

**MINUTES** of the Committee Meeting of the Civic Trust held on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at Burnley Town Hall.

The Chairman, **Mr. E. J. Walton**, occupied the Chair throughout the meeting.

**PRESENT:** Mr. E. J. Walton, Mr. G. Grimshaw, Mr. K. Burrows, Ms. S. Barker, Mr. A. Hollis, Mr. A. Lucas, Mr. R. Collinge, Mr. R. Crossley, Mr. R. B. Frost, Mrs. C. Stinton, Mr. I. Emo, Mr. N. G. Ashworth, Dr. S. Tate, Ms. N. Edwards, Mr. T. Mitchell and Mr. P. Hornby.

**APOLOGIES:** Mrs. R. Hay, Mr. & Mrs. N. Fawcett, Mr. J. Livingstone and Mrs. J. Evans.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025 were approved.

**MATTERS ARISING:** *Unknown Shoppers Statue:* Because of the shortage of time, Ms. Edwards would give a full account of progress made at the statue at the next month's meeting.

**A.O.B. MATTERS:** Matters for discussion at A.O.B.

**PLANNING:** APP/2025/0667 & O668: *8, Church Street, Padiham.* Mrs. Stinton had some concerns about this application but it was felt they did not constitute planning matters and that the proposal would improve this vacant property and bring it back into use.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** In his report, the Chairman touched on the following subjects:

- i. *Civic Voice* had changed all addresses and was now run by volunteers.
- iv. *Matchless Talk:* Ms. S. Barker would deal with arrangements about the talk to which members of the Civic Trust and other societies would be invited. It was proposed, seconded and passed that £1,000 be donated to the *Matchless* memorial.
- v. *Boggart Bridge:* Information was required about Boggart Bridge and surrounding woodland. The Deputy Chairman would write a piece about the Towneley Boggart.

**GROT SPOTS:** A full discussion took place about Grot Spots. It was decided once again to invite our M.P. and offer to change the evening to fit it in.

## **REPORTS :**

**FINANCES:** Some subscriptions were still to be renewed.

**WEAVERS' TRIANGLE:** Inside there was some damp; damaged wallpaper would be restored. The steps behind the house had been beautifully restored.

**PADIHAM:** Problems about traffic using Mill Street. The Roman Catholic Church wanted to move the *Our Lady* statue.

**HERITAGE:** The machines in the workshop would be repaired.

**BLUE PLAQUES:** A full list of plaques and places where they would be placed was presented. Looking at the listing, members were asked to pick six according to their popularity. Please return to the Chairman in **two** weeks.

**A.O.B.** Already dealt with.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7 pm. At Burnley Town Hall. This would be the talk about The Matchless.**

**CHAIRMAN**

**BURNLEY CIVIC TRUST COMMITTEE 2026**

Chairman: Edward J. Walton  
Vice Chairman: Roger B. Frost (T)  
Treasurer: George Grimshaw (T)  
Secretary: Susan Barker  
Asst. Secretary: Ramon Collinge (T)

Peter Hornby (T)  
Carol Stinton (T)  
Geoff Ashworth (T)  
Nixie Edwards (T)  
Neil Fawcett  
Marjorie Fawcett (T)

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of the Civic Trust held on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at Burnley Town Hall.

The Chairman for the evening was **Mr. E. J. Walton**. The meeting was attended by 34 people-members of Burnley Civic Trust, Burnley & District Historical Society, members of the public and notably members of the families who relatives were affected by the Tragedy about which the meeting held.

Chairman welcomed and introduced Simon Williams a researcher and author of ‘A Morecambe Bay Tragedy’ – the story of the Matchless Tragedy- a pleasure yacht sinking of 1894 which occurred off Jenny Brown’s Point, Silverdale affecting holiday-makers from industrial towns including Burnley.

A first class illustrated and detailed presentation was given by Simon giving a history of the event and its repercussions affecting the Morecambe district and deceased families and towns.

He answered many questions on conclusion of the presentation. Our chairman was able to assure Simon and his committee that when the fund was opened for the creation of a monument on the coast near to where the disaster occurred, Civic Trust had allocated a sum to contribute. Roger Frost suggested that other plaques in Morecambe and Burnley should possible be considered.

The following is a link directly to the published book-available on line as a .pdf file if you wish to read at greater length.

<https://www.mourholme.co.uk/users/UserFiles/File/A%20Morcambe%20Bay%20Tragedy.pdf>

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7 pm. At Burnley Town Hall. This will be a business meeting -see attached agenda.**