

Adlington Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 21 July 2025

in Adlington Library, Railway Road, Adlington commencing at 7.15pm

Present: Town Councillors: Cllrs S Clewlow (Town Mayor), A Cross, D Jones, J Lowe, K O'Donnell, L Rennison, P Walkden and C Bailey (Clerk)

Members of the public: none

1. Open Forum: No issues were raised.

2. Apologies for absence: Cllrs A Rothwell (Deputy Mayor), A Robinson, B Speers, J Molyneaux, K Snape.

3. Declaration of Interest: was received from the Town Mayor for item 8.3

4. Minutes of the meeting: of Monday 23 June 2025 were proposed, seconded and signed by the Town Mayor

5. Matters arising:

5.1 There is a Park Road no-through road sign in place on the A6 at Market Place. LCC Highways will be asked to install a similar sign to warn drivers approaching from across the Bolton boundary and/or along Market Street.

5.2 The refusal of consent for planning application 25/00424/FUL was noted. It is not known how this might impact on the proposed relocation of the Adlington post office.

5.3 Chorley Council's response on the use of Adlington car park was noted.

5.4 Anderton St Joseph's Scout Group has delivered the Town Council's summer update 25 newsletter. More spares than usual are available. These will be left in other local venues, including the Library.

6. Items for Discussion:

6.1 It was agreed that the Civic Service and informal gathering had gone well, with the impromptu viewing of the bell tower adding authenticity as the Town Mayor's charity. One Uniformed Youth Group (UYG) leader has commented that getting the UYG members to parade into Church was difficult without the Band and a lead marshal. In future, and if Cllr Clewlow is not available, the UYGs should select a leader to marshal the juniors.

6.2 The Adlington District 80 VJ day Anniversary commemorative service will be on Friday 15 August at 10.45 am at Adlington War Memorial where wreaths will be laid, with light refreshments afterwards at St Paul's Church Social Club. The PA system will be positioned at the back edge of the footpath to improve audibility for the public. The Town Mayor will then attend the service at St Laurence's Church Chorley at 12 noon.

6.3. The three traffic management companies previously used had been asked for a cost quote. Only one has replied. SJP will hold its price as charged for the last two years, to include supply of in-advance signage, two staff, two vehicles and signage on the day for the Railway Road closure. This was accepted. It was agreed a donation towards this cost would be requested. A date for an event planning group meeting will be arranged in mid-September.

6.4 Cllrs Lowe and O'Donnell reported that the AYG sessions continue to be well attended, with 35 at the last session. If this level of attendance continues, a better staff/attendee ratio would help to manage each session and offer more support, which might include encouraging attendees to have an input into fund-raising activities. A £2k grant from the LCC Warm Spaces has been secured which will

meet the weekly food costs. With last year's Town Mayor's support, the weekly session can continue during the financial year.

6.5 The 16 July Chorley Liaison meeting response to two concerns raised by the Town Council were noted as:

- On 15 July, Chorley Council adopted a borough-wide Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Action Plan which has mapped existing HMO's to enable the Council to be more proactive in dealing with, monitoring and addressing their impact to protect residential amenity, to maintain health and safety and to manage demand. This may evidence the need for an Article 4 direction from the Secretary of State which would be subject to public consultation.
- Chorley Council's town centre pilot scheme for electric vehicle (EV) charge points will inform the roll out of future provision. Due to cost and limited resources, this will be a long term initiative. Chorley is working with Lancashire County Council, which has £10 million EV infrastructure fund for sites in public ownership, once assessment of supply, demand and feasibility is made.

6.6 Cllr Snape has advised that the Borough Councillors will clarify the Neighbourhood Priority funding towards a replacement community notice board and for the proposed dog fouling public awareness campaign. It was agreed to resubmit the LCC Champions Grant application for a contribution of up to £500 towards replacing the Community notice board, noting that the project cannot be started until LCC has made a decision.

6.7.1 Cllr Cross explained the main concerns of her previously circulated report on the negative environmental and wildlife impacts from glyphosate based weed killers and the alternative, cost effective, eco-friendly options available, now used by up to 100 other councils. The Report was accepted as clear, concise and informative. It was agreed to submit it to Chorley Council's Street Scene team manager to ask for it to be considered and adopted. The Clerk will agree a cover letter with Cllr Cross and the Town Mayor.

6.7.2 A related concern was raised by Cllr Cross of the overshadowing of three of the Railway Road hanging baskets and the limited plant mix, mainly petunias, which offer no benefit to pollinators in comparison with the more diverse hanging floral baskets in Chorley Town Centre and at Clayton Brook. The resident who had sponsored two lamp post baskets has also expressed her disappointment. Cllr Lowe agreed to look at the three baskets on Railway Road whose growth/floral display is being restricted by adjacent trees and shrubs. Cllr O'Donnell will clarify the supplier used in Clayton Brook before these concerns are put to Chorley Council.

6.8 The Town Council wants to continue its civic programme and its community and environmental activities and to manage its annual expenditure as effectively as possible to minimise the increase in the annual council tax precept request. It was agreed that the Carol Concert event on 15 December 2025 would offer:

- Attendees a mince pie and either mulled wine or cordial drink, and
- Request that the bar be open if enough volunteers are available to run it.

This was unanimously agreed as offering an appropriate seasonal gesture.

6.9 The poor condition of the fencing, which is leaning over on the A6 bordering

the industrial estate next to the railway line was discussed again. The Clerk was asked to follow up a possible ownership contact and report back.

6.10 Under Town Mayor's urgent business, it was reported that:

6.10.1 A resident has asked the Town Council to reconsider its online planning response to application 25/00477/CLPUD: for a certificate of lawfulness for the use of the property (Use Class C3) as a young person's home (Use Class C2) for a maximum of three young persons, with carers as required, but no more than two carers resident overnight, working on a rota basis at 3 Lewis Close, PR7 4JU. This was discussed at the previous meeting based on the information then available, that the proposal is

- Intended to provide care support for looked after children and young people in a family setting and
- Is very different from and is not, a HMO.

Other similar proposals have been considered across Adlington with no known adverse reaction from the local community. This application has now been refused by Chorley Council. If an application is submitted again, the Town Council will also take into consideration the concerns from the local community in making its comments.

6.10.2 The Town Mayor said that having a stall for one day at Adlington Carnival to raise awareness of the role of the Town Council and to answer questions from residents to promote the Mayoral Charity had worked well due to public interest, coverage received by local radio and being adjacent to stalls by FoAL, Adlington Community Food Club and Inspire who promoted the Adlington Youth Group.

7. **Planning:** there were no planning applications to consider

8. Finance

8.1 The 30 June 2025 account and budget reports were approved.

8.2 The transfer of £1k from the Instant Access account was approved.

8.3 These payments were approved to be paid from the online UTB current account:

Clerk:	July 2025 net administration and financial management at 8 hours per week	£433.29
HMRC	PAYE deducted from the gross payment to the Clerk	£108.20
Clerk:	Reimburse 42 miles @ 0.45ppm June 2025	£18.90
EE Ltd:	ATC mobile monthly invoice available 16 July 2025	£14.39
Reimburse Cllr Rothwell	Go Daddy June 25 monthly web host fee at £16.79	£16.79
Anderton St Joseph's Scout Group	Completion of delivery of the Update newsletter	£250.00
APL Accountants Ltd	Independent Audit, Town Council 2024/25 year-end	£264.00
Reimburse petty cash	Purchase small shield & engraving both Jr Citizen Award shields & chocolates for St Paul's Club volunteers	£27.00
Reimburse Adlington Town Mayor	Cleaning of the mayoral chain as previously agreed	£50.00
LCC street lighting team	LCC floral basket lamp-post licence fee from 2025 - 2028 as invoiced.	£92.40

The meeting closed at 20.52pm.