

BARNOLDSWICK TOWN COUNCIL TOWN MEETING

5th March 2025

Chairman: Cllr Callum Hird

Electors present: 74

01/25 Good evening, everyone.

It's a pleasure to stand before you today at this Town Meeting, where we can reflect on all that Barnoldswick has achieved over the past year and look forward to the exciting events and developments on the horizon. Our community thrives on the strength of its people and the experiences we share together. From our beloved traditions to our bold new ideas, we continue to create memories that will last for generations to come.

Events Past to Present:

Let's take a moment to highlight some of the fantastic events we've had the pleasure of hosting over the past year.

We kicked things off with the whimsical "Barlick in Wonderland" event, which captured the imagination of young and old alike. The creativity on display was truly magical, bringing to life Lewis Carroll's timeless tale in our very own town.

Then we had the ever-popular "Bands on the Square," where local musicians took to the stage, filling our town square with music, laughter, and community spirit. It was a celebration of Barnoldswick's rich local talent and the joy that music brings to our lives.

Our beloved "Kite Festival" has always been a favourite, but this year, we have made an exciting change. We are looking forward to the inaugural "Family Fun Day" as a fresh, fun alternative. We hope this new event will continue the tradition of bringing families together for a day of enjoyment and community spirit.

"Barlick Beach" was another hit, offering us a taste of summer fun right here in Barnoldswick, and who could forget the "Picnic in the Park"? This event, supported by HOPE Barnoldswick, brought people together for an afternoon of picnicking, games, and building stronger connections within our town.

"Remembrance Sunday" was as moving as ever, as we paid our respects to those who have served our country. It's a day that reminds us of the sacrifice and courage that have shaped the freedoms we enjoy today.

The "Switch On" event heralded the beginning of the festive season, and with the "2 Day Christmas Market" just before Christmas we were able to bring joy and cheer to all who visited, while also supporting local businesses.

The "Ice Festival," featuring the dramatic "ICE WARS," was a truly unforgettable spectacle that lit up our winter evenings. The ice sculptures were nothing short of awe-inspiring, and we're already looking forward to next year's event.

We also had the pleasure of welcoming the "Wizarding World of Barnoldswick"—a magical event that transported us into the world of Wizards and Witches, with costume contests, interactive experiences, and a celebration of all things magical.

Valley Gardens Park Revamp:

In addition to these events, we've also worked hard on improving our town's infrastructure and public spaces. The revamped Valley Gardens Park has become a true jewel in our town. With upgraded facilities, and spaces for families to gather and enjoy nature, it's a testament to what we can achieve when we come together for the benefit of our community.

New Members of Staff:

I'd also like to take a moment to introduce and welcome two new members to our team. Please join me in welcoming Sam Stuart and Tracy Turner, who have both joined our office staff to work with Joanne Geldard recently. They have already proven themselves to be invaluable additions to our team, and we're thrilled to have them on board.

Tree Planting at Victory Park with Filtrox:

Lastly, I'd like to highlight a beautiful initiative that will help preserve the beauty of our town for generations to come. We recently partnered with Filtrox for a tree-planting event at Victory Park. This effort not only enhances the green spaces we cherish but also contributes to improving the local environment for everyone to enjoy.

As we reflect on these wonderful events and projects, let's remember that they are only made possible by the commitment and passion of each one of you in our community. Together, we're making Barnoldswick a place to be proud of.

Thank you all for your continued support and involvement. I look forward to what we can achieve together in the coming year.

Without further ado let move onto the Pride of Barnoldswick Awards

Pride of Barnoldswick Awards were presented to some of "Barlick's best" last week.

The list of nominees are: Georgina McCredie, Filtrox, Neal Stewart, Carmen Crow, Anhelina Baran, Barnoldswick Town Juniors u15 girls, Mark Hilton & Barnoldswick Youth Club Volunteers, Sandra Handforth, Misha Baran, MAD (Make a Difference) Sandra Garnett, Julie Spence, Charlotte Lawson, Martin Kirrage & Carl Pickles

03/25 Approval of minutes of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting held on the 6th March 2024

Resolved: To approve the minutes

04/25 Audited Statement of Accounts (2023/2024) and Town Council budget (2025/2026)

Resolved: To note this information

05/25 Matters from Electors

To consider any action/decision matters which have been submitted from local electors (24 hours prior to the meeting) and related issues

Resolved: There were no matters from electors received

06/25 Further information items

Resolved: There were no further information items

07/25 To consider information items from local electors

Resolved: To note that there were no questions asked

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