Minutes of: **COUNCIL**

Date of Meeting: 11 November 2026

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Rafiq, in the Chair) Councillors A Arif, S Arif, N Bayley, C Birchmore, C Boles, A Booth, A Chaudhry, P Davies, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, S Haroon, M Hayes, D Hill, J Hook, C Hunt, K Hussain, B Ibrahim, J Lancaster, G Martin, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, J Roith, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, S Shamim, J Sheppard, K Simpson, L Smith, M Smith, J Southworth, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, S Walmsley, M Walsh, Y Wright and S Zaman

Apologies for Absence D Vernon

Public Attendance: 20 members of the public attended of the meeting.

C. 104 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor D Vernon.

C. 105 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Hill and Simpson declared they were veterans.

C. 106 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor as Bury's first citizen updated Members of the Council on work undertaken since the last meeting.

C. 107 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

C. 108 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Notice had been received of the following questions:

Questioner	Topic	Responding
Gina Penfold	Chaddy Fields and Sunnybank Woods	Councillor L Smith
Jonathan Moss	Grids and gullies	Councillor L Smith
Zadok Day	Parking around Higher Lane Primary School	Councillor L Smith
Nicholas Haslam	Housing Strategy	Councillor A Arif
Luke Broadfoot	Sinkholes in Prestwich	Councillor L Smith

Janice Taylor	Prevent	Councillor O'Brien

Questions without notice:

Questioner	Topic	Responding
Dr Binns	Peel Tower	Councillor O'Brien
Mr Harling	Armistice Day ceremony	Councillor O'Brien
Laura Swyers	Prevent	Councillor O'Brien
Mary Rimmer	Bury Cemetery	Councillor O'Brien
Paul Johnstone	Registration of taxi drivers	Councillor O'Brien

C. 109 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

(i) Licensing and Safety Committee, 8 October 2026 - Amendment to Written-Off Vehicle Policy

It was moved by Councillor McGill and seconded by Councillor Ibrahim, with all members voting for and the Mayor abstaining that, Council approved the Amendment to Written-Off Vehicle Policy.

(ii) Licensing and Safety Committee, 8 October 2026 - Amendment of transitional arrangements for existing Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles in respect of emissions standards.

It was moved by Councillor McGill and seconded by Councillor Ibrahim, with all members voting for and the Mayor abstaining that, Council approved the amendment of transitional arrangements for existing Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles in respect of emissions standards.

(iii)Planning Control Committee, 20 October 2026 - National Scheme of Delegation

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Thorpe, and following a request for a recorded vote from 19 Councillors present, it was agreed with:

Councillors A Arif, N Bayley, C Boles, A Chaudhry, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, R Gold, D Green, S Haroon, M Hayes, J Hook, C Hunt, B Ibrahim, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, M Rubinstein, L Ryder, L Smith, J Southworth, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, S Walmsley **voting for**,

Councillors S Arif, C Birchmore, A Booth, P Davies, D Duncalfe, I Gartside, D Hill, K Hussain, J Lancaster, G Martin, J Roith, J Rydeheard, S Shamim, J Sheppard, K Simpson, M Smith, M Walsh, Y Wright and S Zaman **voting against.**

The Mayor **abstaining**

The Mayor declared that the motion was carried and Council agreed to:

Approve the proposed amendment to the Place Directorate Scheme of Delegation.

(iv) Licensing and Safety Committee, 5 November 2026 - Amendment of transitional arrangements for existing Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles in respect of age policy.

It was moved by Councillor McGill and seconded by Councillor Ibrahim, with all members voting for and the Mayor abstaining that, Council approved the Amendment of transitional arrangements for existing Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles in respect of age policy.

a AMENDMENT TO WRITTEN-OFF VEHICLE POLICY

b AMENDMENT OF TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR EXISTING HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES IN RESPECT OF EMISSIONS STANDARDS

c NATIONAL SCHEME OF DELEGATION

d AMENDMENT OF TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR EXISTING HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES IN RESPECT OF AGE POLICY - PROPOSED

C. 110 CONSTITUTION UPDATE

It was moved by Councillor Eamon O'Brien and seconded by Councillor L Smith, and following a request for a recorded vote, from 19 Councillors present, it was agreed with;

Councillors A Arif, C Boles, A Chaudhry, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, R Gold, D Green, S Haroon, M Hayes, J Hook, C Hunt, B Ibrahim, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, M Rahimov, M Rubinstein, L Ryder, L Smith, J Southworth, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, S Walmsley **voting for**

Councillors S Arif, C Birchmore, A Booth, P Davies, D Duncalfe, D Hill, K Hussain, J Lancaster, G Martin, J Roith, J Rydeheard, S Shamim, J Sheppard, K Simpson, M Smith, M Walsh, Y Wright and S Zaman **voting against**

The Mayor **abstaining**

The Mayor declared that the motion was carried and Council agreed to:

Approve the updates to the Council's Constitution

C. 111 LOCAL PLAN

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Morris, and following a request for a recorded vote, from 19 Councillors present, it was agreed with;

Councillors A Arif, N Bayley, C Boles, A Chaudhry, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, R Gold, D Green, S Haroon, M Hayes, J Hook, C Hunt, B Ibrahim, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, M Rubinstein, L Ryder, L Smith, J Southworth, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, S Walmsley **voting for**

Councillors S Arif, C Birchmore, A Booth, P Davies, D Duncalfe, I Gartside, D Hill, K Hussain, J Lancaster, G Martin, J Roith, J Rydeheard, S Shamim, J Sheppard, K Simpson, M Smith, M Walsh, Y Wright and S Zaman **voting against**

The Mayor **abstaining**

The Mayor declared that the motion was carried and Council agreed to:

- Note the main issues raised during the invitation to make representations on the Publication Local Plan under Regulation 19.
- Approve the submission of the Bury Local Plan, Policies Map, relevant supporting evidence and all representations received during the Regulation 19 stage, to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for independent examination under Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, with submission to take place in advance of the 31 December 2026 deadline.
- Note that any decision to adopt the Local Plan will remain a matter for Full Council in accordance with the Council's Constitution and the relevant statutory requirements.

C. 112 LEADER'S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(a) Written questions (Notice given)

The Leader of the Council, Cllr E O'Brien, made a statement on the work undertaken by him since the date of the last Council meeting. The Leader and the relevant Cabinet Members answered questions raised by Councillors on the following issues:

	Questioner	Cabinet Member	Topic
1.	Cllr S Arif	Cllr L Smith	Puffin Crossing on Ainsworth Road
2.	Cllr Lancaster	Cllr Thorpe	National Minimum Wage
3.	Cllr Sheppard	Cllr Tariq	Vulnerable residents
4.	Cllr John Southworth	Cllr Gold	Bsafe programme
5.	Cllr Ibrahim	Cllr L Smith	Spend on roads
6.	Cllr Davies	Cllr Thorpe	Absentee levels
7.	Cllr Gartside	Cllr Thorpe	Budget gap
8.	Cllr Duncalfe	Cllr L Smith	HIS funding
9.	Cllr Hayes	Cllr Morris	Indoor market
10.	Cllr Hunt	Cllr Walmsley	Religious educaiton lessons
11.	Cllr Martin	Cllr Walmsley	EHCP plans
12.	Cllr S Arif	Cllr L Smith	Pothole and road repairs
13.	Cllr Simpson	Cllr O'Brien	Bury MP's
14.	Cllr Chaudhry	Cllr Gold	Domestic abuse
15.	Cllr Green	Cllr Walmsley	School attendance
16.	Cllr Roith	Cllr Thorpe	Mandatory training

The remaining questions submitted by elected members will receive written responses.

(b) Verbal questions
The Leader received verbal questions from the following Councillors:

	Questioner	Cabinet Member	Topic
1.	Cllr Birchmore	Cllr O'Brien	Radcliffe Hub
2.	Cllr Rydeheard	Cllr Tariq	NHS dental provision
3.	Cllr Arif	Cllr Morris	Bury market funding
4.	Cllr Staples-Jones	Cllr A Arif	Housing services
5.	Cllr Quinn	Cllr A Arif	Housing Regulatory Judgement
6.	Cllr Martin	Monitoring Officer	Freedom of Informaiton Requests

C. 113 COMBINED AUTHORITY REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES

The following questions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure rules:

	Questioner	**Cabinet member**	**Topic**
1.	Cllr Julie Southworth	Cllr O'Brien	Bury interchange
2.	Cllr Rizvi	Cllr L Smith	Disruption to travel
3.	Cllr Birchmore	Cllr L Smith	Waste levy charge
4.	Cllr Hill	Cllr Gold	Contact with GMP
5.	Cllr Zaman	Cllr Gold	Project unity
6.	Cllr Davies	Cllr L Smith	GM deposit return scheme

C. 114 NOTICES OF MOTION

(i) Free bus travel for veterans

Council considered a motion in the names of Councillors J Lancaster and D Vernon,

The motion was moved by Councillor J Lancaster and seconded by Councillor S Arif and on being put to members with 50 members voting for, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

(ii) Adopting a Climate Adaptation Strategy for the Borough

Council considered a motion in the names of A Arif, N Bayley, C Boles, A Chaudhry, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, R Gold, D Green, S Haroon, M Hayes, J Hook, C Hunt, B Ibrahim, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, M Rubinstein, L Ryder, L Smith, J A Southworth, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, S Walmsley

The motion was moved by Councillor L Smith and seconded by Councillor McGill and on being put to members with 36 members voting for, 11 voting against and the Mayor abstaining, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

(iii)Developing an effective consultation framework in Bury Council

Council considered a motion in the names of Councillors Carol Birchmore, Des Duncalfe, Judi Sheppard, Ken Simpson, Mike Smith and Mary Walsh

The motion was moved by Councillor Sheppard and seconded by Councillor Birchmore and on being put to members with 19 members voting for, 29 members voting against and the Mayor abstaining, the Mayor declared the motion lost.

C. 115 COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER

The Motion Tracker was attached for information only.

C. 116 SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORTS AND SPECIFIC ITEMS "CALLED IN" BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There were no scrutiny review reports and specific items "called in" by scrutiny committees.

C. 117 QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS

There were no questions on the work of outside bodies or partnerships.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR