan) and 19 (EV charging) of planning permission 07/2022/00364/FUL at The Shampan Indian Restaurant, 97 Pope Lane, Penwortham, PR1 9DB. Case Officer: Mr Chris Sowerby.

A recent application was submitted to the Borough Council to discharge conditions at the former Shampan site in Penwortham. This would suggest that development at that site is imminent.

Land at Valley Road – Enforcement officers have visited the site and have issued a temporary stop notice at the land at Valley Road due to engineering work that has been carried out there without planning permission. The site has ben cleared and excavation works carried out. There is currently no planning permission for the site nor planning application submitted. Enforcement officers are in contact with the landowners. The land is in green belt, a wildlife corridor and flood plain which would make it unlikely for planning permission to be granted on that site. Rumours that the land is due to be a settled traveller site are untrue.

The mayor noted that he and other members had attended an event with the Police & Crime Commissioner the previous week. The event was hosted by First Kick Football at Penwortham Community Centre, and showcased their work on the youth club. The mayor noted that he had asked for a report on their summer activities which should be available to the Town Council in the autumn.

The mayor noted that Cllrs Shaw and Rae had attended an online meeting concerning the EISTP. Cllr Rae noted that the Town Council had publicised the forthcoming consultation event at The Venue via Facebook, but asked if posters would be put on PTC noticeboards for further publicity. The Democratic Services Officer replied that posters had been received from the organisers, and they would be put on noticeboards as soon as possible.

Cllr Rae also noted his concerns about the discharge of conditions application at the former Shampan site. Cllr Martin noted that the site had been an eyesore at the entrance to Kingsfold for too long, and that the hoardings which had been expected had never happened. Cllr Rae proposed that the Town Council write to the Planning Department to object to the application, specifically with respect to the provision of electric vehicle chargers and the need for a dust management plan. Cllr Taylor seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the Council object to planning application 07/2025/00610/DIS for the following reasons:

i) One rapid charger for electric vehicles should be provided as a beneficial part of the development; and

ii) The Planning Authority should ensure that a dust management plan for the construction phase is in place before construction starts.

Cllr Turner reported that a notification to SRBC officers from Cllr Howarth had resulted in the enforcement action at Valley Road.

54. **Questions from Councillors**

Cllr Cassidy reported that he had received an email from a local resident concerning anti-social behaviour at Tesco. He proposed that the Town Council write to the store manager to advise that this was something they needed to deal with. Cllr H Crewe noted that she had witnessed some such behaviour the previous day, and it had been frightening for some residents. She seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the Town Council write to the manager of the Penwortham Tesco Superstore, to advise of the reports of anti-social behaviour and the need for action to deal with the problem.

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

No questions were raised.

56. **Development Control – Plans List**

No comments were made, beyond the resolution above regarding 07/2025/00610/DIS.

57. **Minutes of Committee Meetings**

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

Events Committee – Tuesday 15th July 2025

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

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2025 be approved as a correct record.

Community Centres Management Committee – Tuesday 15th July 2025

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

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2025 be approved as a correct record.

Strategy & Finance Committee – Tuesday 15th July 2025

Cllr Howarth proposed that the minutes be approved. Cllr Watkinson seconded the proposal

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2025 be approved as a correct record.

58. **Dates of Committee Meetings**

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

Strategy and Finance Committee – Tuesday 16th September 2025
Personnel Board – Tuesday 16th September 2025
Community Centres Management Committee – Not Applicable
Cemetery Committee – Not Applicable
Environment Committee – Not Applicable
Events 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.

The mayor proposed that that matter of Local Government Reorganisation be referred to the Strategy & Finance committee, with a view to the Town Council taking a position on its preferred option. Cllr Cassidy seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the Strategy & Finance Committee consider the matter of Local Government Reorganisation.

59. **Delegates' Reports**

Cllr Martin reported on a recent meeting of the LALC Executive with Lancashire County Council's Parish Champion, Cllr James Tomlinson. He reported that both Lancashire County Council's Parish and Town Council Biodiversity Small Grant Scheme and their Public Rights of Way Local Delivery Scheme would not be offered in the current financial year. He advised that this would mean footpaths are likely to go into disrepair, and landowners could take advantage.

Cllr Martin also reported on the proceedings of CPRE, the Countryside Charity. He reported that Des Brennan, who had recently passed away, had left £50k to CPRE. Cllr

Martin advised there was lots of concern about the withdrawn PROW and biodiversity funds, and an effort to engage with LCC during their budget process for 2026-27.

Cllr Martin also noted that he had asked 17 different local councils about elections costs, and had found that they all pay for their own elections. Cllr Ashton highlighted that if elections for parish and principal councils were not aligned, there would be a significant extra cost to the public. Cllr Turner noted that, in the case of Penwortham Town Council's most recent invoice for election costs, there had been no notification in advance, and so no opportunity to budget, and the invoice had been received 10 months after the election took place.

60. **Accounts for Payment – July & August 2025**

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

JULY 2025 ACCOUNTS FOR AUTHORISATION

FOR	AREA	AMOUNT	VAT
NATWEST CREDIT CARD	ADMIN	£ 164.32	
VODAFONE LTD	ADMIN	£ 24.24	
SLCC - CiLCA QUALIFICATION FEE	ADMIN	£ 450.00	£ -
ONECOM LTD	ADMIN	£ 382.51	£ 63.75
FIRST KICK FOOTBALL - SUMMER	ADMIN	£2,040.00	£ -
GARDNERS HARDWARE	ADMIN	£ 38.98	£ 6.50
MENTAL HEALTH TRAINER, TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION	ADMIN	£1,017.49	£ -
MHFA ENGLAND TRAINING MATERIALS	ADMIN	£ 505.99	£ -
LALC CONFERENCE	ADMIN	£ 90.00	£ -
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	CEMETERY	£ 13.74	£ 0.65
WATER INVOICE	CEMETERY	£ 20.24	£ -
NORTH WEST MOWERS	CEMETERY	£ 188.50	£ 31.42
FUEL INVOICE	CEMETERY	£ 159.67	£ 28.27
NEWGATE NURSERIES	CEMETERY	£ 154.20	£ 25.70
WATER INVOICE	PRIORY LN	£ 146.63	£ -
ELCTRICITY INVOICE	PRIORY LN	£ 290.85	£ 13.85
GAS INVOICE	PRIORY LN	£ 261.52	£ 12.45
BOILER & HOT WATER REPAIRS	PRIORY LN	£ 200.00	£ -
KEY HYGIENE SUPPLIES	PRIORY LN	£ 139.08	£ 23.18
SCAR FIRE SAFETY FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT	PRIORY LN	£ 907.50	£ -
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	PEN CC	£ 447.14	£ 21.30
GAS INVOICE	PEN CC	£ 137.09	£ 6.53
WATER INVOICE	PEN CC	£ 96.50	£ -
KEY HYGIENE SUPPLIES LTD	PEN CC	£ 127.82	£ 21.30

WATER INVOICE	THE VENUE	£	48.93	£	0.93
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	THE VENUE	£	262.84	£	12.52
BOOKER LTD	THE VENUE	£	771.61	£	126.44
GAS INVOICE	THE VENUE	£	80.12	£	3.82
BOILER REPAIRS	THE VENUE	£	100.00	£	-
XSOLVE MEDIA LTD JULY	THE VENUE	£	708.00	£	118.00
XSOLVE MEDIA LTD JUNE	THE VENUE	£	708.00	£	118.00
C&W BERRY LTD	THE VENUE	£	4.80	£	0.80
PJ GILDERT JOINERY	THE VENUE	£	200.37	£	-

AUGUST 2025 ACCOUNTS FOR AUTHORISATION

FOR	AREA	AMOUNT	VAT
NATWEST CREDIT CARD	ADMIN	£ 44.99	£ -
VODAFONE LTD	ADMIN	£ 24.24	£ 4.04
DARLINGTON & CO PAYROLL	ADMIN	£ 162.00	£ 27.00
SAS UK GROUP - SUMMER SPORTS CAMP	ADMIN	£ 3,999.00	£ -
GARDNERS HARDWARE	ADMIN	£ 6.95	£ 1.16
1ST KICK FOOTBALL - YOUTH CLUB Q2	ADMIN	£ 5,000.00	£ -
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	CEMETERY	£ 15.25	£ 0.73
WATER INVOICE	CEMETERY	£ 33.60	£ -
FUEL INVOICE	CEMETERY	£ 186.87	£ 22.81
C&W BERRY LTD	CEMETERY	£ 6.55	£ 1.09
WATER INVOICE	PRIORY LN	£ 121.66	£ -
GAS INVOICE	PRIORY LN	£ 246.96	£ 11.76
ELCTRICITY INVOICE	PRIORY LN	£ 292.50	£ 13.93
GAS INVOICE	PEN CC	£ 135.44	£ 6.45
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	PEN CC	£ 480.75	£ 22.89
WATER INVOICE	PEN CC	£ 101.73	£ -
WATER INVOICE	THE VENUE	£ 71.35	£ 3.39
BOOKER LTD	THE VENUE	£ 156.82	£ 26.14
ELECTRICITY INVOICE	THE VENUE	£ 269.94	£ 12.85
PERFORMANCE	THE VENUE	£ 250.00	£ -
XSOLVE MEDIA LTD - AUGUST	THE VENUE	£ 708.00	£ 118.00

Cllr Turner noted the June invoice for Xsolve Media, and asked that it be double-checked that this was not already paid in the June accounts. Cllr H Crewe proposed that the accounts be noted. Cllr Cassidy seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the presented accounts be noted.

61. **Hill Road Cemetery – July & August 2025**

The Democratic Services Officer reported that in July 2025 there were 9 interments at Hill Road Cemetery. Of these, 6 were full coffin burials and 3 were for cremated remains. Four of the interments were in new plots.

The Democratic Services Officer reported that in August 2025 there were 6 interments at Hill Road Cemetery. Of these, 5 were full coffin burials and 1 was for cremated remains. Three of the interments were in new plots.

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

RESOLVED: that the presented deeds be approved.

……Town Mayor

(The meeting finished at 7:05pm.)

The minutes of this meeting will be published on the website
www.penworthamtowncouncil.gov.uk