

Adlington Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 8 December 2025

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

Present: Town Councillors: Cllrs S Clewlow (Town Mayor), A Rothwell (Deputy Mayor), A Robinson, A Cross, J Lowe, J Molyneaux, K O'Donnell, K Snape, L Rennison, P Walkden and C Bailey (Clerk).

1. **Open Forum:** None.

2. **Apologies for absence** were received from: Cllrs B Speers and D Jones. The Town Council acknowledged Cllr Speers' absence for three monthly meetings. In line with the Local Government Act 1972 Sections 85 (1 & 2) gave Cllr Speers a dispensation on health grounds until fully recovered.

3. **Declaration of Interest:** was made by: the Clerk for item 6.5; Cllr Molyneaux for items 7.1 and 7.2; and Cllr Lowe for item 8.5

4. **Minutes of the meeting:** of Monday 17 November 2025 and the budget for the 2026/27 year were proposed, seconded and signed by the Town Mayor. This confirmed the 2026/27 precept request as £23, 060, a 2.5% increase.

5. **Matters arising:** The Town Council noted:

5.1 The relocation of the Adlington Post Office to 51 Park Road, PR7 4HZ to take effect from 1pm on Friday 23 January 2026.

5.2 Cllr Lowe was thanked for working with Chorley Council to erect the 'Welcome to Adlington' sign on A673 entry into the Village. The Town Council will try to secure an upgrade to its other Village entry signage.

5.3 Cllr Molyneaux reported that Chorley Council will shortly replace the Adlington Community notice board on Railway Road.

6. **Items for Discussion:**

6.1 The arrangements for the Town Council's Carol Concert on Monday 15 December 2025 to include the presentation of the Lancashire Best Kept Village Awards were finalised. Fr Buttery will attend to give the Blessing. Set up will be from 6.30pm.

6.2 Discussion of the Remembrance Day poppies will be deferred to the next meeting.

6.3 Unfortunately due to bereavement, the family-run small lit tree business previously used did not offer this service in 2025. Given the proximity to Christmas and the need to secure orders from individual businesses and community organisations in Adlington, it was too late to seek an alternative option. The Town Council will follow this up to have another arrangement in place.

Cllr Robinson offered to discuss options with the lighting consultant for Adlington War Memorial.

6.4 Since the last meeting there has been some disruption to the Town Clerk's access to the co.uk email facility. This has now been restored with no contacts or information lost. The Town Clerk will use the .gov.uk email facility with both email accounts being monitored and replied to. Cllr Rothwell used her paper to summarise what needs to be done prior to launching the Town Council's gov.uk website live from 5 January 2026. Cllr Rothwell asked for volunteers to help her to get everything ready.

6.5 The Clerk left the room for this item. The appointed Sub Committee is continuing to progress their requirements of a Town Clerk and to advertise the vacancy and will report back to the Town Council to finalise these proposals.

6.6 Cllr Kim Snape updated on the LCC Social Services public consultation to review the future of 16 Care Homes and 5 Day Care centres across Lancashire, which includes Grove House Residential Care Home. There is substantial local concern and opposition to this proposal. Following the public consultation, LCC expects to make a decision on 5 February 2026. The Town Council thanked both Cllrs Snape and Molyneaux for their leadership on this matter.

6.7 Cllr O'Donnell reported that Chorley Council's Community Engagement team is proposing to constitute the Adlington Youth Group (AYG) Steering Committee as an independent

organisation with its own Officer positions. Chorley Council staff would then step back to leave the AYG Steering Committee to continue to fund raise and to have oversight of Inspire's support for this satellite youth club. It was also noted that LCC has withdrawn its detached youth service provision from Adlington due to the success of the AYG given weekly attendance of 40 plus, mainly aged between 13-16 years. The Town Council will again contact a local business known to be supportive of Inspire to try to direct some revenue support towards the continuation of the AYG to be locally beneficial.

6.8 The Town Council agreed the two draft grant applications to be submitted to LCC as follows for:

- £450 or 50% as a Parish Champions application towards a replacement of the current AED outside the United Reformed and Methodist Church, Railway Road and
- £400 to the Young People's Champion to pay for a proposed new 6 week AYG course which Inspire will deliver to develop resilience in the young people, with reference to be made to the withdrawal of the LCC detached youth service support from Adlington.

6.9 Under Town Mayor's Urgent Business, it was agreed that Cllr Robinson will light the Adlington War Memorial in red, gold and green for 12 days either side of Christmas.

7. Planning

7.1 The Town Council commented on the notification of Appeal Ref no:

APP/Q2371/W/25/3375424 against refusal of planning consent LCC/2024/0023 for the erection of an Anaerobic Digester Unit with associated infrastructure on land adjacent to Wigan Lane, Heath Charnock, Adlington, PR7 4JT noting that the appellant is arguing green agenda benefits whilst overlooking concerns about: residential proximity, particularly in Lower Adlington; the impact on quality of life and on the local transport network; the size and scale of the proposed operation; the site being in the green belt, not grey belt; and that there is no unmet need for an Anaerobic Digester Plant in Central Lancashire. It was agreed that the Town Council would submit a further objection to the Planning Inspectorate and that all Town Councillors would be registered with LCC to attend the appeal hearing on Wednesday 11 February 2026 in Lancashire County Council offices, Preston to demonstrate local concern.

7.2 Application noted and agreed for neighbour comment:

25/ /01094/CLPUD: Application for a certificate of lawfulness for a proposed single storey rear extension at 139A, Carrington Road, PR7 4RP

8. Finance

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

8.2 The transfer of £1,500 to the current account was agreed.

8.3 APL Accountants Ltd has acted as the independent auditor for the Town Council since 2019/20. The Clerk tried unsuccessfully to obtain three cost quotes for the independent audit of the Town Council's 2024/25 year-end accounts. Only APL Accountants Ltd had submitted a quote. It was agreed to continue for the 2025/6 year end accounts at an estimated cost of £

8.4 The UTB service charge increase from £6 to £7 per month from 1 February 2026 was noted.

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

Clerk:	Net administration and financial management at 8 hours per week for December 2025	£446.04
HMRC	PAYE deducted from the gross payment to the Clerk	£111.40
Clerk:	Reimburse 21 miles @ 0.45ppm November 2025	£9.45
EE Ltd:	ATC mobile monthly invoice, 16 December 2025	£14.39
Barclaycard 23.11.25 Statement	Two items by direct debit on 18.12.25 : GoDaddy monthly payment for Clerk .co.uk email	£16.79
Rivington & Adlington Band	Invoice for Remembrance Sunday (£375) and Carol Concert (£275)	£650.00

Reimburse petty cash	Repair to ATC mobile TalkNWalk (£20), ream A4 paper (£4.45) 2 print cartridges (£56.98)	£81.43
Cllr Lowe	Reimbursement for plants and compost for Town Council planters	£24.99

9. Item for information

9.1 Chorley Council Grey Belt and Permission in Principle (PiP) Planning training session delivered by Kevin Foster, Head of Planning and Development, Monday, 8 December at 6pm – 7.30pm in The Lancastrian, Town Hall, Chorley. Cllr Molyneaux said whilst developers pressed to obtain PiP approvals prior to the new Central Lancashire Local Plan being adopted, this is not a foregone conclusion. Since the meeting, Chorley Council has made the slide presentation available to local councils (enclosed with draft minutes)

The meeting closed at 20.49pm.