

Adlington Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 16 March 2026

Held in Adlington Community Centre, Railway Road, Adlington commencing at 7.15pm

Present: Town Councillors: Cllrs S Clewlow (Town Mayor), A Rothwell (Deputy Mayor), A Robinson, A Cross, D Jones, J Lowe, J Molyneaux, K O'Donnell, K Snape, L Rennison, P Walkden and C Bailey (Clerk) and joining online by Zoom link: Cllr B Speers.

1. **Open Forum:** no items were raised.

2. **Apologies for absence:** none

3. **Declaration of Interests:** were made by the Clerk for item 6.1; Cllr Molyneaux for items 7.1 and 7.2 and Cllr Robinson for item 8.3

4. **Minutes of the meeting:** of Monday 16 February 2026 were proposed, seconded and signed by the Town Mayor.

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

5.1 The Railway Road solar panel SpID has been cleaned. No re-alignment was needed. The advice is it should be cleaned twice a year to ensure its effectiveness. This was agreed.

5.2. St Joseph Anderton Scout Group has almost completed delivery of the Spring Update newsletter. Cllr Speers said she was disappointed with the print contrast on this occasion from the different printer. The Newsletter colours more muted in comparison to previous editions. The header was less visible. It was agreed that a price quote comparison should continue to be requested from the two local print companies to ensure best value for money prior to the printing of each edition. If the price difference is minimal, a negotiation should take place. A printed sample may need to be provided to ensure the colour contrast reflects that required.

5.3. LCC has confirmed their approval of the Young Persons' Champion Grant for £400 to pay for a mental health resilience course to be piloted at the Adlington Youth Group. The Town Council should receive the grant payment in March.

6. **Items for Discussion:**

6.1 *The Clerk left the room for this item.* The Town Clerk vacancy is being advertised for applications by 12 noon on 3 April. It was agreed that everyone would be kept informed of the response and of preparations for assessment and interview arrangements.

6.2 Cllrs Lowe and Molyneaux are not yet able to access their generic gov.uk email addresses but will pursue this. The Website, Communication and Social Media Working Group meeting will be held online by Zoom on Wednesday 1 April and is open to all Town Councillors. The Town Council documentation will be added to the new site as soon as possible.

6.3 The Town Council approved the update of the Town Council's Freedom of Information (FoIA) Act 2,000 policy and model publication scheme, the privacy notice and privacy policy for display on the Town Council's website. As previously agreed, all Council policies will be reviewed annually at the Annual Town Council meeting in May.

6.4. Reverend Whiffen's reply on the future of the Adlington United Reformed and Methodist Church premises was considered. It was agreed that the Town Council will explore the potential opportunity of a community asset building transfer for joint community use. Chorley Council's Chief Officer will be contacted for advice and information on the procedure.

6.5. The Town Council agreed to sign the LCC Tenancy at Will to include the location of both Notice Boards on Railway Road to enable Chorley Council to progress their offer to replace the community notice board which will be gifted to the Town Council once in place.

6.6. Chorley Council has not replied to the request for its support of the proposed 6 June Adlington household waste skip event. Jigsaw will pay for a second skip if invoiced before 31 March 2026. Cllr Molyneaux will follow this up as Chorley Council normally pays for the main skip and the printing of the publicity flyers and back-up support from the Street Scene team on the day

6.7. The Town Council will host the Civic Sunday Service on 28 June 2026 subject to

agreement with St Paul's Church. St Paul's Church Club is confirmed as available.

6.8. Nominations were invited for consideration at the April meeting for the Deputy Mayor in the 2026/27 civic year. The Deputy Mayor supports the Town Mayor. The year as Deputy Mayor forms the preparation for taking on the responsibility of Town Mayor in the following year. In effect it is a two year commitment.

6.9. It was noted that the Adlington Youth Group (AYG) Steering Group will comprise entirely of local volunteers as Chorley Council's Community Engagement Officer is to step back now the Group is established. Cllr Speers also said that she has resigned from the Group for health reasons. Cllr Kevin O'Donnell will Chair the Group. A local volunteer recruitment event on 11 April in Adlington Library will seek additional volunteers ideally to include a Treasurer and Secretary. Cllr Rennison offered her support during the healthy eating/cookery skills course. The funding of the weekly AYG session is secure for the 2026/27 year.

6.10. Under Town Mayor's Urgent business it was agreed to approve these two payments to add to item 8.3 as the:

- £400 LCC Young Persons' Champion Grant £400 will be passed on to Chorley Youth Zone on receipt to be held for the AYG, and the
- LCC invoice for the hire of Adlington Library for Town Council meetings in 2025 year

7. Planning

7.1. The Town Council said it is extremely concerning that the Planning Inspectorate Appeal Hearing Ref no: **APP/Q2371/W/25/3375424** has granted consent to the Anaerobic Digester Unit with associated infrastructure on land adjacent to Wigan Lane, Heath Charnock, Adlington, PR7 4JT. The applicant has still to navigate additional matters which include securing the Environment Agency operating licence and compliance with the planning conditions which includes the requirement to secure the gas pipeline connection during construction phase before the facility becomes operational.

7.2. Applications were noted and agreed for neighbour comment:

26/00115/FULHH: Single storey rear extension at 40, Belmont Road, Adlington, PR6 9PU

26/00205/NOT: Notice of intention to install 1no.10m wooden pole for the provision of electronic broadband communication apparatus opposite 66, Railway Road, Adlington, PR6 9RB

26/00209/FULHH: single storey side extension (following demolition of existing garage) at 6 Mount Pleasant, PR6 9RR

8. Finance

8.1. The 31 February 2026 account and budget reports were approved.

8.2. The transfer of £3,000 to the current account was agreed.

8.3. The payments below were approved to be paid from the online UTB current account:

Clerk:	Net administration and financial management at 8 hours per week for March 2026	£445.84
HMRC	PAYE deducted from the gross payment to the Clerk	£111.60
Clerk:	Reimburse 18 miles @ 0.45ppm February 2026	£8.10
EE Ltd:	ATC mobile monthly invoice, 16 March 2026	£14.39
Barclaycard 23.02.26 Statement	Direct debit on 20.3.26: GoDaddy monthly payment for Clerk .co.uk email (£17.99) and Bitly.Com computer software (£92.23)	£110.22
Reimburse Cllr Robinson	For payment of OW Windows & Exterior Cleaning to check alignment and clean SpID on Railway Road	£40.00
Adlington & District Community Association	Hire on Monday 16 February 2026 of the meeting room for a venue for the Town Council's meeting given the repair work inside the Adlington Library	£27.50
Adlington St Paul's Second Rainbows & Third Brownies	Community Award grant at 24% contribution towards purchase of pop-up tents, subscription & activity costs	£1,000.00

Adlington Youth Group, at FY&CC	Inspire satellite youth Club – 84% of costs for ingredients & education materials for cookery and healthy eating course for attendees	£420.00
Foxprint	Print 3,200 copies A4 folded to A5, full colour Spring 2026 Update newsletter	£346.00
St Joseph's Anderton Scout Group	Delivery of the Town Council's spring 2026 Newsletter (payment on completion)	£250.00

9. Item for information

9.1 Chorley Liaison meeting, Wednesday 18 March 2026 from 6.30pm, Chorley Town Hall

9.2 Chorley Council has cancelled the spring round of the proposed Neighbourhood Priority area meetings

9.3 One local business is to sponsor a pair of hanging floral baskets on one lamp post in the 2026/27 year.

The meeting closed at 20.45pm.