

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

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

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

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. R Collinge, Mr. G Grimshaw, Mrs. Carol Stinton, Mr. R Frost, Mrs. R. Hay, Mr. & Mrs. N. Fawcett, Mr. J. Livingstone and Mrs. J. Evans.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, and 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 were approved.

**MATTERS ARISING:** The Speaker Meeting concerning the Matchless Disaster was considered a great success and it was confirmed that a contribution to the memorial-when designed and constructed would be made.

A further Speaker meeting will be held at our May meeting

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

**PLANNING:** Discussion about the proposed Waste Transfer site (PA/2026/0045) was pursued without any proposals to object. Discussion was prompted by a note from R Frost, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Further discussion took place about the Hapton Colliery waste processing proposals, but without more detailed information this could not be concluded. It was noted that L.C.C. would be the governing authority on that matter, but B.C.C. was concerned with the former application.

PA/2026/0072 Parkside Surgery doorway alterations were discussed but without and need for further investigation or objection.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Chairman touched on the following subjects:

- i. Green spaces team had not progressed the information tables creation for Bird Life at Maiden Cross windfarm area, nor the Cliviger Gorge information table.
- ii. The proposed Singing Ringing Tree access/disabled persons route was frustrated by the inability to gain a course across a field more directly to the Panopticon and it is hoped negotiations will resolve this problem. A meeting is soon to take place with Grant money representatives. Civic Trust is supporting this matter.
- iii. Year of Culture 2027: a meeting held with R. Frost, S. Tate and chairman was a success which we could offer several proposals of significant contribution. Steve Tate added a more comprehensive summary of the proposals.

**REPORTS:**

**FINANCES:** Some subscriptions were still to be renewed. Treasurer who was unable to attend sent a summary of the current state of our accounts and would be writing to members who had not renewed. Chairman to write to A. Eastwood to make more enquiries on current status. Others would be assumed to cease membership.

**TREES for BURNLEY: CORRESPONDENT June Evans reports** Tree planting at Bank Hall near the former mining area

Hedge laying alongside the Golf Course at Towneley at the car park end. It's a job they can only do at this time of the year and it's quite a long hedge so they have much more to do.

**WEAVERS TRIANGLE/TOLL HOUSE: (post meeting report)** You might be interested to know that, because, there is still a lot of work to do at the Visitor Centre, we are going to open only occasionally this year, at the time of the Canal Festival (August) and when the Steam Engine is open to the public etc.

The work being done, on Manchester Road, is another factor but we have some very expensive work to do in the premises - on the windows, heating, lighting and some security work to do. Our plan is to have everything finished for the 2027 Year of Culture.

**HERITAGE IMAGE COLLECTION:** The scanning machine in the workshop has been repaired.

**BLUE PLAQUES:** No formal report made, but the recent voting result was circulated., showing the top 6 of the 21 proposed for consideration.

**A.O.B.** Nixie Edwards reported the Unknown Shoppers statue has now been bead blasted to restore it, a planning application has been deposited/submitted for the siting on Curzon Street/ Parker Street green space and that Council funding on offer can be held over for the next year.

Tony Mitchell reported that the Burnley and District Historical Society is considering offering a small bursary for a local historical studies student from the Brian Hall Funds that the society will invest for income. Chairman indicated we may be able to offer information to enable contact within the University.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 at 7 pm. At Burnley Town Hall.**

**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)