Barnoldswick Town Council
The Civic Hall, Station Road, Barnoldswick, BB18 5NA
Tel 01282 788090

Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 8th July 2026 at 7PM.

Present: Chair Cllr Leanne Barrett, Cllrs David Whipp, Callum Hird, Angela Moran, Chris Church, Lola Whipp, Mandy Boardman, Hollie Barrett, John Spencer, Gillian Robinson, David Greaves and Jodie Greaves.

Members of the Public: 3

This meeting was streamed on the Town Council's YouTube channel.

26/36 Apologies for Absence
Apologies were received from **Cllr Steven Szostak**.
Absent without Apologies: **Cllr Zahra Nouman.**

26/37 Declarations of Interest

- **Cllr Callum Hird** – Coach of BTJ in respect of Item 26/47(a).
- **Cllr David Whipp** – Member of Lancashire County Council in respect of Item 26/43(b).
- **Cllr Lola Whipp** – Member of Pendle Borough Council in respect of Item 26/47(f).
- **Cllr Chris Church** – Member of Pendle Borough Council in respect of Items 26/43(b) and 26/47(f).

26/38 Open Forum
A member of the public reported that the Coates Road MUGA is in poor condition, with the goalposts rusting and the path overgrown. As a new housing estate is being built, it was noted that more children are likely to need access to a usable play area. The goalposts are due to be painted the following week by a team from Barnoldswick Town Council.

Cllr John Spencer asked that the Council's thanks be recorded to the member of the public for helping to keep the area tidy. The member of the public was asked to contact the Town Council office to arrange to meet with Eugene to undertake a wider assessment of the MUGA.

26/39 Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Full Council meetings held on 3 June and 10 June 2026.

26/40 Finance

a. Payments

RESOLVED: To confirm approval of payments made by the Town Clerk since the last meeting of the Council and to delegate consent for payments to be made prior to the next meeting of the Council.

b. Accounting Software

RESOLVED: To approve moving the Council's accounting software from Sage to Scribe.

Action: Town Clerk.

c. Legacy Fund

The Council noted that approval had been received for a fund totalling £28,300, to be spent on a one-off project that would leave a lasting legacy. Half of the funding had already been received.

Cllr David Whipp suggested that the funding could potentially be used to improve the public toilets in Barnoldswick. The Council noted that this was one suggestion for consideration and that Councillors should be given the opportunity to put forward their own ideas and suggestions for projects that could be considered for funding. To look into costs associated with improvements to toilets.

RESOLVED: To invite Councillors to submit ideas and suggestions for suitable projects that could be considered for the use of the Legacy Fund, including **Town Clerk** obtaining costings where appropriate, with proposals to be brought back to a future meeting for consideration.

d. PIPIF Progress

The Council received an update on the proposed PIPIF projects, including:

- Improvements and extension of the Stream & Steam Trail to incorporate a heritage trail through the town.
- A proposed performance space on the Town Square.
- Paving improvements on Newtown.
- Replacement of existing equipment at the Wheelpark in Victory Park.
- A proposed Pump Track, with a location yet to be agreed.
- Expansion of the existing sculpture trail at Letcliffe Park.

It was noted that, in light of the proposed Town Square asset transfer, an assessment of the potential uses for the Town Square would be required. Planning permission will be required, and the covenant relating to the erection of permanent structures would need to be addressed.

The Council has committed £26,500 in match funding.

Pump Track and Wheelpark
Cllr David Whipp had previously been identified as lead for the Pump Track and Wheelpark projects. Two potential locations for the Pump Track had been identified: adjacent to the rugby pitch at Victory Park and adjacent to Greenberfield 2 Allotments.

RESOLVED: To establish a working group to progress the Pump Track and Wheelpark projects.

RESOLVED: That, following the Council's decision under Item 26/42 regarding the use of official Council email communications channels, Cllr David Whipp no longer act as lead for the Pump Track and Wheelpark projects. The Council noted concerns that, without access to and use of official Council email communications, the lead councillor may not receive relevant information in a timely manner and may not be able to remain appropriately engaged and updated on the progress of the project.

Heritage Trail and Sculptures
RESOLVED: That **Cllr Gillian Robinson** lead on the heritage trail and sculptures project.

Newtown Paving Project
Cllr Lola Whipp had previously been identified as lead for the Newtown paving project.
RESOLVED: That, following the Council's decision under Item 26/42 regarding the use of official Council email communications channels, Cllr Lola Whipp no longer act as lead for the Newtown paving project. The Council noted concerns that, without access to and use of official Council email communications, the lead councillor may not receive relevant information in a timely manner and may not be able to remain appropriately engaged and updated on the progress of the project.

Performance Stage – Town Square
The Council considered the current proposal for a permanent performance stage on the Town Square.

RESOLVED: That the current proposal for a permanent performance stage on the Town Square be amended and that alternative designs be discussed with Scott Whalley. A

site survey is also to be undertaken to establish whether a permanent performance stage is appropriate and suitable for the area.
Action: Cllr Hollie Barrett to lead on the performance stage project and Cllr Leanne Barrett to contact Scott Whalley to arrange an urgent meeting to discuss potential designs.

26/41 Annual Governance
RESOLVED: To receive and note the Internal Audit Report for the financial year ended 31 March 2026.

RESOLVED: To approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the financial year ended 31 March 2026.

26/42 Committees and Working Groups
Committees organised their initial meetings to elect Chairs and establish meeting dates.

- **HR & Staffing Committee:** Chair – Cllr Gillian Robinson
- **General Purposes Committee (including Allotments and Barlick Bioscapes):** Chair – Cllr Callum Hird
- **Public Spaces, Community and Culture Committee:** Chair – Cllr Jodie Greaves

Committees and working groups are conducting much of their business via email. The Council noted that members of these committees and groups who are not using official Council email addresses may not be able to access essential information in a timely manner.

RESOLVED: That Councillors not yet using official Council email communications channels be removed from current committees and working groups until such time as official Council email addresses are adopted.

26/43 Planning Matters

a. Planning Applications

26/0299/HHO – 7 Taylor Street, Barnoldswick
RECOMMENDATION: No objections.

26/0379/OHL – Turf Pit Gate Farm, Bracewell Lane, Bracewell
RECOMMENDATION: No objections.

b. Notice of Proposal

LSG4/104755/AFR – 2A Park Road, Barnoldswick
COMMENTS: No comments.

26/44 Web/IT Review
Councillors reviewed a report from the Clerk comparing three sector-specific providers.
RESOLVED: To agree to commission a new website from Parish Online.
Action: Town Clerk.

26/45 Transfer of Assets
The TR1 transfer of title document for the Town Square has been prepared. **Cllr Leanne Barrett** will ask for more precise costs relating to street sweeping and bin emptying.
RESOLVED: To proceed with the title transfer.
RESOLVED: That the Chair and Vice-Chair are delegated authority to sign the contract.

26/46 Town of Culture
The Council noted that an update was awaited during the month.

26/47 Matters for the Council to Consider

a. **BTFC 5G Pitch Application**

RESOLVED: To refer this item to the General Purposes Committee to arrange a meeting with BTFC to discuss concerns regarding the environmental impact of the all-weather surface and to resolve any planning or permission issues.
Action: General Purposes Committee.

b. **Letter of Support to Lancashire County Council on Behalf of Christine Murray**

RESOLVED: To send a letter of support.
Action: Town Clerk.

c. **Extension of Junior Football Facilities at Victory Ground**

RESOLVED: To organise a site visit to consider the facility and assess the impact of the proposal.
Action: Town Clerk.

d. **Condition of Clough Park Play Equipment**

RESOLVED: To approve a repair in principle up to a cost of £2,500, subject to obtaining other quotations, and to refer the matter to the Public Spaces, Community and Culture Committee to arrange a site inspection.
Action: Public Spaces, Community and Culture Committee.

e. **Bill & Ben Planters – Gledstone's Logo**

RESOLVED: To approve the erection of a sign up to A3 in size, provided that it is not affixed to the planter.
RESOLVED: To allow Drivers to complete the automatic irrigation mechanism in the planters.
Cllr Leanne Barrett recorded her thanks to Cllr David Whipp and Barlick in Bloom.

f. Contribution to The Butts

The Council noted that Pendle Borough Council had used part of the building free of charge for the hand sweeper and that a contribution towards utility costs was being made. The facility is for the benefit of their employee.
RESOLVED: To decline to contribute towards the costs.
Action: Town Clerk.

26/48 Correspondence and Items for Information

There was no correspondence to report.
Cllr Leanne Barrett recorded her thanks to Sam Stuart for organising a very successful Fun Day.

26/49 Exclusion of Public and Press

The Chair requested the exclusion of the public and press under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, owing to the confidential nature of the business to be considered.
RESOLVED: To exclude the public and press from the meeting.

26/50 HR Discussion

RESOLVED: To agree the ACAS settlement as per negotiations.

26/51 Chair's Statement

The Chair made a statement to the Council.

The meeting closed at **9:22 pm**.

The next meeting of the Full Council will be held on **Wednesday 9 September 2026 at 7:00 pm**.

For further information, please contact:
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