MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE EXECUTIVE
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL
ON 28th MAY 2026

PRESENT –

Councillor A. Mahmood (in the Chair)

Councillors

Z. Ali
M. Ammer
M. Hanif
D. Hartley
D. Lord
L. Whipp

Also in attendance:

Councillors D. Cockburn-Price, S. Cockburn-Price and A. Sutcliffe

Officers in attendance

Dean Langton	*Chief Executive*
Phillip Spurr	*Director of Place*
Karen Spencer	*Director of Resources*
Howard Culshaw	*Head of Legal and Democratic Services*
Alex Cameron	*Principal Planning Officer*
Paul Preston	*Democratic Services Manager*

Public: 20

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LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT – URGENT ITEM – NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION (LGR) – LGR – DRAFTING OF THE STRUCTURAL CHANGES ORDER

Executive agreed to the inclusion of the above matter (see Minute 4 below), that had not been included on the published agenda, as an item of special urgency that needed consideration and determination before the next scheduled meeting of Executive in June, 2026.

Additionally, that in light of the deadline for responses for this matter being 16th June 2026, and before the next meeting of the Executive, note that the Chief Executive considered this matter was exempt from the requirements of the Call-In Procedure as set out in Paragraph 15(a), Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules – Call -in of Executive decisions of the Council’s Constitution.

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT – FORMER LEADER OF THE COUNCIL – DAVID WHIPP

Councillor A. Mahmood, Leader of the Council paid tribute to his predecessor Leader of the Council, David Whipp who had served Pendle Borough Council for 46 continuous years until he lost his seat at the recent May 2026 local elections

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Councillors D. Cockburn-Price, S. Cockburn-Price and D. Lord (as members of Colne Town Council); Councillor L. Whipp (as a member of Barnoldswick Town Council), M. Hanif (as a member of Brierfield Town Council) and Z. Ali (as a member of Nelson Town Council) all declared Other Registrable interests in Minute 5 below (Proposed Asset Transfers to Town and Parish Councils0.

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There was one question from a member of the public.

Mr Allan Nizinkiewicz raised several issues in relation to the Tender report – development of Halifax Road Cemetery site considered at the January, 2026 meeting of the Executive and the awarding of the contract to Bibas.(Minute 105 of the January Executive meeting refers). He also referred to numerous watercourses on the cemetery site and issues of the access road, drainage and associated work. He was also of the understanding that the contract for the access road, drainage and associated work had not been awarded as yet. He also requested a meeting with representatives of Pendle Borough Council, Lancashire County Councillor Azhar Ali and residents on this matter. Councillor A. Mahmood was amenable to this request.

Councillor A. Mahmood provided a brief verbal response to the matters raised by Mr Nizinkiewicz at the meeting. He asked Mr Nizinkiewicz to provide full details of the issues he had raised by e-mail following this meeting to Dean Langton, Chief Executive so full consideration could be given to them and a more detailed response provided.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 19th March, 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to the correction of the spelling “Birtwhistle” to “Birtwistle” within those minutes.

Councillor D. Cockburn-Price also commented on the wording of the resolution of Executive in March, 2026 in relation to the proposed Keighley Road Conservation Area report. It was noted that these resolutions had not been implemented as they were the subject of the Call-In being considered today.

4. ITEM OF SPECIAL URGENCY – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION (LGR) – NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION (LGR) WORKING GROUP – LGR – DRAFTING OF THE STRUCTURAL CHANGES ORDER

The Leader of the Council reported that the Local Government Reorganisation Working Group had met earlier today (28th May, 2026) and had considered a report on Local Government Reorganisation Drafting LGR) of the Structural Changes Order.

A copy of the Working Group's draft minutes with agreed recommendations for Executive's consideration was tabled at the meeting.

RESOLVED

That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council:

(a) to submit the Council's response to Government based on the recommendations outlined in the Working Group's draft minutes; and

(b) agree a joint response from Lancashire Councils on these matters again based on the recommendation referred to in (a).

5. PROPOSED ASSET TRANSFERS TO TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

The Leader of the Council submitted a report which sought the Executive's approval to progress the first defined tranche of assets (Wave 1) within the Council's Asset Transfer Programme.

Executive was informed that a structured and evidence-based review including due diligence, Land registry checks, title analysis, valuation review and operational assessment had identified a deliverable wave of 78 Green and Amber assets suitable for early progression to transfer (shown in Appendix A to the submitted report).

These assets were predominantly Community and Amenity assets held for specific public purposes and were well aligned with known town and parish Council interests.

Councillors D. Cockburn-Price and S. Cockburn-Price asked several questions on the proposals, including a question on behalf of Gib Hill Guardians why Gib Hill was not being transferred.

Dean Langton responded to Councillors, questions, comments and concerns.

RESOLVED: That Executive instructs:

(1) The progression of the 78 identified green and amber assets as Wave 1 of the Council's Asset Transfer Programme, as set out in the schedule (Appendix A to the submitted report) for transfer to Town and Parish Councils.

(2) The transfer of freehold in existing use as recorded in the current Asset Register. Upon completion of any transfer, all responsibility including maintenance, repair and insurance will pass to Town or Parish Council; and

(3) The transfers to Town and Parish Councils at Nil consideration to align with similar previous transactions of this nature with each party bearing its own costs.

6. PROPOSED KEIGHLEY ROAD CONSERVATION AREA

At the meeting of the Executive held on 19th March, 2026, the undermentioned Executive decisions were not implemented after being "called-in" by Overview and Scrutiny and were re-submitted back to the next meeting of Executive (today's meeting) for reconsideration and determination.

There were five public speakers for this item, Elizabeth Lane, David Poole, Sheila Hogg, Dawn Gawthrop and Janet Style who spoke in support of the designation of a new conservation area, named Keighley Road Conservation Area.

The Executive report on this matter dated 19th March, 2026; the minute relating thereto, and the Call-in notice which outlined the reasons which sought the review of the decision and proposed alternative course of action were included with the agenda papers.

Additionally, Executive was also informed of a resolution of the Colne Area Committee held on 1st April, 2026 in respect of this matter as follows: "That the Executive be recommended to designate a new conservation area named the Keighley Road Conservation Area, as proposed".

Councillors D Cockburn-Price and S. Cockburn-Price who were signatories to the Call-In spoke on the reasoning and rationale behind the Call-In, which was outlined in the Call-In document and outlined their suggested proposed course of action

Councillor L. Whipp put forward a proposal, seconded by Councillor D. Lord that Executive agree in principle to the formation of the Keighley Road Conservation Area, subject to no reasonable objections from the Peter Birtwistle Trust in consultation with the Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader of the Council and the Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory.

Councillor M. Hanif moved an amendment, seconded by Councillor Z. Ali, that the Officer recommendations, as detailed in the 19th March, 2026 Committee report, namely that Executive designates a new conservation area named the Keighley Road Conservation Area. This would include formally writing to all residents and the Secretary of State.

At this juncture, Cllr Lola Whipp and her seconder, Cllr D. Lord withdrew their original motion.

Executive then voted on the substantive motion of Councillor M. Hanif, seconded by Councillor Z. Ali, that the Officer recommendations, as detailed in the 19th March, 2026 Committee report, namely that Executive designates a new conservation area named the Keighley Road Conservation Area. This would include formally writing to all residents and the Secretary of State.

RESOLVED

That Executive designates a new conservation area named the Keighley Road Conservation Area. This would include formally writing to all residents and the Secretary of State.

7. VALIDATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Principal Planning Officer introduced a report on validation requirements for planning applications.

Councillors D Cockburn-Price and S. Cockburn-Price both spoke on this matter and raised a few queries.

Alex Cameron, Principal Planning Officer responded that the application forms were a nationally produced document and not something the Council could modify. In relation to Heritage statements for non-designated heritage assets that was included.

RESOLVED

(1) That the Council adopts the Validation list as set out at Appendix A to the submitted report; and

(2) That delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services to amend the list to reflect forthcoming legislative and planning policy changes.

8. CALDERDALE ENERGY PARK

The Director of Place submitted a report on the Calderdale Energy Park

Appended to the report were:
Appendix 1 – Preliminary Environmental Information report (PEIR) – For guidance only;
Appendix 2 – reproduces the zone of visual impact which showed the development would be visible from large areas across Pendle;
Appendix 3 – Area Committee comments

Councillor L. Whipp introduced the report and welcomed the proposed response especially around ecology including impact on the peat environment.

Councillor D. Cockburn-Price commented on a public consultation on the proposed Calderdale Energy Park, which he had attended with Councillor S. Cockburn-Price

RESOLVED: That Executive:

(1) Expresses concern about the development at this stage due to a lack of full detail and potential major impacts on, in particular, but not exclusively, highway impacts – including vibration impact on houses, impact on the landscape and the visual quality of the area including insufficient viewpoints being considered for important views towards the site from Pendle, tourism, biodiversity, ecology including impacts on the peat environment;

(2) That the final response be delegated to the Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council; and

(3) Does not pursue a judicial review on this basis

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9. PERFORMANCE UPDATE REPORT – 1st APRIL 2025 TO 31st MARCH 2026

The Director of Resources submitted a report on performance monitoring information for the period 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026.

Appended to the report were:

Appendix A – Performance Summary – Quarter 4, 2025/26
Appendix B – Strategic Risk Register Update – Quarter 4 – 2025/26

By the end of April 2026, 23 out of the 36 corporate priorities were green and had been completed as planned. Of the remaining 13, one was cancelled (CP25 2.01 – Confident Communities) and 12 were to be carried forward for delivery in 2026/27 and details of these were as shown in Appendix A to the submitted report.

Executive Members also commented on the following Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

- Waste Services;
- Complaints;
- Sickness Absence;
- NNDR Collection;
- Participation rates for the food caddies;

Dean Langton, Chief Executive responded to questions, comments and concerns of Executive on the Performance update report.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

10. ITEMS REFERRED FROM AREA COMMITTEES

(a) Colne Area Committee

(i) Pride in Place Impact Fund

At a meeting of the Colne Committee on 1st April 2026, it was resolved:

"This Committee reaffirms the request of Jonathan Hinder MP for the Pride in Place Impact Fund process to be paused and asks that no action be taken, and no money be spent, until:

- a request be made for the suggestions put forward to be rescored using an appropriate scoring methodology; and

- the revised proposals, as amended, be accepted by the Committee and referred to the Executive for consideration."

The Leader of the Council provided an update response received from central government who were satisfied with the Council's scoring criteria and public engagement in this matter and for the release of the second phase of funding.

Councillor D. Cockburn-Price and S. Cockburn-Price commented on the reasons and rationale behind the Colne Area Committee's recommendations.

RESOLVED

That the Colne Committee's comments be noted.

(ii) Street Naming and Numbering – New Development of Hollin Hall, Trawden

At a meeting of the Colne Committee on 1st April 2026, it was resolved:

"That the Executive be recommended to reject the developer's request to register six new-build dwellings off Hollin Hall, Trawden as 1 to 6 The Pastures and instead recommends that the numbering be continued from Hollin Hall, with the six new dwellings registered as 39 to 49 (odds) Hollin Hall".

RESOLVED

That Executive rejects the developer's request to register six new-build dwellings off Hollin Hall, Trawden as 1 to 6 The Pastures and instead recommends that the numbering be continued from Hollin Hall, with the six new dwellings registered as 39 to 49 (odds) Hollin Hall.

b) West Craven Area Committee

(i) Naming of Rear of Barnoldswick Town Square

At a meeting of the West Craven Committee on 3rd March 2026, it was resolved:

"That the Legal Services Manager be asked to arrange for the rear of Barnoldswick Town Square to be renamed "Back 't Square". As an Executive function, Executive is asked to determine this request.

Councillor D. Cockburn-Price commented on the proposed renaming.

RESOLVED

That Executive approves the renaming of the rear of Barnoldswick Town Square to be renamed Back 't Square.

(ii) Legacy Fund

At a meeting of the West Craven Committee on 31st March 2026 it was resolved:

"That £7,000 from the Earby allocation go towards the creation of a pump track on PBC Owned land off Bailey Street, Earby; Barnfield Construction be approached to see if they would be willing to participate in the scheme; that the Executive be asked to agree for the Council owned land to be used as a pump track; Planning Officers progress the necessary

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Application for the scheme; and match funding be sought"

RESOLVED:

That the request be deferred and Executive ask for a further report on this matter.

11. MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP (CEWG)

Executive received the minutes of the Climate Emergency Working Group held on 16th March 2026.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be noted.

12. WORKING GROUPS

RESOLVED:

(1) That the following Working Groups be appointed for the 2026/27 Municipal Year.

Asset Transfer and Cost Sharing Working Group – 6 Members (2 PCI; 2 Cons; 1 LD; 1 Ref)

Budget Working Group – 6 Members (2 PCI; 2 Cons; 1 LD; 1 Ref)

Climate Emergency Working Group – 7 Members (2 PCI; 2 Cons; 2 LD; 1 Ref)

Co-Operative Council Working Group - 7 Members (2 PCI; 2 Cons; 2 LD; 1 Ref)

(2) That Councillor Y. Tennant be appointed Chair of the Climate Emergency Working Group

13. FOR INFORMATION – TENDERS AND OTHER CONTRACT RELATED MATTERS

The Director of Resources submitted a for information report on tenders and other contract related matters.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

14. FORWARD PLAN

The Executive's draft Work Programme and Forward Plan of key decisions for the four-month period commencing 1st May 2026 was submitted for information.

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Councillor S. Cockburn-Price commented on a proposed Play Street Scheme and requested a report be put forward for consideration at the June 2026 meeting. The Leader of the Council said he would investigate the matter and request.

Councillor L. Whipp also commented on the Forward Plan and the responsibilities of Area Committees and the Executive.

15. 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).

16. LAND FRONTING WOODSIDE TERRACE, NELSON

(Note: Immediately before the press and public were excluded, Ms Roxanne Neska spoke on behalf of the applicant of No. 23 Woodside Terrace, Nelson (Minute 16 below) and asked Executive to agree to the retention and completion of works to create a raised timber deck extending on to garden tenancy land; to declare the land adjacent to No.23 Woodside Terrace surplus to requirements; and for the Executive to delegate authority to negotiate terms for the sale of the parcel of land).

A letter of representation received from the resident of 21 Woodside Terrace was also tabled at the meeting.

The exempt Executive report on this matter dated 19th March, 2026; the minute relating thereto, and the Call-in notice which outlined the reasons which sought the review of the decision and proposed alternative course of action were included with the exempt agenda papers.

RESOLVED

That Executive refuses the request for the retention and completion of works to create a raised timber deck extending on to garden tenancy land; and does not declare the land adjacent to No.23 Woodside Terrace surplus to requirements.

17. LAND AT WINDY BANK, COLNE

The Leader of the Council presented a report which requested Executive to consider a request to declare the land known as Windy Bank, Colne as surplus with the purpose of selling land to the adjacent landowner.

RESOLVED

That the Executive agrees the recommendations as set out in paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 of the submitted exempt report.

18. ENFORCED SALE OF 43 LARCH STREET, NELSON

Executive considered a report of the Executive Member for Housing and Environmental Health which sought approval to progress an enforced sale of a fire damaged long-term vacant property at 43 Larch Street, Nelson BB9 9RH in accordance with the Council's Enforced Sale Policy and Procedure

RESOLVED

That Executive agrees the recommendations as set out in paragraphs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 of the submitted exempt report.

Chair ____