MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 8.00 PM ON MONDAY 18TH MAY 2026 AT THE CIVIC HALL POYNTON

PRESENT

Mayor (up to item 3) Cllr P Oakes

Mayor (from item 3) Cllr H Whitaker

Cllrs: D Belcher, K Booth, L Clarke, S Lees, L Podmore, J Saunders, M Sewart, T Swatridge and J Waterhouse.

Officers in attendance Haf Barlow (Clerk) Kate McDowell (Deputy Clerk) Sally Shaw (Admin Officer

Prayers: Reverend Stephen Dallin, Poynton Methodist Church..

1. To note, if anyone attending, or present, at the committee meeting is making, or intends to make, an audio recording or film of the meeting.

The Mayor confirmed that the meeting is recorded for the purpose of minute taking and the recording is deleted when the draft minutes are agreed. There were no other declarations of a recording of the meeting.

2. Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor

Cllr Lee Podmore proposed that Cllr H Whitaker is elected Mayor of Poynton 2026/27.
Cllr Jos Saunders seconded the nomination for Mayor.

RESOLVED: Cllr Hayley Whitaker is elected as Mayor (NC)

The Mayor signed the declaration of acceptance of office before the Clerk as the Proper Officer.
The Mayor formally thanked Cllr Peter Oakes for his work as Mayor.
Cllr Jos Saunders proposed Cllr Peter Oakes as the Deputy Mayor.
Cllr Kevin Booth seconded the nomination for Deputy Mayor

RESOLVED: Cllr Peter Oakes is elected as Deputy Mayor. (NC)

3. Questions from members of the public

There were no members of the public present.

4. Apologies for absence

Cllrs Patrick Bailey, Mike Beanland and Mark Blackie.

5. <u>Declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interests</u>

There were no declarations of pecuniary or other interests.

6. <u>To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16th March 2026</u>

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16th March 2026 are approved as an accurate record. (9 for, 2 abstentions)

7. <u>Immediate past Mayor's announcements</u>

Cllr Oakes confirmed he had fundraised approximately £8,000 during his Mayoral year for Open Hands and The Christie at Macclesfield Hospital. He also gave an overview of the events he had recently attended. The former Mayor thanked Cllr Whitaker for her support as Deputy Mayor during his time in office and asked Councillors for their support in his upcoming fundraising as Deputy Mayor for Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY).

RESOLVED: That the former Mayor's announcements are received. (NC)

8. <u>To review the action log 2026 -2027</u>

The Clerk confirmed it was not possible to move forwards with the renaming of the short road next to Waitrose, as Woodlands Care home confirmed the legalities and administration costs associated with the name change would be prohibitive.

RESOLVED: That the action log was received and the efforts to rename the road into the Civic Hall Car Park are ceased. (10 for, 1 abstention)

9. <u>Appointment to Standing Committees for 2026/27</u>

RESOLVED: The membership of the Standing Committees for 2026/2027 is agreed as follows:

<u>Facilities, Infrastructure & Economic Development</u>
Cllrs, M Blackie, K Booth, S Lees, P Oakes, J Saunders, M Sewart, J Waterhouse.
<u>Community, Order & Public Safety</u>
Cllrs, P Bailey, D Belcher, L Podmore, J Saunders, T Swatridge, J Waterhouse, H Whitaker.
<u>Management & Establishment</u>
Cllrs D Belcher, K Booth, L Clarke, P Oakes, L Podmore, J Saunders, T Swatridge, H Whitaker.
<u>Finance & General Purposes</u>
Cllrs, M Beanland. D Belcher, L A Clarke, S Lees, P Oakes, M Sewart, T Swatridge.

Planning & Environment
Cllrs, K Booth, L A Clarke, S Lees, P Oakes, L Podmore, J Saunders, T Swatridge (NC)

10. Election of Chairman and Vice- Chairman of Standing Committees for 2026-2027

RESOLVED: That the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Standing Committees is agreed as follows:

Facilities, Infrastructure & Economic Development
Chair: Cllr K Booth. Vice Chair: Cllr S Lees
Community, Order & Public Safety
Chair: Cllr L Podmore. Vice Chair: H Whitaker.
Management & Establishment
Chair: Cllr T Swatridge. Vice Chair: H Whitaker
Finance & General Purposes
Chair: Cllr P Oakes. Vice Chair: Cllr M Sewart
Planning & Environment
Chair: Cllr L Clarke. Vice Chair: Cllr L Podmore (NC)

11. To consider and approve the Town Council calendar of meetings for 2026-2027

Members considered the calendar. The proposed December 2026 date of the full Town Council was debated.

RESOLVED: The Town Council meeting scheduled for the 21st December 2026 is moved to 4th January 2027 and the revised Town Council calendar of meetings for 2026-2027 is approved. (NC)

12. To consider the appointment of representatives of the Town Council to outside bodies for 2026-2027

RESOLVED: That representatives for outside bodies are agreed as follows:

Twinning Association - Cllrs P Oakes and J Waterhouse
Alms Houses - Di Penny
Lady Warren Buckley Charity - Nigel Wanford
Projects for Poynton - Cllrs K Booth, P Oakes and H Whitaker.
Neigbourhood Plan - Cllr L Podmore
Poynton Show - Cllr K Booth
Poynton Rotary - P Bailey
Poynton Roundtable - P Bailey (NC)

13. To adopt the Standing Orders

RESOLVED: That the Standing Orders were adopted for 2026/2027. (NC)

14. To adopt the Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: That the Financial Regulations were adopted for 2026/2027 (NC)

15. To receive and approve the report from the Investment and Banking Working group and the Investment Policy

RESOLVED: That the report from the Investment and Banking working group and the investment policy were received. (NC)

16. To consider the following memberships

a) Clerk's membership of the SLCC – due for renewal 1st August 2026 cost £442
b) ChALC Membership £1631.80

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approves the continued membership of ChALC and the Clerk's Membership of the SLCC. (NC)

17. To approve the re-appointment of JDH Public Sector Services as Internal Auditors

RESOLVED: That the reappointment of JDH Public Sector Services as Internal Auditors is approved. (NC)

Cllr Saunders left the meeting.

18. To note the following S051 decisions

a) To fund a Green Belt/Grey Belt study and a review of the Neigbourhood Plan by O'Neil Hamer and to waive the requirement for three quotations. (Due to a lack of alternative suppliers).
b) The response to the Adlington New Town consultation.

RESOLVED: That the action taken under SO51 regarding the Green/Grey belt study and the response to Adlington New Town consultation is noted. (NC)

19. To note the indicative decision by Cheshire East Council to agree to an asset transfer of a small section of land by Deva Park.

Cllr Saunders returned to the meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that Cheshire East has agreed, in principle, to transfer the land to Poynton Town Council. Work now needs to be done with the Baptist Church on proposals to turn it into a youth space. A detailed report will be on the next Town Council meeting in June.

RESOLVED: That the indicative decision by Cheshire East to transfer part of land at Deva Park is noted.

20. To receive and consider the request by the Round Table to ease the byelaws for the bonfire display

RESOLVED: That the byelaws on Poynton Pool will be eased for the annual Round Table bonfire to take place. (NC)

21. To consider whether we should register the Town Council's logo as a trademark, indicative cost £205.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council apply to register the logo as an official logo at a cost of up to £205 plus vat. (NC)

22.To receive a report on the Civic Awards

The Chair gave an overview of the plans for the Civic Awards event on the 1st October 2026 A social media campaign will be ongoing through June to inform the community of the different awards and nominations.

RESOLVED: That the report on the Civic Awards for 2026 is received.

23. To note the date and venue for the Civic Service is St Georges Church, 28th June 2026 at 11am.

RESOLVED: That the Civic Service will be held at St Georges Church on 28th June 2026 at 11am is noted.

24. To receive and agree the draft response to the Public Rights of Way consultation.

A member pointed out a punctuation error and suggested additions to point I8 and P2

RESOLVED: That the draft response to the Public Rights of Way consultation is agreed subject to the following additions

- **Point I8 Gaps in the Network - there are several pathways that used to run between Lostock Road, Lostock Hall Farm and as the runway at Woodford Aerodrome has closed there is no reason why they cannot now be reopened.**
- **Point P2 Active Travel –Footpath 80 which goes under the railway bridge in a muddy tunnel that is less than 6ft high at the side of Poynton Brook and is prone to localised flooding cannot be used as an access point as it is not suitable. A developer has named this as a suitable access point, and we would hope that the Public Rights of Way team will support our objection to footpath 80 being used as a suitable access point for active travel (NC)**

25. <u>To note the response from Cheshire East Council in relation to the uplift in parking charges.</u>

Members noted that charges had increased by 19% and this was not in line with CPI.
The increase was stated it was due to gritting, lighting, maintenance and other utility costs.

RESOLVED: The uplift Cheshire East Car Parking charges were noted but the Clerk should submit a Freedom of Information request to Cheshire East to ask them for a breakdown on how they arrived at the 19% (NC)

26. <u>To appoint a Councillor to attend the Cheshire East Council, Bus Enhanced Partnership meeting at Macclesfield Town Hall on Wednesday 3rd June 2026 at 10.45am.</u>

RESOLVED: That Cllr M Sewart should represent Poynton Town Council at the Cheshire East Council, Bus Enhanced Partnership meeting at Macclesfield Town Hall on Wednesday 3rd June 2026 at 10.45am (NC)

27. <u>To appoint a Councillor to attend the Cheshire and Warrington Combined Authority Member Engagement Session at Sandbach Town Hall on Wednesday 1st July 2026 at 5.30pm.</u>

RESOLVED: That Cllr J Saunders should represent Poynton Town Council at the Cheshire and Warrington Combined Authority Member Engagement Session at Sandbach Town Hall on Wednesday 1st July 2026 at 5.30pm (NC)

28. <u>To receive and consider the Cheshire East Council Town and Parish Council newsletter.</u>

RESOLVED: That the Cheshire East Council Town and Parish Council newsletter was received (NC)

29. <u>To receive an update from Cheshire East ward councillors on any issues/decisions concerning Cheshire East Council</u>

Cllr Saunders confirmed that the former Vernon Infants School is now going to be sold.

Cllr Sewart confirmed that he had been assured that the blocks currently being removed from London Road /Fountain place will be retained and kept safe in the depo for future use. A member hoped that they would be used to address issues on Park Lane.

RESOLVED: That the update from the Cheshire ward Councillors around the former Vernon Infants School and the blocks being excavated in the roadworks at Fountain Place was received (NC)

30. To receive and adopt the Minutes of Committees

Finance & General Purposes Committee 23rd February 2026
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on the 23rd February 2026 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Planning & Environment Committee 2nd March 2026
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on the 2nd March 2026 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (NC)

Planning & Environment Committee 30th March 2026
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee held on the 30th March 2026 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by the Full Council (10 for, 1 abstained))

31. To consider any communication messages from this meeting.

- New Mayor and Deputy Mayor
- Public Rights of Way Consultation

RESOLVED: That the New Mayor and Deputy Mayor and the Public Rights of Way Consultation are the communication messages from this meeting (NC)

32. The Chair proposed that an item regarding the use of CIL money for bunting was added to the building under S019.

RESOLVED: That an item regarding spending CIL money should be added to the agenda under SO19 (NC)

33. To receive and consider a quotation to erect bunting in the town over the summer, funded from CIL money.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk should proceed with the quote for £1,800 to adorn the Town with bunting in the Summer (10 for, 1 against)

Meeting end time: 9.00pm

Chair ……………………......................................

Dated…………………….................................