Minutes of: **COUNCIL**

Date of Meeting: 16 September 2026

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor T Rafiq, in the Chair) Councillors A Arif, S Arif, N Bayley, C Birchmore, C Boles, A Booth, A Chaudhry, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, I Gartside, R Gold, S Haroon, M Hayes, D Hill, C Hunt, K Hussain, B Ibrahim, J Lancaster, G Martin, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, 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, T Tariq, S Thorpe, D Vernon, S Walmsley, M Walsh, Y Wright and S Zaman

Apologies for Absence P Davies, D Green, J Hook and G Staples-Jones

Public Attendance: 3 members of the public attended the meeting.

C. 91 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Davies, Green, Hook and Staples-Jones.

C. 92 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

C. 93 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

C. 94 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

C. 95 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Notice had been received of the following questions:

Questioner	Topic	Responding
Jonathan Moss	Bridge Street, Ramsbottom	Councillor L Smith
Andy Hay	Prestwich regeneration	Councillor O'Brien

Questions without notice:

Questioner	Topic	Responding
Karen Pitt	Pupil Referral Unit in Radcliffe	Councillor O'Brien
Max Wyatt	Preparedness for increased temperatures	Councillor O'Brien

C. 96 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

(A) Meeting of Housing Advisory Board, 9 June 2026 – Terms of Reference

It was moved by Councillor A Arif and seconded by Councillor Thorpe, with all members voting for and the Mayor abstaining that, Council approved the amended Terms of Reference

(B) Audit Committee, 22 July 2026 – Financial Procedure Rules and Scheme of Delegation

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Thorpe, with all members voting for and the Mayor abstaining that, Council approved to amend the constitution

(C) Planning Control Committee, 1 September 2026 – Scheme of Delegation

It was moved by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor Hayes, with 40 members voting for and the Mayor and six members abstaining that, Council noted the amendments to the constitution will be brought back for approval

(D) Meeting of Democratic Arrangements Forum, 9 September 2026 –Motions at Full Council

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor L Smith, with all members voting for and the Mayor abstaining that, Council noted the amendments to the constitution will be brought back for approval

C. 97 LEADER' 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 Rydeheard	Cllr L Smith	Walshaw Road
2	Cllr Farooq	Cllr Tariq	Northern Care Alliance
3	Cllr Rizvi	Cllr McGill	Tackling dodgy shops
4	Cllr Lancaster	Cllr Walmsley	Looked after children
5	Cllr Sheppard	Cllr A Arif	Selective licensing
6	Cllr Zaman	Cllr O'Brien	Prevent training for councillors
7	Cllr Pilkington	Cllr Walmsley	GCSE and A Level results
8	Cllr Rahimov	Cllr Tariq	Live well centre, Whitefield
9	Cllr M Smith	Cllr A Arif	Introduction of article 4 direction

10	Cllr Martin	Cllr L Smith	Scobell Street
11	Cllr Hayes	Cllr Walmsley	Best Start Family Hubs
12	Cllr Bayley	Cllr Morris	Future regeneration work

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	Highways in Bury
2	Cllr Rydeheard	Cllr O'Brien	Indoor market
3	Cllr S Arif	Cllr Morris	Casewells
4	Cllr Vernon	Cllr Thorpe	Council reserves
5	Cllr Sheppard	Cllr O'Brien	Milton Road fields
6	Cllr Pilkington	Cllr Gold	Anti-social behaviour

C. 98 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 D Quinn	Cllr A Arif	New social and affordable housing
2	Cllr Pilkington	Cllr Morris	Good growth high street fund
3	Cllr Vernon	Cllr O'Brien	Number 10 North
4	Cllr Birchmore	Cllr L Smith	Transport for Greater Manchester's CRSTS schemes
5	Cllr Rydeheard	Cllr L Smith	Greater Manchester Mayor's pot hole fund

There was not enough time to respond to Questions 6 and 7, in line with the constitution they will receive written responses

C. 99 NOTICES OF MOTION

(i) Treatment and reducing the significant spread of giant hogweed

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 Duncalfe and seconded by Councillor M Smith and on being put to members with 47 members voting for, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

(ii) Building a Care System That Works: Bury Council and the National Conversation on Care

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 Tariq and seconded by Councillor A Quinn and on being put to members with 47 members voting for, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

(iii)Protecting Bury's hospitality sector – opposing the greater Manchester overnight visitor levy

Council considered a motion in the names of S Arif, I Gartside, K Hussain,

The motion was moved by Councillor S Arif and seconded by Councillor Gartside and on being put to members with 13 members voting for; 27 voting against, and the Mayor and six members abstaining, the Mayor declared the motion lost.

C. 100 COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER

The Motion Tracker was attached for information only.

C. 101 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. 102 QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS

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

C. 103 REPORTING OF URGENT DECISION - MULTIPLE POSTS FOR BEST START FAMILY HUB GUIDANCE

Members noted the urgent decision taken in relation to multiple posts for best start family hub guidance.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(Notes: The meeting started at **7.00pm** and ended at 10.30 pm)