

Minutes of the meeting of the Tourism & Leisure Committee:

At 6.30pm on Tuesday 10th February 2026 at The Ashcroft, Market Street, Whitworth

Attendees:

Cllr Kim Blezard (KB) (Chair)

Cllr Mike Whitworth (MW)

Michelle Butterworth (MB)

Gill Chorlton (GC)

Martin Duffy (MD)

Angela Forster (AF)

Jenni Hatherley (JH)

Kirstie Healey (KH)

Marilyn Jones (MJ)

Minutes taken by Rachel Hodson (RH)

Stefan Kowal (SK)

Linda Parker (LP)

Kath Proctor (KP)

Glen Royds (GR)

Anne Tattersall (AT)

Roger Tattersall (RT)

Carol Thomson (CT)

Aimee Louise Walker (AW)

AGENDA:

1. To receive apologies.

Apologies were received before the meeting from Clint Davies and Councillors David Chorlton and Mackenzie Ritson.

2. To receive declarations of interest.

None.

3. To consider the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 13th January 2026, and to approve the minutes by the signature of the Chairman as a correct record.

Done.

4. To plan the TLC's Easter event.

JH updated on plans for the Easter event. The committee discussed options for prizes. KP and AF offered craft supplies for this, and the committee agreed to use TLC funds for any funding needed. KP suggested an Easter bonnet competition and will liaise with AW regarding this.

*** JH left the meeting ***

5. To plan the TLC's summer event.

MD gave a history of the Party in the Park event and explained that it is 20 years since the event was held. MD suggested a 20th anniversary weekend event in early August, with proceeds going to Whitworth Leisure Centre. The committee agreed to collaborate for this event. KB will contact Rossendale Drum Majorettes.

6. To plan the Whitworth Rushcart event.

KH suggested incorporating a carnival type event, encouraging businesses and schools to be involved. The committee discussed this. MD will liaise with the Rushcart dancing team regarding their thoughts on the parade. MB suggested a craft afternoon over the summer holidays, linked in with the Rushcart. KB, MB and MD will liaise regarding information being provided to schools regarding the history of the Rushcart. AT reported that St Barts catering are booked in for the Rushcart and the committee discussed other food options. AW will arrange this. RH suggested providing retro games for the day, KB suggested borrowing these from local schools. LP to contact a Punch and Judy entertainer. The committee agreed to contact Ice Dream Experience to provide ice cream for the event. AW suggested contacting Rossendale Radio for the event, which the committee agreed to. KB suggested using the same traffic management as were booked last year, as they had been so understanding of the cancellation last year. The committee agreed to this. The committee agreed to using PA Leisure for rides, RH will contact them. The committee agreed on the promotional poster. RH will contact stallholders, keeping the cost the same as previous years.

7. To update on TLC purchases.

RH updated on recent purchases. RH provided quotes for additional pop-up gazebos, the committee discussed this and agreed to continue borrowing these for future events.

8. To update on NYD Duck Race.

RH reported that there has been no update as yet from RBC regarding a street trading licence. RH provided a quote for first aid for the event, the committee agreed to proceed with this.

9. To update on website requests.

RH provided the committee with a quote for the website requests from the last meeting. the committee were happy to proceed with this.

10. Any other business.

RH confirmed the date booked for the First Aid Course is Friday 6th March.
LP spoke about trying to recruit new TLC members.

11. To set a date for the next TLC Meeting

The next meeting was arranged for Tuesday 21st April at 6.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 8pm.