

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the Civic Trust held on Wednesday, 5th November 2025 at Burnley Town Hall.

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

APOLOGIES: Mrs. R. Hay, Mr. P. Hornby and Mrs. J. Evans.

The Chairman, **Mr. E. J. Walton**, opened the meeting and continued until the election of officers, where Ms Towneley became chair for its administration.

MINUTES: The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 1st October 2025 were approved, also those of the previous year's AGM.

MATTERS ARISING: *Unknown Shoppers Statue:* Work still to be done on the plinth which involved making four panels for the base, which hadn't been kept. The council might contribute to the restoration. Ms. N. Edwards is overseeing the work.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: He gave a report on the work of the Trust and members for the previous 12 months.

In addition

- i. The CVS had started a lottery but the Trust would not be taking part. The AGM of the organisation would take place soon.
- ii. A new supplier was being sought for more "award" plaques. Civic Trust Plaques would be awarded on a two year basis.
- iii. Burnley's Year of Culture 2027; Nothing had been received.
- iv. *Matchless Talk:* Ms. S.Barker would deal with arrangements for the talk in February to which members of the Civic Trust and other societies would be invited.
- v. Photos and information were wanted of the Keirby area.
- vi. *Ightenhill boundary markers:* Members were of the opinion that they and others in the borough should be restored.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Ms. C. Towneley conducted the election of officers. The present officers and members of the committee were elected for the following year. The Chairman, Mr. E.J.Walton, in agreeing to carry on as Chairman for another year warned the members to look for a new Chairman from then on.

PLANNING: i. *Cold Soil ruins: alleged breach of planning.* The planners were very much against what had happened. The Chairman would support the council in writing by 19th November.
 ii. *Appeal for land north of A668 Padiham (Battery Park):* The appeal was dismissed and Padiham Town Council did not object, although Burnley Civic Trust members did.
 iii. *Wood Top School; permission to demolish.* The full planning application had been published along with the erection of a building with 39 affordable apartments for people over 55 years of age. Members were told that Mrs. Kathy Fishwick (Rossendale Civic Trust) had written urging that it should be preserved and restored but the Chairman had replied that we were not of that opinion.

REPORTS :

FINANCES: The finances were in good order. The Trust had received a further bequest from Brian Hall's will, resulting from the sale of his house. K. M. were to become our auditors. This would be

acknowledged on our website. The accounts were presented in the form for submission to the Charity Commission and were approved by the members.

PADIHAM: No report but the representative had given an excellent guided walk in Padiham as part of Heritage Week.

WEAVERS' TRIANGLE: Attendance had been a little disappointing, but volunteers had been satisfactory. The Triangle needed to be present at the Heritage of Burnley discussions.

HERITAGE: There were now over 17,500 images and reports on our website.

BLUE PLAQUES: Nothing to report.

CLIVIGER: The boundary markers which had been intended to be placed in their original positions on the Long Causeway but for which the County Council had refused permission fearing they would distract drivers, had been placed in the Scarlett Memorial garden in Mereclough.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: i. The regeneration plan was due to be finalised at the end of the month.
ii. The future of CIVIC VOICE was discussed and the option to close it was the opinion confirmed by the Trusth.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 3rd December 2025 at 7 pm. At Burnley Town Hall. (subsequently amended to 10th Dec due to Burnley F.C. evening match and Full Council meeting in Town Hall)

CHAIRMAN

BURNLEY CIVIC TRUST 2025-26

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

COMMITTEE

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