MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE PENDLE TWINNING ASSOCIATION
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL, NELSON
ON 14th OCTOBER 2026

PRESENT –

Mrs. J. David – Chairman (in the Chair)

Ms. A. Gander
Councillor B. Newman
Mr. I. Graham
Councillor C. Church
Councillor N. Ahmed
Mr. P. Mousdale
Councillor M. Aslam
Mr. J. Slater

1. *(Apologies for absence were received from Mr. G. Da Silva.)*

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2. MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 29th July 2026 be approved as a correct record.

3. TWINNING UPDATE

An update on twinning events had been circulated.

H. Mengert and I. Bourdeaux of Marl Twinning Association had visited Pendle from 10th – 13th August 2026 when they met those involved in potential twinning projects, such as allotment holders in Pendle. Other possible projects to facilitate were golf, football, choir and music. H. Mengert had given an update at the end of their visit.

I. Graham advised that Colne Golf Club were interested in links with Marl and were awaiting suggestions from Marl. Golfers from either twin town were able to use the golf club and course for a round of golf on a complimentary basis as a gesture.

I. Graham also said that although N. Brown, who was in charge of Burnley and Pendle Scouts, had been unable to meet with H. Mengert and I. Bourdeaux as he had been away, he was very keen to build up a relationship with Marl.

Re. football tournament in Marl in May 2027, Burnley F.C. had advised that after careful consideration they were no longer able to take part in this event. The Chair of Pendle Twinning Association had contacted teams throughout Pendle – in Nelson, Barrowford, Colne and Barnoldswick and it had not been possible to secure a team for 2027. The Chair explained that exams had been one issue. Marl had been thanked for asking Pendle. Pendle had wished Marl every success with this event in 2027 and held out hopes if there was anything similar after 2027.

The Chair and Vice Chair had spoken about the twinning holiday in La Rochelle. A visit to a marsh area and salt pans had been very interesting. They had seen a one-man enterprise to successfully revive old salt pans. They had gone to Nantes and

then moved on to La Rochelle and its harbour. There had been a good guided tour of La Rochelle. In a disused ship yard they had seen a giant, mechanical wood elephant. J. David said there had been a real feeling of friendship, spending time with friends from the twin towns of around 30 years' standing.

The idea of a twinning holiday organised by Pendle in 2027 was touched on. Edinburgh and Birmingham were both mentioned. Marl had mentioned they would like to go to Edinburgh. It was felt that this was liked as flights into Edinburgh were not too expensive. It was suggested that Pendle Twinning Association members think about this topic of a twinning holiday and that it be put on the agenda for the next twinning meeting.

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Honorary Secretary reported that the current balance in the Twinning Account was £8027.20.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Vice Chair mentioned that S. Watson had enjoyed attending the previous twinning meeting and it was agreed that she be added to the distribution list.

Re. schools, A. Gander said that M. Nicolas of Jean-Jacques Rousseau School in Creil was in touch with L. Mitchell at Park High School in Colne.

The Vice Chair stated that she would check if a previous contact at West Craven High School was still there. She also advised that no school in Pendle currently taught German.

A. Gander mentioned that Pendle Palestine Twinning Group were aiming to plan a visit for a dozen young people from Palestine in the first 2 weeks of July 2027.

6. DATE OF FUTURE MEETING

Members agreed that the next meeting should be held at 5.30pm on Wednesday 16th December 2026 at Nelson Town Hall.