

## Adlington Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 21 October 2024

in Adlington Library, Railway Road, Adlington commencing at 7.15pm

The Town Council welcomed Denise Jones as a co-opted Town Councillor and witnessed the Declaration of Office.

### **Present:**

**Councillors:** Cllrs K Snape (Town Mayor), S Clewlow (Deputy Mayor), A Rothwell, A Cross, B Speers, D Jones, J Lowe, K O'Donnell, L Rennison, P Walkden and C Bailey (Clerk)

**1. Open Forum:** no items to discuss

**2. Apologies for absence:** Received from: Cllrs A Robinson and J Molyneaux

**3. Declarations of Interest:** received from Cllr Speers: for item 6.8.ii and Cllr Rothwell for item 8.4

**4. Minutes of the meeting:** of Monday 23 September 2024 were proposed, seconded, and signed by the Town Mayor with the detailed response to planning application LCC2024/0023.

**5. Matters arising** were noted as:

5.1 To allow Town Councillors and the public to experience the use of glasses which simulate the impact of various sight loss conditions, the Town Council proposed the Sight Loss Council be in Adlington Library before its 17 February 2025 meeting. This opportunity will be publicised.

5.2 Chorley Council's events team will consider the Town Council's request for a ban on the use of plastic confetti outdoors in reviewing its policy.

5.3 An update on the response to the Light Adlington 24 small lit tree scheme. Several Councillors offered to help contact businesses who had not yet replied.

5.4 Chorley Council removed recent graffiti at the Market Place bus stop. The overloaded open-sided van, considered a public safety risk, parked on Station Road has gone.

5.5 A resident's concern that litter is collecting on land at Sutton Lane, close to the entrance to the KGV Playing Fields, following the recent cutting down of mature trees. Cllr Snape said a tree specialist has advised Persimmons this was necessary to catch up on maintenance which should have been on-going since 2016. Cllr Lowe will assess what might be done with this land.

### **6. Items for Discussion:**

6.1. The arrangements for the Adlington District Remembrance event were finalised including: an update on the civic guest list; volunteer offers to assist; the management of the road closure; the need to restrict traffic entering the Community Centre carpark from 1.30pm to maintain public safety and allow the Parade to assemble; and activity timing for the event poster. A volunteer's offer to display the lamp post poppies on the Parade route was accepted.

6.2 The draft proof of the winter edition of the Update Newsletter was agreed. Cllr Speers was thanked. It was agreed that all Town Councillors need to be more proactive in providing content to reflect the Council's own initiatives. Potential content for the spring edition was discussed.

6.3. Cllr Lowe was thanked and the Bloom volunteers were congratulated on Higher Adlington being runner up in the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition Large Village section, together with the five local features given specific mention.

Cllr Lowe will forward on the judges reports.

6.4 Cllr Snape on the changing policies of the secondary school Academies and their intake relationships with primary schools in Chorley and in neighbouring Horwich discussed at the 16 October Chorley Liaison meeting. Due to geographic proximity and surplus capacity, Rivington and Blackrod High School could be an alternative option for pupils of secondary school age in the Adlington District.

6.5 Cllr Rothwell invited comment on the initial ideas and agreed to lead the process to agree the Town Council banner.

6.6 The Clerk will contact Jigsaw again to ask it pay to replace the rotting wooden log flower planter in Windsor Avenue from spring 2025.

6.7. Cllr O'Donnell agreed to take one of the old heavy metal flower lamp post baskets to the scrap merchant to assess its value.

6.8. Under Town Mayor's urgent business it was agreed that:

- i. The Finance Working Group will meet to consider the draft 2025/26 financial year budget and precept request
- ii. Cllr Speers said the independent Adlington Community Food Club is operating on co-operative principles; volunteers have been fully trained; food supplies have been secured; and financially, it is moving towards sustainability. Cllr and Mr Speers are stepping down from their leadership roles. They will continue as volunteers in the team. Chorley Council's new Director of Communities has said she will consider the evidence if Adlington Town Council wishes to pursue its concern that allocated Neighbourhood Priority grant funding has been spent outside of the Adlington District. This was agreed as a matter of principle.

## 7. Planning:

7.1 The Town Council discussed two applications and noted that:

**LCC/2024/0023:** for the erection of an Anaerobic Digester Unit with associated infrastructure on land adjacent to Wigan Lane, Heath Charnock, Adlington, Chorley. The Town Council's response as a consultee is now on the LCC Planning portal, in Adlington Library and following the meeting, will be added to the Town Council's website. In terms of potential further action, it was proposed that:

- i. The LCC Planning portal be monitored so that further responses can be added by the Town Council as LCC Planning do not issue automatic updates
- ii. Each local council should ask for their representative to meet with the LCC Planning Committee at its site visit. However LCC policy is for its County Councillor only to attend.
- iii. LCC Planning Committee members should be contacted about local concerns, and that this information be shared with the public for additional support
- iv. Adlington Town Council advises local residents to make their own representations to LCC Planning particularly if they wish to object to the proposal.

Anderton, Coppull and Heath Charnock Parish Councils have proposed to work together as a joint sub-group to follow up on this application as required.

*Standing Order 82 was approved to extend the meeting by up to 15 minutes.*

**22/00483/FULMAJ:** Erection of Class E (a) retail store, car parking and servicing areas, landscaping, access and associated works following demolition of existing buildings at Fairport Engineering, Adlington Mill, Market Place, PR7 4EZ. The Town Council has supported this proposal in principle. It was agreed that for transparency reasons, clarity on land ownership of the carpark should be requested as the car park area was considered by some to be 'common land' and part of the original Market Place in Adlington. This however is not a planning concern.

7.2 Application **24/00821/FULHH:** Single storey extension to side/front elevation including new pitched roof to existing flat roof porch, and 2no timber double wheelie bin storage units to front elevation at 30 Daisy Hill Drive Adlington Chorley PR6 9NE will be left for neighbours' comments:

## 8 Finance

8.1 The 30 September 2024 account and budget reports were approved. The HMRC VAT reclaim has been received and will be included in the 31 October reports.

8.2 The Clerk explained the option of the Town Council having a Barclay Card Select credit card with no fees or no cost if expenditure is cleared monthly. An ATC bank signatory will need to apply. This will be discussed further.

8.3 The Town Council agreed to transfer £1,000 from the UTB Instant Access to the UTB Current Account towards the expenditure listed below.

8.4 These payments were approved to be paid from the online UTB current account:

Clerk	October 2024 net administration and financial management at 8 hours per week	£414.66
HMRC	October 2024 PAYE deducted from the gross payment to the Clerk	£103.60
Clerk	Mileage: 21miles @ 0.45ppm in September 2024	£9.45
EE Ltd	ATC mobile invoice dated 16 October 2024	£22.20
Reimburse Cllr Molyneaux	Repair of the Town Mayor's Chain	£25.00
Reimburse Cllr Rothwell	Go Daddy web host charges: annual renewal of the Clerk's email £86.26 plus the monthly web host fee from August to October at £14.39 per month	£129.43
Reimburse Petty Cash	Donation to RBL for a wreath £25, for one black ink cartridge £ 39.90 and A4 paper £4.75	£69.15

## 9. Items for Information:

9.1 Invitation to LALC Parish and Town Council Conference, Saturday 2nd November at The Exchange, County Hall, Fishergate, Preston, from 09:30 to 14:00 including lunch

9.2 Invite to Chorley District LALC meeting, Monday 4 November 7pm Committee Room 1, Chorley Town Hall

*The meeting closed at 21.17pm.*