PENWORTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY CENTRES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Penwortham Community Centre on Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 6:50pm.

Committee Members Present: Councillors D Bennett, H Crewe, A Rae, D Shaw, R Taylor, and I Watkinson.

Substitute Committee Members Present: Councillors D Howarth and K Martin.

In attendance: Councillors W Adams, D Ashton, G Crewe, T Flannery, and T Young.

Marie Curran, Town Manager
Daniel Guise, Democratic Services Officer

17. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Jim Patten and Angela Turner.

Cllr Turner was substituted by Cllr Howarth.
Cllr Patten was substituted by Cllr Martin.

18. **Declarations of Interest**

No interests were declared.

19. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Cllr Taylor proposed that the minutes of the last meeting be approved. Cllr Rae seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the last meeting, held on 21st October 2025, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

20. **Fees and Charges 2026-27**

The Town Manager presented a report regarding the fees and charges to be levied at the Council's community centres (excluding The Venue) in 2026-27. The report recommended a 5% increase in the "per session" rates, and an increase of the discretionary hourly rate from £10 to £15.

The Town Manager noted that hire charges incurred by the Borough Council for polling stations indicated that similar venues in Penwortham had much higher charges than the Town Council. She also noted that the Town Council sometimes

waived hire charges when services of particular importance to vulnerable residents were being provided. Councillors noted that the increase was not large, however if slight adjustments are not made to keep up with the market rate, a significant one-off price increase eventually becomes necessary.

Cllr Howarth asked how much progress had been made towards a charging scale for private hire of The Venue. The Town Manager advised that this would be formalised as part of the staffing and management review.

Cllr Martin proposed that the alteration in fees proposed by the report be approved. Cllr H Crewe seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the “per session” hire charges at the community centres (excluding The Venue) be increased by 5%, and the discretionary hourly rate be increased to £15, for financial year 2026-27.

……Chairman

(The meeting finished at 7:00pm.)

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