



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GREAT BRITISH RHYTHM & BLUES FESTIVAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

on Monday, 9th February 2026 at 6.30pm at Colne Town Hall

In attendance: Cllr. A Bell, Cllr. A Chamberlain, Cllr. P Hannah-Wood, Cllr. H Thomas & Cllr. M Thomas

Also in attendance: Mr. N Cutler (Events & Facilities Officer), Miss. Nina Bates (Colne Blues Society) & Mr. Simon Shackleton (Colne Blues Society).

1. Welcome

Cllr. M Thomas, Chairman, welcomed all to the February 2026 Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival Advisory Committee meeting of Colne Town Council.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. D Lord, Cllr. I Robinson & Cllr. A Mann.

Apologies accepted by Committee.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest from Members relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct and/or indicate if S106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

No declarations of interest.

4. Minutes

To approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 6th October 2025. (Decision required).

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 6th October 2025 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by: Cllr. A Bell

Seconded by: Cllr. A Chamberlain

Approved by Committee

5. Tickets

To receive an update on ticket and camping sales to date. (Information only)

Committee members received an update on the current ticket and camping sales.

ACTION: Events Officer to arrange for an updated ticket summary to be sent across to Colne Blues Society.

6. Main Stages

To receive an update on the main stages for the 2026 festival. (Information only)

Committee members received an update on the main stages for the 2026 festival.

7. Official Festival Catering Pitches

To receive an update on the catering for the 2026 festival. (Information only)

Committee members received an update on the changes made with the catering pitch allocation process and that applications are now open for the official catering pitches.

It was proposed that the Chairman of the Blues Festival Advisory Committee should be in attendance when the pitches are allocated.

***Proposed by: Cllr. A Bell
Approved by Committee.***

Seconded by: Cllr. P Hannah-Wood

8. Volunteers

To receive an update on the progress with volunteers at the 2026 festival. (Information only)

Committee members received an update on the progress regarding volunteers for the festival.

ACTION: Events Officer to put something on the next newsletter about volunteering at the festival and Council notice boards.

9. Marketing

To receive an update on what marketing has been done for the festival and to update members of any planned marketing. (Information only)

Committee members received an update on any marketing activities which have been done for the festival and future marketing plans.

10. Town Hall

To receive an update on how the Town Hall will be utilised over the festival weekend. (Information only)

Committee members were informed that the Town Hall would be used over the festival weekend as the Festival Box Office, Official Fringe Venue (Indoors & Outdoors), First Aid point, Volunteer base & base for Event Management.

11. Operational Updates

To receive an update on the operational elements of the 2026 festival including road closures, security, traffic management, first aid & waste management.

Committee members received an update on the progress of arranging the operational elements of the festival. This included the increase of portable toilets throughout the event area and the security provisions throughout the festival.

ACTION: Events Officer to ensure the Muni's security team attend the festival security briefing and to look into having the internal doors between Albert Room & Muni Hall closed.

12. 35th Anniversary of the Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival 2026

To receive an update on the plans to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the festival. (Information only)

Committee members received an update on the plans to celebrate the 35th anniversary, including limited addition merchandise.

13. Update from Colne Blues Society

To receive an update from Colne Blues Society on the progress made with the organisation of the main venues and the official fringe venues. (Information only)

Committee members received an update from Colne Blues Society.

14. Items for a Future Agenda

Points raised under this item are for information only and should be limited to five minutes only to consider them for the agenda for a future month. (Information only)

No items were raised a future month's agenda.

However, it was raised that members wanted a brief financial breakdown of the costings of the festival. It was also discussed about reducing the frequency of the Blues Festival Advisory Committee down to a pre-event meeting & a post event meeting and for the festival to become an item on the Events Committee for detailed discussions throughout the year.

ACTION: Events Officer to investigate reducing the frequency of Blues meetings and to add the festival as an item on future Events Committee meetings with breakdown of committed costs of the festival.

15. Date & Time of Next Meeting

The next Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival Advisory Committee meeting is to be confirmed.

Meeting concluded at 7.14pm