

Barnoldswick Town Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on the 21st January 2026.

Present: Chair John Spencer, Cllrs Gillian Robinson, Emma West, David Whipp, Callum Hird, Angela Moran, Chris Church, Dave Greaves & Jodie Greaves
This meeting will be streamed on the Town Council's YouTube Channel

The Council would like to acknowledge the passing of Graham Cartwright with a minutes silence.

Cllrs would like to put on record our appreciation to Grahams contribution to the Town. Any Councillors who have any ideas for a permanent memorial to bring their ideas to the GP Meeting.

25/73 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mandy Boardman & Leanne Barrett

25/74 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Gillian Robinson & Chris Church both wanted it noting that they are Trustees of Bancroft Steam Museum.

25/75 Open Forum

No questions from members of the public

25/76 To Elect a Vice-Chair for the remainder of 2025/2026

Resolved: Cllr John Spencer nominated Cllr Leanne Barrett – Leanne has agreed to undertake the role outside the meeting. Cllr Chris Church seconded. The vote was unanimous that Cllr Leanne Barrett be Vice Chair for the remainder of 2025/2026

25/77 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Resolved: To approve and accept the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 5th November 2025 & the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on the 15th December 2025

25/78 Co-option for current vacancy on the Town Council

Resolved: That Steven Szostak be elected to the vacant position. He then signed his acceptance of office and joined the meeting.

25/79 Finance

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

Resolved: That authority be delegated to the Town Clerk to make payments up to the next Full Council meeting. To approve payments as presented.

25/80 Special Resolution – Rescission of Previous Resolution

In accordance with Standing Order 22 of Barnoldswick Town Council, we, the undersigned councillors, give notice of a special resolution to rescind the resolution that the Council passed on 05/11/2025, approving the event BOTs 2026 to go ahead.

The effect of this rescission shall be that BOTs 2026 will not proceed, in order to allow the Council sufficient time to:

- Review safety requirements.
- Review all Risk Assessments and Method Statements (RAMS).
- Ensure relevant training is completed; and
- Review event costings and long-term viability.

Proposed by:

Callum Hird

Jodie Greaves

David Greaves

Leanne Barrett

Mandy Boardman

Gillian Robinson

Angela Moran

Cllr Whipp stated that he had spoken to Cllr Barrett and she had not supported the motion. He stated that this is out of order and shouldn't be discussed.

Cllr Jodie Greaves showed the Chair messages where Cllr Barrett had supported the motion.

Cllr Lola Whipp state that the document needs to bear the names and needed a printout signed or an email. That verification of someone's support could not be verified. That it is not allowable.

Cllr John Spencer was not confident enough that it had the support.

Resolved: That this item be taken no further at this time.

25/81 Grant Application

Resolved: To approve the in kind grant application for Bancroft Steam Museum for hire of a room at The Civic Hall.

25/82 Safeguarding Policy

Resolved: That the Clerk be designated as the Safeguarding Lead. That anyone who is in a position where they need a DBS check undertake one. To let the Clerk know and this will be arranged. To implement the Safeguarding Policy.

25/83 Lone Worker Policy

Resolved: For the Council to implement a Lone Worker Policy.

25/84 UK Town of Culture 2028 Competition

Resolved: For the Council to make an application for the Uk Town of Culture 2028. For a working group to be set up: Cllrs Angela Moran, Gillian Robinson, Steve Szostak, David Whipp, Chris Church, Jodie Greaves & John Spencer be on the group.

25/85 NALC & LALC

Resolved: For the Council to join LALC at a cost of £820 for 2026/2027.

25/86 Request to use town square for an Iftar

Resolved: To agree to the Iftar being held on the Town Square

25/87 Theft of van at Switch On 2025

Resolved: To note that the cost of the theft was £5178.96 and that police enquiries are still ongoing.

25/88 Pendle Primary Schools Free Swimming Initiative 2026/2027

Resolved: To delegate consent to the Clerk to negotiated the terms but agree in principle to support the scheme.

25/89 Greenberfield Allotment project

Resolved: To go with the lowest tender subject to the contractor being able to make a start in the next 3 weeks. If they can't start in the next 3 weeks go to contractor A. Price £24728 + VAT = £29673.60

25/90 Transfer of Services

Cllr David Whipp declared an interest as he is the Chair of the Transfer Group at Pendle. They are currently thinking that any transfers could be deferred. There is a period of time for discussions between Pendle and Town Councils. There should be expenditure and income and a plan for transfers before the 1/4/2027 or other appropriate timeframe. There will be time to budget and staffing to manage facilities. Cllr Chris Church declared an interest.

Cllr Spencer stated that he was not interested in taking anything on that will come at a cost the town council. We need to have accurate financial implications.

Cllr Whipp stated that there was more to it as rather than having Pendle BC might have a unitary. Principal authorities are localising facilities where it is possible to do so. Eg. Car park adjacent to The Civic Hall has no income but has expenditure. In future BTC may want to replace or extend this building and having the car park may be beneficial. Want **control** of their future.

Resolved: That a working group be set up with Cllr David Whipp, John Spencer, Angela Moran and Steve Szostak.

25/91 Town Council van

It was advised by the Clerk that all Council employees are currently using their own vehicles for council purposes and are uninsured.

Resolved: To bring the details back to GP. Explore sponsorship, look at other Councils.

25/92 2025/2026 Estimated Out-turn & 2026/2027 Budget

a) 2025/2026 estimated out-turn

Resolved: To note the out-turn

b) 2026/2027 Budget proposal

Cllr David Whipp drafted amendments to the budget proposal.

These included:

Reduce Christmas Decorations to £19000

Reduce Hanging Baskets to £15000

Pavilion & Buildings to £27000

Increase the events budget by £15000

Increase the income for the bar to £55000

In order to fund LALC reduce the Butts Store budget by £820 and add this to professional fees.

Barlick Pride and Parks Projects £16500 & £20000 – utilise both of these budgets towards Pride in Place projects. The funding in reserves for work on parks of £10K to also be added to this.

Cllr Gillian Robinson stated that the deadline for Pride in Place had not yet passed and would like to put forward some ideas. Cllr Whipp advised her to send these to Pendle. Cllr Whipp stated that the above funds were being added to the Pendle budget in order to give them a greater scoring.

Cllr Robinson was concerned that the Town Council had not engaged with the community and asked if Pendle had?

Cllr Whipp stated that once a shortlist was drawn up then the public will be consulted. Also that the difficulty was that effectively there were only 15 months to get things through and completed.

The Clerk had concerns about upping the bar budget and stated the reasons. Also that the Environmental Schemes budget was utilised in previous years. Cllr Whipp agreed to leave £6500 in the budget.

TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET 2026/2027

ALLOTMENTS	3500	INCOME	
BANK CHARGES	500	BOTS BAR	55000
BARLICK IN BLOOM	1000	CIVIC HALL	30000
BARLICK PRIDE		EVENT	
ENVIRONMENTAL	16500	INCOME	13000
BENCHES	3000	ALLOTMENTS	8000
BAR BOTS26	35000	PARKS & LAND	4700
BUS SHELTERS	2000	INTEREST	8000
BUTTS STORE	1680		118700
CCTV	19000		
CHAIRMAN'S EXPENSES	100		
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS	19000		
CIVIC HALL	24000		
COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS	1500		
EVENTS	125000		
GRANTS & DONATIONS	4000		
GRASS CUTTING & TREES	5000		
HANGING BASKETS & PLANTING	15500		
INSURANCE	7500		
MARKET	3000		
OFFICE RUNNING	2500		
PARKS	76500		
PARKS PROJECTS	20000		
PLAY AREAS/MUGAS	5000		
PROFESSIONAL FEES	4820		
PAVILION & BUILDINGS	27000		
PUBLIC TOILETS	20000		
ROOM HIRE	60		
STAFFING	130000		
CAB	1000	OUTGOINGS	580910
TOWN MEETING & BARLICK PRIDE	200	INCOME	118700
TRAINING	1500		462210
FREE SWIMMING	4350	USE RESERVES	53600
WEBSITE	1200	PRECEPT	408610
	580910		

Resolved: That the amendments stated are approved. The vote was unanimous.

c) **Setting of precept 2026/2027**

Resolved: To set the precept at £408,610.

20) Correspondence/Items for Information (for information only)

No correspondence

The meeting closed at 9:15pm

Contact: Joanne Geldard, Clerk to the Council,
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The next meeting of the Full Council is on the 11th March 2026