

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE EXECUTIVE
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL
ON 19TH JUNE 2025**

PRESENT –

Councillor D. Whipp (in the Chair)

Councillors

*F. Ahmad
A. Bell
M. Hanif
D. Lord
A. Mahmood
L. Whipp*

Also in attendance:

*Councillor D. Cockburn-Price
Councillor S. Cockburn-Price
Councillor A. Sutcliffe*

Officers in attendance

<i>Lawrence Conway</i>	<i>Interim Chief Executive</i>
<i>Phillip Spurr</i>	<i>Director of Place</i>
<i>Karen Spencer</i>	<i>Director of Resources</i>
<i>Howard Culshaw</i>	<i>Head of Legal and Democratic Services</i>
<i>Paul Preston</i>	<i>Democratic Services Manager</i>

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D. Hartley and M. Iqbal.

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15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

Councillors S. Cockburn-Proce, M. Hanif, A. Mahmood and D. Whipp all declared personal interests in Minute 22 - Colne Market Operator Procurement - as they were all Members of the Pearl Joint Venture.

16. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

17.

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 29th May, 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

18.

TAXI LICENSING STRUCTURE AND FEES

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report which asked the Executive to consider and agree recommendations on the levels of fees charged for Taxi Licensing and on the staff structure to support the service.

Members commented on the proposed level of fees to be adopted and the proposed staffing structure to support the service. Councillors F. Ahmad, M. Hanif and A. Mahmood expressed views that merging the Council's taxi licensing and licensing teams would be a better use of staff resource to deal with increased workload.

Councillor A. Bell enquired the reasons behind some of the proposed increase and decreases in fees. Councillor David Cockburn-Price also commented on the report.

Councillor D. Whipp summarised the rationale as outlined in the report and the need for the staffing structure to meet the demands of the service.

It was moved by Cllr M. Hanif, seconded by Cllr A. Bell and:

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Executive agrees in principle to adopt the level of fees as set out in Appendix 1 of the submitted report;
- (2) That the additional staff resources to meet increased workload be noted as set out in paragraph 9 of the submitted report; and
- (3) That the proposed Licence Fees set out in Tables 1-4 and Appendix 1 of the submitted report be advertised under Sections 53 and 70 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976 for a period of 28 days to allow for any objections to be received.

REASONS

- (1) In order to update the level of fees so that the Council recovers its costs for administering taxi licensing.*
- (2) To ensure that the service is adequately resourced so that there is enough staff capacity to undertake the service that users can receive a good and effective service.*
- (3) To comply with the requirements of the Local Government (Miscellaneous) Provisions Act 1976.*

19. COLNE MARKET PUBLIC REALMS WORK AND LIFT REPLACEMENT

The Director of Place submitted a report which provided Executive with an update on progress on the redevelopment of Colne Market Hall and requested Executive recommend that Full Council approves an addition to the budget to enable the next phases of the project to progress.

Councillor D Whipp introduced the report and commented on the work undertaken to date and the Council's decision to move away from the development of residential units on the first floor of the Colne Market Hall to concentrate on business use and creative industries on the first floor.

He added that he would like to see high level good quality material used for the public realm at the front and on the proposal for the lift replacement.

Phillip Spurr, Director of Place, commented on the additional costs of £165k sought and the recent site visit undertaken to the Market Hall by Councillors. He also added before Executive now debated the matter that the proposed scheme's additional funding was for a basic paved surface and that Members may want to consider options a range of options from a basic paved surface to a higher level public realm and associated costs.

Councillor D Whipp also added that Lancashire County Council be asked not only to support the additional public realm work in Colne and also those works between phases in the townships of Brierfield, Barnoldswick and Earby.

Other Members of the Executive commented on the proposal and expressed views.

Councillor A. Sutcliffe commented on the proposals. He mentioned Colne BID, had discussed supporting the use of street trees in containers; the Bus Service Improvement Plan (in relation to public realm) and noted the public realm works were in the Pendle Rural Ward (Cllr D. Whipp being the LCC Councillor for this County ward).

It was moved by Cllr D. Whipp, seconded by Cllr A. Mahmood and:

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

That Executive recommended:

- (1) That Council be provided with a range of costed options in respect of the public realm works from the basic paved surface as outlined to the report through to a natural stone treatment and any potential intermediary options that there might be;
- (2) That Council agree to the replacement of the service lift if necessary.

RESOLVED

- (3) That regarding the public realm, the Executive agree to request Lancashire County Council to fund further public realm work in Colne to tie in with the public realm work associated with the market redevelopment and that Lancashire County Council be also asked for an extension of the programme of works public realm works in Barnoldswick, Brierfield and Earby and for a further phase of public realm works in those townships.

REASONS

- (1) To allow for the non-highway public realm at the front of Colne Market Hall to provide for events, speciality markets and seating for food and drink purchased in the Food Hall***
(2) To allow for arrangements to be made to provide for a safe and operational service lift in Colne Market Hall for the next 10 years.

20. FORWARD PLAN

The Executive's draft Work Programme and Forward Plan of key decisions for the four-month period commencing 1st July 2025 was submitted for information.

Councillor Lola Whipp responded to a question from Councillor David Cockburn-Price regarding the report on the Proposed changes to the planning system consultation that this item had now been rescheduled for consideration at the July meeting of Executive.

21. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Members agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during the following item of business in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended, in relation to exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

22. COLNE MARKET OPERATOR PROCUREMENT

The Director of Place submitted a report which provided Executive with an update as to progress on the procurement process for an external operator of Colne Market Hall and proposed new arrangements for the future operation of the Market Hall to be implemented.

Members of the Executive commented on the progress and proposed new arrangements.

It was moved by Cllr A. Mahmood, seconded by Cllr A. Bell and:

RESOLVED

That Executive grants delegated authority to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to negotiate an internal repair and maintenance lease agreement to the satisfaction of both Pendle Borough Council and the future operator (name of operator as detailed in the submitted exempt report) and to enable the operator (name of operator as detailed in the submitted exempt report) to operate the Market Hall for a period of up to 10 years

REASON

To enable the operator to independently operate the premises as a Market, Food Hall, Events venue and Business Incubation space for a period of up to 10 years.

Chair _____