PENWORTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Meeting held at Penwortham Community Centre on Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 7:00pm.

Committee Members Present: Councillors D Bennett, H Crewe, K Martin, R Taylor (Chair), and T Young (with 1 vacancy).

Substitute Committee Members Present: Councillors D Howarth and I Watkinson.

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

Marie Curran, Town Manager
Daniel Guise, Democratic Services Officer

17. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Peter Cronin and Angela Turner.

Cllr Cronin was substituted by Cllr Watkinson.
Cllr Turner was substituted by Cllr Howarth.

18. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Martin noted that he provided PA equipment for the Remembrance Sunday event.

19. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Cllr Martin proposed that the minutes of the last meeting be approved. Cllr Bennett 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. **Review of Fireworks Display 2025**

Cllr Taylor thanked officers for their efforts in organising the display.

The Town Manager reported verbally on the outcome of the event. She noted that there had been no incidents or emergencies. South Ribble Borough Council were satisfied with the state of the park afterwards. There had not been as much litter as in previous years. However, the Town Manager noted that there was a need to

look at the parking situation, with lots of double parking even where cones had been put out.

Cllr H Crewe noted that the parking and traffic situation had resulted in cross people and near misses on Marshall's Brow. Cllr Martin noted that the atmosphere was good and the fairground operator was happy, and mentioned that there was a need to keep a presence at the park after the display itself, as the fairground continues afterwards.

Cllr Martin also suggested that a hybrid drone and fireworks display might work well, as drone displays are impressive, but residents also want the traditional bangs and crackles. He suggested getting a mini demonstration of a drone display.

Cllr Rae asked how much had been raised for the mayoral charities. The Democratic Services Officer reported that it was about £1500, which was slightly down on the previous year. The Town Manager advised that options for taking contactless donations would be explored for the following year.

21. **Review of Remembrance Sunday 2025**

It was stated that the main issue at this event had been the weather. The Town Manager noted how soaked some councillors had got. She reported that the new vicar of St Leonards had conducted a nice service, and that the parade had been very well supported by the community.

The Town Manager and Cllr Howarth both reported on one item of negative feedback from residents of Hill Road and its offshoots, who had not been allowed in or out of their road when the procession had only just left St Leonards. Cllr Howarth noted this had not happened in previous years.

Cllr Howarth noted that the Friends of Penwortham Memorial group had announced that the flags on Liverpool Road lampposts were not theirs. Several councillors noted that the County Council usually have strict rules about attaching decorations such as bunting and banners to lighting columns.

Cllr Flannery noted that she had attended the Leyland event in her capacity as Deputy Mayor of Penwortham, standing in for Cllr Adams. She reported that there seemed to have been an expectation of her laying a wreath at the event, which may need to be considered if South Ribble issues an invitation again next year

22. **Christmas Markets 2025**

The Town Manager reported on preparations for the Christmas Markets on 1st & 10th December. She noted that there would be an event in Middleforth as well, on Sunday 21st December. This was being organised by the Fire Service and would be held at the Fire Station, as per the previous year.

Cllr Bennett asked if bigger bins had been secured this year, to be placed near the existing permanent litter bins. The Town Manager advised that big trade bins had been booked, and litter picking tools were coming from South Ribble Borough Council.

Cllr Rae suggested the Town Council make a donation of around £50 - £100 to the Middleforth event, to encourage its growth. Cllr Flannery proposed that the Town Council offer to purchase a prize worth approximately £50 to be used in a raffle or competition of the organiser's choosing. Cllr Howarth seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED: that the Town Council offer to purchase a prize worth approximately £50 to be used in a raffle or competition at the Middleforth Fire Station Christmas event.

……Chairman

(The meeting finished at 7:30pm.)

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