

Adlington Town Council Annual Report to Electors 2025/26

Report from Cllr Stuart A. Clewlow, BCAC, FRHistS

Town Mayor of Adlington

12th May 2025 to 11th May 2026

Adlington Civic Sunday: Sunday 29th June 2025

On Sunday 29th June 2025 Adlington Town Council hosted the annual Civic Sunday at St Paul's Church and afterwards we held a reception at St Paul's Church Club. Thank you to everyone involved in the organisation and support of this enjoyable day, especially to our Clerk Christine, my family (Christine and Carol), Fr Graeme Buttery, the Church and Church Club volunteers, and also thanks to Lois Birtwistle. It was a privilege to welcome the Mayor & Mayoress of Chorley Cllr Alistair Morwood and his wife Jane, the Town Mayor & Consort of Horwich, the Town Mayor & Consort of Westhoughton and our MP Sir Lindsay Hoyle, as well as other local Councillors.

The Adlington Town Council Civic Awards for 2025 were presented in the Club after the Church service and this year it was very encouraging to see three awards presented and also one junior citizen award. The gathering at the Church Club also provided an opportunity to launch sales of a small history booklet I had written, about the War Memorial Tower & Bells of St. Paul's Church, with proceeds going towards my Mayoral Charity – details on page 6.



VJ Day 80th Anniversary Wreath Laying Service: Friday 15th August 2025

With my late Grandfather (Stanley Harper of Adlington) having been a veteran of the war in the Far East, it was a special honour for me to stand as the Town Mayor and lead on the wreath laying ceremony to acknowledge the 80th anniversary of VJ Day and the end of World War Two. There was a very good turnout from the community and the service ended nicely, as we had planned in advance, for it to coincide with a special peal of bells from St Paul's, replicating the Victory Peal that rang out across Adlington in 1945. Following the service in Adlington, I then went straight to Chorley to represent Adlington at VJ Day services in the town.



Remembrance Sunday: Sunday 9th November 2025

The Adlington & District Remembrance Sunday service took place to remember all those who have served and sacrificed in service of this country, particularly the 207 local people who died in service since 1914. We welcomed the Mayor & Mayoress of Chorley to our procession and Church service. Under heavy rain the parade set off from the Adlington & District Community Centre to St Paul's Church for the memorial service and then to the Cenotaph on Railway Road for the wreath laying ceremony. In spite of the bad weather, the service was once again well supported by the community, the Uniformed Youth Organisations and especially what seems to be a growing Veterans contingent. I was pleased to be able to present a display of local military items, along with information boards and other display items by volunteers of the Adlington & District Heritage Society, of which I have the privilege of being Chair.

Christmas Carol Concert: Monday 15th December 2025

The Adlington Town Council Christmas Carol Concert was held in the Adlington & District Community Centre, and we were joined by the Mayor & Mayoress of Chorley, the Town Mayor & Consort of Horwich and the Town Mayor & Consort of Blackrod. It was a very enjoyable evening and it was great to hear so much laughter in the hall. It may have been cold outside but inside it was certainly a warm and welcoming place to be. Many thanks to Rivington & Adlington Band and those that volunteered on the night to make sure everything ran smoothly. Free mince pies were handed out at the end of the evening and it was great to hear positive comments on the night and also in response to a subsequent Facebook post summarising the event. The evening raised a really good amount for the Mayoral Charity – see fundraising breakdown on page 7.

Other events and duties:

Adlington:

During the course of my Mayoral year, Adlington Town Council has also overseen a successful and well received Skip Day and produced three newsletters, distributed across the community.

It has been a privilege to meet many residents, community groups and attend a number of engagements in Adlington, especially fundraising events and Adlington Carnival (below).



Chorley:

I have attended a number of meetings at Chorley Town Hall to represent Adlington Town Council and these meetings have included the Eastern Parishes Neighbourhood Meetings (one via Zoom) and Chorley Liaison Meetings. These meetings ensure that the views and opinions of Adlington residents can be shared within Chorley Town Hall and directly with Chorley Borough Councillors and Council Officers.

In Chorley, I represented Adlington Town Council at Civic Sunday for the Mayor of Chorley, Councillor Alistair Morwood. I also attended Chorley's VJ Day anniversary events.

In November I represented Adlington to lay a wreath at the Chorley & District War Memorial in Astley Park and also at the Chorley Pals Memorial on the Flat Iron (shown above).

Additionally, I went to the Chorley Pals Memorial on 1st July, on the anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, to lay a wreath to represent the men from Adlington who had served in that battle during World War One.

I had the privilege of being invited to the annual awards evening for Sea Cadets Chorley and presented one of the awards. They have an ever-growing membership and been actively involved in community events in Adlington in recent years.

Outside of Chorley Borough:

Outside of Chorley I attended the Civic Sunday service for the Town Mayor of Blackrod and also the Town Mayor of Horwich.

I also attended a service at Blackburn Cathedral to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Liberation of Kuwait during the first Gulf War in 1991.

The Mayoral Calendar:

The Mayoral calendar consists of a lot more than being Chair at the Adlington Town Council meetings. It also includes a wide range of duties such as chairing extra Adlington Town Council meetings of working groups and sub-committees, meetings in Chorley, engagements outside of Adlington, attending events, and working on the Mayoral Charity. Town Mayor duties for 2025/26 included:

- 12th May 2025: Mayoral Inauguration
- 12th May 2025: Adlington Town Council Meeting
- 16th May 2025: Mayor of Chorley Dinner (Chorley Town Hall)
- 17th May 2025: Chorley Civic Service
- 25th May 2025: Adlington Local Makers Pop-up Market
- 31st May 2025: Horwich Civic Service
- 1st June 2025: Blackrod Civic Service
- 7th June 2025: Adlington Skip Day
- 8th June 2025: Launched Mayoral Charity
- 13th June 2025: “Thank You” visit to local young resident (Eloisa)
- 16th June 2025: Adlington Town Council Meeting
- 28th June 2025: Armed Forces Day Concert at Chorley Town Hall – photo below.



- 29th June 2025: Adlington Civic Service
- 1st July 2025: Chorley Pals Memorial Wreath Laying – photo above.
- 12th July 2025: Mayoral Charity stall at Adlington Carnival
- 14th July 2025: Chorley Liaison Meeting (Chorley Town Hall)
- 17th July 2025: Eastern Parishes Meeting (Chorley Town Hall)
- 21st July 2025: Adlington Town Council Meeting
- 15th August 2025: Adlington VJ Day Anniversary Wreath Laying Service
- 15th August 2025: Chorley VJ Day Proclamation (Chorley Town Hall)
- 15th August 2025: St Laurence’s Church VJ Day Service, Chorley
- 15th August 2025: Chorley VJ Day Wreath Laying Service
- 17th August 2025: VJ Day Homily St Paul’s Church
- 18th August 2025: Adlington Library VJ Day display

18th August 2025: Adlington Town Council Meeting
 15th September 2025: Adlington Town Council Meeting
 18th September 2025: Meeting at St Paul's regarding Mayoral Charity
 15th October 2025: Chorley Liaison Meeting (Chorley Town Hall)
 20th October 2025: Adlington Town Council Meetings
 22nd October 2025: Web Tutorial zoom meeting
 30th October 2025: Concert of Remembrance at St Paul's Church
 5th November 2025: Remembrance Sunday rehearsal at St Paul's Church
 8th November 2025: Laying Poppy Crosses on military graves at Adlington Cemetery
 8th November 2025: St Paul's Church Craft Fair
 9th November 2025: Chorley Remembrance Sunday
 9th November 2025: Chorley Pals Memorial Wreath Laying
 9th November 2025: Adlington & District War Memorial Wreath Laying
 15th November 2025: Save Grove House Demonstration
 15th November 2025: URC & Methodist Christmas Fair
 17th November 2025: Adlington Town Council Meeting
 22nd November 2025: Anderton St Joseph's Scout Group – 50th Anniversary
 28th November 2025: Sea Cadets Chorley Awards Evening
 3rd December 2025: Grove House Christmas Party
 5th December 2025: St Paul's Christmas Tree switch on and Carol Service
 8th December 2025: Adlington Town Council Meeting
 15th December 2025: Adlington Christmas Concert
 16th December 2025: Chorley Christmas Concert
 22nd December 2025: Adlington Community Food Club Volunteers' Christmas Buffet
 3rd January 2026: Money from Remembrance Sunday 2025 presented on behalf of St Paul's Church – Chorley Royal British Legion, Chorley & District Combined Services Breakfast Club, Victory Park Veterans (under Chorley FC Community Foundation).
 17th January 2026: Supporting a fundraising event at St Catherine's shop in Adlington
 19th January 2026: Adlington Town Council Meeting
 21st January 2026: Chorley Liaison Meeting (Chorley Town Hall)
 11th February 2026: Clerk Vacancy Meeting
 11th February 2026: Finance Working Group Meeting
 15th February 2026: Liberation of Kuwait 1991 - Service at Blackburn Cathedral
 16th February 2026: Adlington Town Council
 24th February 2026: Remembrance Service for Ukraine, St Mary's Church, Chorley
 6th March 2026: St Paul's Players performance of "Rent"
 16th March 2026: Adlington Town Council Meeting
 18th March 2026: Chorley Liaison Meeting
 28th March 2026: Adlington Scout Group Mayoral Charity Fundraiser at St. Paul's Church
 (cancelled due to bad weather)
 1st April 2026: Website, Communications & Social Media Group zoom meeting
 12th April 2026: Leyland Band 80th Anniversary Concert at Chorley Town Hall
 15th April 2026: Mayor of Chorley "At Home" event at Astley Hall, Chorley
 20th April 2026: Adlington Town Council Meeting
 27th April 2026: "Thank You" visit to The Rail Weigh for support with the Mayoral charity and to Mr & Mrs Jackson for their ongoing litter picking efforts.
 27th April 2026: Clerk Vacancy – Interviews A
 28th April 2026: Clerk Vacancy – Interviews B
 10th May 2026: St Paul's Church service
 11th May 2026: Adlington Town Council Meeting

The Town Mayor's Charity:

- *Supporting the Restoration of St. Paul's Church War Memorial Tower & Bells.*

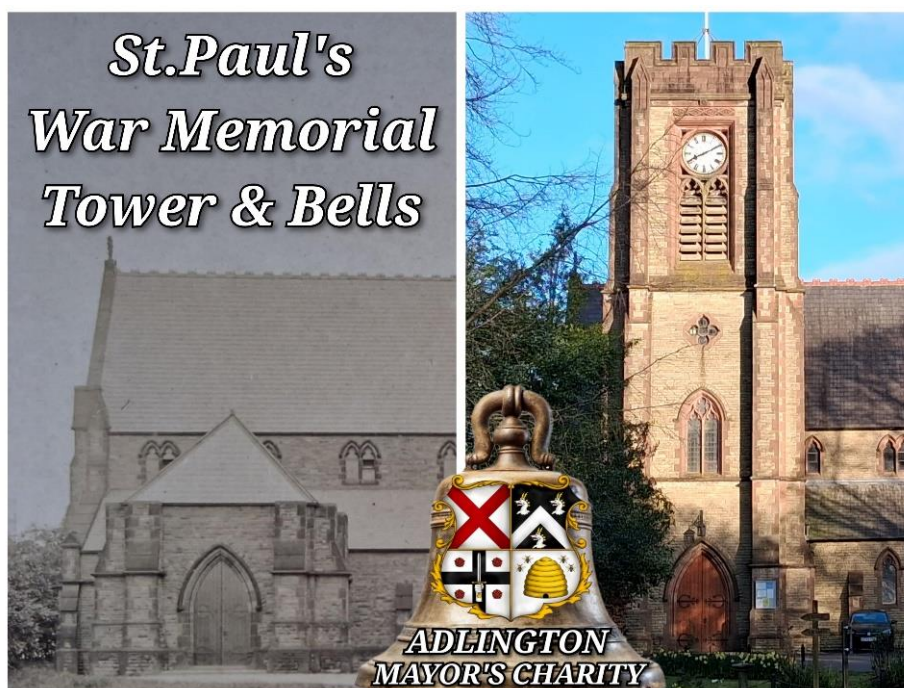
The original concept for St. Paul's Church included a tower and spire. In May 1883 the first sod was cut and it was agreed that the north transept, the tower and spire would be left for a future arrangement. The Church was dedicated in January 1885. In 1932, at a cost of about £3,330, the tower was eventually finished to serve as a War Memorial for the Parish of Adlington.

After 90 years the bells, their immediate surroundings, the clock, and the tower itself, needs full restoration to ensure that it can continue in full use. To complete the work to a high standard, nearly £100,000 is required!

Whether as a worshipper at St. Paul's, passionate about our local history, appreciative of Church architecture, having ancestors honoured by this war memorial; or simply enjoying hearing the bells of St. Paul's, I hoped that the whole community would want to support the effort, make a donations, and want the bells to continue to ring from our War Memorial tower for generations to come.

My own family suffered 13 casualties during both World Wars and they are named on the Adlington & District War Memorial. This restoration project is very important to me and my family. As my contribution to the overall restoration project at St Paul's, I began my Mayoral year hoping to raise the same amount of money that had paid for the construction of the War Memorial Tower in 1932 - £3,330.

After a year I am pleased to report that the total amount raised and handed over to Fr Buttery and St Paul's Church, was: £5,240.21 – nearly two thousand pounds more than hoped for.



Mayoral charity financial breakdown:

I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of people from not only the Adlington community but from people across Chorley & District and further afield. Whether it has been through the desire to refurbish the War Memorial Tower & Bells as a structure, as an amenity or through the sentiment of it being a war memorial, the support has been exceptional. The support alone highlights that those from Adlington who served and gave their life are certainly not forgotten.

Funds have been raised through raffles, donations at events, donations directly in support of the cause, and also through sales of a little history booklet I produced about the War Memorial Tower & Bells. A would also like to thank the following, who have given a lot of support to my fundraising: Chris Clewlow, Amanda Cross and Caroline Hesketh.

Event / Method	Money raised
Raffle and collection on Civic Sunday	268.00
Raffle at the Armed Forces Day Concert	392.00
Raffle at the Concert of Remembrance	211.00
Raffle at the Christmas Carol Concert	453.00
Donations at the Christmas Carol Concert	110.63
Donations and tickets at the Armed Forces Day Concert	750.15
Donations at Adlington Carnival	55.80
Donations and tickets at the Concert of Remembrance	490.00
Donations at Remembrance Sunday display	20.45
Donations at The Rail Weigh	374.18
Donations at St Paul's Church	100.00
Donations online via JustGiving	1, 235.00
Donations given directly to the Town Mayor	352.00
War Memorial Tower booklet sales	428.00
Total Mayoral Charity amount raised	£5,240.21

Summary:

It has been an absolute honour to have served Adlington as Town Mayor during 2025-26. There was a personal sense of pride in having taken on the same role as my Great-Grandad Arthur Harper. He served as Mayor of Adlington during 1963-64 when Adlington Town Council was then Adlington Urban District Council.

It has been an incredibly interesting and enlightening year given the range of duties I have carried out and the variety of discussions I have been involved in, within Adlington Town Council, Chorley Council and out and about in the community.

Inevitably, there has also been some issues and challenges throughout the year. It was disappointing to witness to the mass laying down of graves stones in Adlington Cemetery. The reasons why were understandable, but it was still sad to see happen. There was also a considerable period of uncertainty regarding the future of Grove House. It caused a lot of unnecessary distress for residents and the wider community, but happily, we were informed that the Care Home would not be closed down.

Possibly the worst news received for residents during my Mayoral year was to hear that the original decision to reject the Anaerobic Digester Plant off Wigan Lane was overturned at appeal. At the time of writing this report, the applicant still had a number of processes to go through before any development can take place, but it does sound like it could create issues for residents in the future and it should continue to be monitored by the Town Council.

Disappointing news within Adlington Town Council was the resignation of our Clerk Christine Bailey. Covering periods when Christine was on leave certainly gave me a better understanding of the range of tasks and queries faced by the Clerk and gave just a glimpse of the range of administrative tasks involved. Christine was well within her rights to have left after serving her period of notice back in October 2025. However, I must put on record my personal thanks and appreciation from fellow Councillors, that Christine agreed to stay until the end of the 2025/26 Mayoral Year, in order to leave the Town Council in a tidy fashion with regards to our end of year administration and to handover duties to a new Clerk.

Further sad news came right towards the end of the year with the resignation of Cllr Amanda Cross. Amanda joined the Council in January 2022 and was very active around the community in checking on and reporting environmental issues. She will be missed on the Council and I am grateful for her support during my Mayoral year.

Two highlights from the list of Mayoral events included setting off the parade for Adlington Carnival and leading the proceedings for the 80th Anniversary of VJ Day. Both events were well attended by residents and it was good to see the community come together for two very different reasons.

The above were just two of the positive events for Adlington. Although we weren't involved the day itself, I feel it noteworthy to record that during this year, Adlington received a visit from HRH The Princess Royal on 9th September 2025, having been invited to tour the factory of local textile business Pincroft.

Another positive was hearing that Adlington had received very positive reports and feedback after being judged in the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition. It was a great reflection of the commitment and hard work of many local volunteers and especially the Adlington in Bloom group. Adlington featured within a number of results, in particular, Adlington Primary School, the Leonard Fairclough Memorial Garden and also some local businesses.

I was very pleased with the success of the Mayoral charity. I hope the money can be put to good use by St Paul's and provide them with a good foundation on which to continue to raise the necessary funds to restore the War Memorial Tower and Bells. Although it was hard work and a continual effort to raise awareness of the appeal, a highlight of the year was the fundraiser Concert of Remembrance. It was a good evening of great music from Rivington & Adlington Band and in great company of local supporters of the cause. – photo below.



I would like to also put on record my thanks to Deputy Mayor Cllr Rothwell for her expertise, time and effort in pulling together the necessary protocols for the process of appointing a new Clerk. Also, I recognise and appreciate the time and effort she has put into developing a new website for Adlington Town Council, which will become a valued resource for Adlington.

IT has never been one of my strong points, but I did want to make a concerted effort to increase the Town Council's presence on social media and especially Facebook. Facebook can be a great tool to connect people and raise awareness of local news and useful information. During the course of my mayoral year I have been able to increase the visibility of the Town Council's Facebook page and also raise awareness of what both the Town Mayor and Town Council does in and around the community. I believe this has helped people feel more connected and aware of useful and interesting information.

The last 12 months has been incredibly challenging and at times, stressful. Given the seemingly growing range of responsibilities, expectations and demands on time, it is a difficult role to carry out whilst balancing the responsibilities of family life, work life and other personal commitments. Never-the-less, it has been an honour.

I must express a special thank you to my family who have been incredibly supportive and patient with me this year, particularly my partner Liz, Mum Christine and Godmother Carol.

Thank you to everyone around Adlington. I hope I have served well as Town Mayor of Adlington and I wish the incoming Town Mayor all the best.

Stuart A. Clewlow
Town Mayor 2025 – 2026
Adlington Town Council

Adlington Town Council Clerk's Report

Cllr Kim Snape stood down as the Town Mayor at the Town Council's Annual meeting on 12 May 2025. Cllr Stuart Clewlow, as the Deputy Mayor, was elected the new Town Mayor. On the basis of length of service, Cllr Alison Rothwell was nominated and she accepted the role of Deputy Mayor at that meeting.

The Town Council hosted its traditional annual programme of civic events and community initiatives. Cllr Clewlow as the Adlington Town Mayor represented the Town Council throughout the year at a variety of civic functions, at Remembrance and at many other community occasions. He accepted a full programme of invitations from neighbouring councils to attend their civic and charity fund-raising events.

Cllr Cross resigned on Monday 30 March 2026 from the Town Council. In compliance with legislation, the Town Council advertised the vacancy for the West Ward under Section 87(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 to determine whether at least 10 electors in Adlington required it to be filled by the holding of an election. As no such request was made to Chorley Council by 1 May 2026, Chorley Council has confirmed that the Town Council can advertise the vacancy to be filled by co-option as soon as possible as agreed at the 20 April meeting.

Meetings

The Town Council met every month, normally in Adlington Library. The Town Council holds an Open Forum for up to 30-minutes at the start of each monthly meeting for residents to have the opportunity to speak directly to the Town Council on issues of local concern, or to contact the Clerk directly with any Village issue to be followed up. Matters raised at a Forum included:

- The potential impact of a planning application for forty homes in an adjacent Parish which if granted would create added demand on public services in the Adlington District
- The recent cutting down of two mature trees in KGV Playing Fields, which apparently was due to disease, which Chorley Council said it would replace, and an
- Objection to the Open Reach policy to improve internet access in the Village by installing telegraph poles and overhead wires rather than by burying the cabling underground.

Village Matters

The annual Village litter pick and local environmental clean-up day arranged jointly with Adlington District in Bloom, took place on 7 June 2025. The Town Council was grateful to both Chorley Council and Jigsaw Housing Association who paid for a large skip to collect items of household refuse, and to Chorley Council's Street Scene's team for their invaluable assistance on the day to help vulnerable residents and to co-ordinate the overall collection of items across the Village.

The public response was again very positive. Some items brought to the skips were, with the owners' consent, recycled via St Catherine's Hospice Adlington Charity

Shop. Bicycles and mobility aids were passed to the “Chorley & District Support for Ukraine” group to avoid landfill and to put them back into good use.

Cllr Lowe had again submitted an annual entry for both Higher and Lower Adlington into the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition 2025. The litter pick was timed to coincide with the first round of the Competition’s judging of the Village and its features of note. The judges’ general feedback about Adlington was positive and the following outcomes were achieved:

- The Rail Weigh as Joint winner of the ‘Shops’ category
- Deighan’s Funeral Parlour as ‘Runner Up’ in the Industrial & Commercial premises category, and
- Adlington Primary School was again ‘Highly Commended’ in the Schools and Nurseries category as it had been in the previous year.

The Town Mayor presented the Competition Certificates at the Carol Concert on 15 December 2025.

During the year, Cllrs Cross, Robinson, O’Donnell completed the circuit of the Adlington Circular Walk to informally monitor the condition of its boundaries and signage for health and safety reasons and to accessibility along its whole length for the public. The Town Council reported dangerous or fallen trees on or close to the Walk and other minor repairs, access and signage concerns directly to Lancashire County Council’s Public Rights of Way (PROW) team or to Chorley Council’s Street Scene team to be addressed.

The Town Council has continued to support two successful, much needed services for Adlington residents:

- The Adlington satellite Youth Club began in October 2022, as a joint venture between Fairview Youth and Community Centre, Inspire Youth Zone, and the Police. These sessions continue to be popular with young people aged from 9 and up to 1. They have led to a significant reduction of anti-social behaviour in the area around the Centre. The local councils and community groups in the Adlington District have helped to continue this essential facility for young people to keep it open throughout the year by volunteering to assist at sessions, by fund-raising, or by being active within the Adlington Youth Group Steering Committee. This was set up to oversee and support the Club’s continuation as a much valued local initiative. The Town Council is grateful for the advice and practical support that Chorley Council’s Community Engagement team has provided to get the Committee up and running and to Town Councillor Kevin O’Donnell who has recently offered to be Chair of the Steering Committee, and
- The weekly Adlington Community Food Club which continues to operate independently through its volunteers on a not for profit basis. The Food Club aims to reduce food that is fit for human consumption from going to land fill. The Club accepts donated foods, household goods, cleaning products and toiletries and has a non-means tested membership. The Club has been able to help residents, often in desperate financial circumstances due to the cost of

living crisis, and where required, some residents have been referred for advice to other specialist voluntary organisations and/ or to Chorley Council's Household Support Fund. The Club has just relocated from St Paul's Church into the Adlington Community Centre where it will have more space available to it, but as needed, for certain activities, it will continue to use the Church.

The Town Council continues to do its best to respond directly to problems reported to it by residents either by replying directly and /or by referring matters on to either Chorley or Lancashire County Councils, or other relevant agencies for their assistance to address the identified concerns.

The Town Council maintains three **Automated External Defibrillators** which are in place around the Village.

Planning

Chorley Council is the Local Planning Authority and it decides whether planning permission should be granted or not. Chorley Council carries out a formal consultation procedure for each planning application. This includes notification to neighbours and stakeholder organisations, which includes the Town Council. As a local council, the Town Council is invited to submit comments in the interest of its area. The Town Council monitors all planning applications in Adlington Village; it welcomes representations from all interested parties and the Town Council comments as a consultee. This, together with the views of residents, gives the Local Planning Authority an indication of local opinion. In some cases, the comments expressed may help the Local Planning Authority to suggest changes or conditions for the benefit of the community and/or to protect the environment when deciding each planning application.

Kevin Foster, Chorley Council's Head of Planning and Enforcement attended the Open Forum at the Town Council's 19 January 2026 meeting to speak about two different aspects of planning legislation which are both currently impacting on Chorley borough: the recent introduction of 'Grey Belt' into the National Planning Policy Framework and Permission in Principle applications for small sites of up to 10 homes.

Civic Events

Civic Sunday was held on 29 June 2025. It was well-supported by the Civic party, local groups, and individuals. The informal social gathering afterwards in St Paul's Church Social Club was successfully used to present the Town Council's 2025 Citizen Awards.

The Town Council arranged the VJ Day 80th Anniversary Wreath Laying Service on Friday 15th August 2025 and, with adjacent Parish Councils in the Adlington District, the annual Civic Remembrance service and procession held on 9 November 2025. Both were well supported by both participants and members of the public who gathered to watch the wreaths being laid at the Adlington and District War Memorial as Railway Road was closed to through traffic for the duration of this important event in the local calendar.

The 2025 Carol Concert led by Rivington & Adlington Brass Band once again, and in keeping with tradition, filled Adlington and District Community Centre with people and sound.

Representation of Adlington

The Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor were appointed to represent Adlington at the quarterly Chorley Liaison meetings and the bi-annual Eastern Parishes Neighbourhood Area meetings arranged by Chorley Council.

Adlington Town Council uses this network to continue to address local issues and problems and welcomes the involvement of all members of the local community in ensuring a positive future for the Village.

Finance

Income

Adlington Town Council received the annual precept in April 2025 from Chorley Council comprising £20,678 from the local “tax base”, enhanced by a top-up grant of £1,816, totalling £22,494. The Town Council also received additional funds in the 2025/26 financial year totalling £32, 852.39 as:

- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), which was received in two payments totalling £28,619.65 from Chorley Council to be used to pay for investment on new infrastructure to support the development of Adlington. The Town Council has up to five years to decide how to allocate these funds to the betterment of the Village.
- The VAT reclaimed back from HMRC on expenditure incurred made by the Town Council in the previous financial year totalling £1,331.19
- £300 as sponsorship of three pairs of floral hanging baskets displayed on three lamp posts in the Village. This was the second year that the Council has invited local sponsorship which received in 2025 from two community organisations. Also one resident made a donation of £100 which was received and was accounted for in the 2024/25 year-end accounts although it was intended to sponsor a pair of floral baskets in the summer of 2025
- £500 was requested and received as a Champion Grant from Lancashire County Council towards the costs of replacing the Community Noticeboard on Railway Road.
- £400 was secured from the Lancashire County Council’s Young Person’s Grant to support the Adlington Youth Group
- A £580 donation from a local business was again received to pay for the traffic management cost associated with the closure of Railway Road to through traffic on Remembrance Sunday and a local business donated the Public address system and its staff time on the day, and
- Pro-rata contributions from adjacent Parish Councils in the Adlington District towards the other costs of Remembrance, which include Rivington and Adlington Band, venue hire and light refreshments totalling £176.00

Expenditure

The Town Council managed its expenditure as efficiently as possible to operate within the income received and to carry forwards a small surplus to add to its own

reserves as a contingency if needed in the future in addition to the CIL funds of £28,619.65. During the year, the Town Council paid for:

- Its full civic calendar, community initiatives and administration
- 80 floral hanging baskets on 40 lamp posts in the Village. This contract is supplied, maintained and taken down annually by Chorley Council
- Three editions of the Town Council's Update Newsletter. The Town Council believes the Newsletter is a valuable means of letting people know, 'what's-on', particularly for those who do not have access to social media. The Town Council is grateful to Anderton St Joseph's Scout Group which now distributes the printed copy of each edition to just over 3,000 households in the Village
- The Community Grant Programme. This was advertised. This year, a total of £1,420 was awarded as two grants to support youth activities at the Adlington Youth Group (£420) and for the Adlington St Paul's Second Rainbows and Third Brownies (£1,000)
- Plants for its own planters located at Market Place, under the Notice board on Park Road and at the War Memorial, which the Town Council like many other local businesses and organisations, sponsor to support the Adlington in Bloom volunteers who splash colour wherever they can, and,

Due to bereavement in the family business which, for the last five years, has supplied the small lit trees in Adlington, the Town Council was left with too little notice to source another supplier and to advertise to gain sufficient interest from local businesses and community organisations. Although the impact of the small lit trees was missed during the festive season, the Town Council was grateful that some premises were lit in other ways to brighten up the dark winter evenings. The Town Council is already following up contacts to select an alternative supplier to light Adlington next winter.

A full breakdown of the 2025/26 income and expenditure is in the Appendix 1.

Information about the Town Council's Activities and local public information

The Council has a Website, Facebook and is on X (which used to be Twitter). It uses all three to give out information and it updates its four Noticeboards across the Village twice monthly.

During the year, to ensure data protection and accessibility compliance, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Rothwell, has advised the Town Council in the setting up of a new Council website www.adlingtontowncouncil.gov.uk and the Town Council has transferred its generic email facility to a gov.uk account. The new website will be formally launched at the Town Council's 11 May 2026 Annual meeting and it will introduce the Town Councillors, the meeting schedule, display meeting agendas or the approved minutes, and will bring together more local information and activities.

The Council's Facebook page is updated every week with local news and public information and achieves between 2000 and 3000 views <https://www.facebook.com/AdlingtonTC>

Cllr Clewlow was keen to increase the use of the Council's Facebook page over the course of the year and has increased the visibility and profile of the council by regular reports of local news, useful information and local history posts.

The Town Council is on X where Council meetings are also advertised at @adlingtontc

How to Contact Adlington Town Council

Please contact Adlington Town Council through the Town Clerk: Ms Christine Bailey

Email: clerk@adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk

Mobile: 07896 729646

Address: 12, Berry Square, Blackrod, BL6 5DU

Website address: www.adlingtontowncouncil.co.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AdlingtonTC>

X: @adlingtontc.

Members of Adlington Town Council from May 2025 to May 2026

Councillor	Phone	Ward
Kevin O'Donnell	01257 482107	Central
June Molyneaux	01257 481184	Central
Stuart Clewlow (Town Mayor)	07866 925602	Central
Alison Rothwell (Deputy Mayor)	07549 532689	North
Jeanette Lowe	01257 481415	North
Lynne Rennison	01257 485080	North
Alan Robinson	01257 752112	West
Kim Snape	07868 327395	West
Amanda Cross until 30 March 2026.	Vacancy is being advertised	West
Beverley Speers	01257 481321	East

Peter Walkden	07777 606726	East
Denise Jones	07789 473186	East

Appendix 1 - Financial Summary 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026

Expenditure	
Gross Clerk's Salary	6,688.03
Clerk's mileage costs	117.45
Information, Communication, Technology, Administrative & Telephone Costs	1,473.88
Insurance	573.58
Audit	516.00
Subscriptions (annual data protection licence & re-joining Lancashire Association of Local Councils - LALC)	504.61
Town Mayor's Allowance	850.00
Civic Sunday (venue hire and refreshments)	280.00
Election Expenses	0.00
Town Mayor's Inauguration	35.15
District Remembrance Sunday (traffic management, Band, venue hire & refreshments)	1,142.72
Carol Concert (venue hire, Band & refreshments)	377.46
3 RBL Wreaths (for VE & VJ 80ieth Anniversaries & Armistice Day)	60.00
Streetscene Enhancement (80 hanging baskets/planters/community initiatives)	6334.45
Street Scene Enhancement (street furniture – notice board repairs)	175.00
Community Asset and Service Support: cleaning of solar panel to SpID, Railway Road	40.00
Newsletter – Print (3 issues – summer, autumn/winter and spring)	1,460.40
Newsletter Distribution – delivery (to all homes in Adlington of each edition)	750.00
Community Awards Scheme – (two community grants awarded)	1,420.00
Automated External Defibrillators - consumables	804.00
Town Council meeting room hire charges	327.50
Other Projects& Contingency: pin repair to and cleaning of the Mayoral Chain	90.00
CIL Expenditure (CIL monies awarded and retained)	0.00
LCC Young Person's Champion Grant – secured & allocated to Adlington Youth Group	400.00
UTB Fees & Charges	73.00
TOTAL	24,493.23
<i>The above figures includes VAT which will be reclaimed as income in the 2026/27 year of £1,533.77</i>	
Income	
Precept (received from Chorley Council with top-up grant of £1,816)	22,494.00
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	28,619.65
Lancashire County Council Young Person's Champion Grant for AYG	400.00
Lancashire County Council Parish Champion's Grant for a new notice board	500.00
Bank Interest accrued	855.38

Credit Union Dividend: accrued net of annual fee	90.17
Floral basket contributions from community organisations and individuals:	300.00
External donation (£580) and Parish Council (£176.00) contributions towards Remembrance Sunday	756.00
VAT (2024/2025) reclaimed from HMRC	1,331.19
TOTAL	55346.39
Carry forward income (including CIL monies)	30,853.16
Based on ATC's financial records subjected to Independent Audit and for External Audit	

Christine Bailey,
Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer,
5 May 2026