



**Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>  
October 2020 via ZOOM**

**Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 7.30pm**

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Zafar Ali [Chair], George Adam, Faraz Ahmad, Omar Ahmed, Mohammad Aslam, Sadia Bashir, Wayne Blackburn, Patricia Hannah-Wood, Nazeem Hayat, Fiona Holland, Mashuq Hussain OBE, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Michelle Pearson-Asher, Nigel Pearson-Asher, Mohammad Sarwar, Russell Tennant and Sheila Wicks

**Absent Councillors:** Councillors Zulfiqar Ali, Husnan Arshad, Ali Baig, Laura Blackburn, Mohammad Sakib and Ikram Ul-Haq

**Non-Councillor (without voting rights):** None

**Officers:** Nick Harbour – Assistant Town Clerk [minute taker]

**Members of the Public:** None

2020/048  
(TC)

**CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS**

To receive the Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed all those present and thanked them for their attendance. He briefly made mention to the recent developments around Covid-19, highlighting the new three tier system which the Government are imminently going to put in place, and what this may mean for the local area.

He also noted that Councillor Mohammed Iqbal has recently been awarded an MBE for his services to the local community, and he amongst other Councillors requested that their congratulations be formally passed on to Councillor Iqbal.

**Action:** The Assistant Town Clerk to write to Councillor Iqbal on behalf of the Council to congratulate him on his award.

2020/049  
(TC)

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Assistant Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

No apologies were received for the meeting.

2020/050 (TC)	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u></b> To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from members on matters to be considered at the meeting. Officers are required to make a formal declaration about council contracts where the employee has a financial interest.</p> <p>None declared.</p>
2020/051 (TC)	<p><b><u>ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u></b> To adjourn the meeting for 15 minutes to allow members of the public to make representation on the business of the agenda for the meeting. No resolutions can be under public participation.</p> <p>No members of the public were present at the meeting.</p>
2020/052 (TC)	<p><b><u>REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</u></b> To receive reports from the Borough or County Councillors</p> <p><u>Borough Council</u></p> <p>Councillor Ali had recently attended the Nelson Area Committee meeting whereby he noted that a new Police response unit is due to soon be created on Carr Road. This will provide a welcome boost to town centre safety.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Assistant Town Clerk to request somebody from the Police attend the next Full Council meeting to provide an update around the new response unit and to answer any questions Members may have in relation to the new development.</p> <p><u>County Council</u></p> <p>No County Councillors present to give an update.</p>
2020/053 (TC)	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b> To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 08 September 2020 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Latif and Seconded by Councillor Tennant, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 08 September 2020 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair, subject to the following one amendment:</p> <p>Item 2020/041 – Christmas Lights. The seconder for the motion should read “Councillor Russell Tennant” in place of “Councillor Zafar Tennant”.</p>
2020/054 (TC)	<p><b><u>UPDATE ON COVID-19</u></b> To receive an update around the action being taken in relation to the Covid-19 issue.</p> <p>As earlier mentioned in the Chairman’s Opening Remarks, a three tier system for local lockdowns is due to be announced by the Government in the next couple of days. It is highly likely that Lancashire will be placed in tier three, the highest risk area. This is expected to see local pubs and restaurants need to close their doors for a minimum of three weeks.</p> <p>The Council have done all they can in terms of keeping the local MUGA’s and play areas closed. Signage and fencing has gone up at each of the sites but some residents continue to use the facilities. The Assistant Town Clerk has been in contact with the local Police and Council Officers</p>

	<p>at Pendle Borough Council who have agreed to step up patrols in the areas to try to deter people from using the facilities.</p> <p>Members of the Unity Wellbeing Management Committee have also agreed to keep Unity Hall closed to the public for the time being. This will be reviewed at their next meeting, scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2020/055 (TC)	<p><b><u>REVIEW OF TOWN CENTRE FLORAL DISPLAYS 2020</u></b> To note the costings for the Town Centre floral displays and consider ideas for 2021.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk provided a short report to Members outlining the costs for the Town Centre floral displays throughout 2020.</p> <p>A further, detail review will take place at the next Environmental Improvements meeting due to take place in December.</p> <p>Councillor Wayne Blackburn also requested that his thanks for Nelson in Bloom's efforts be noted in the minutes.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2020/056 (TC)	<p><b><u>REMEMBRANCE DAY 2020</u></b> To discuss plans around how the Town Council can best mark Remembrance Day, given the current restrictions around Covid-19.</p> <p>Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the usual service whereby members of the public gather alongside various representatives to pay their respects to the fallen on Remembrance Day cannot go ahead as usual. However, a small memorial will still take place and Members are keen to have the Town Council involved in some way.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk is awaiting further information from Pendle Borough Council officials who normally organize the event at the cenotaph before confirmation of the Town Council's involvement can be clarified. It is likely that one representative from the Town Council will be invited along to the service and asked to lay a wreath. A wreath is in the Town Council offices ready for the service. Members suggested that the Chairman be asked to attend the service.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Assistant Town Clerk and Councillor Adam to liaise with Mike Sutcliff from the Armed Forces Group and also with Pendle Borough Council for next steps. The Assistant Town Clerk will provide an update to Members as soon as one becomes available.</p>
2020/057 (TC)	<p><b><u>BENCHES</u></b> To discuss moving forward with the replacement of damaged benches around the town.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had circulated the audit report conducted by Unique Facilities back in 2019. Members are requested to read this and get back to the Assistant Town Clerk with comments if they haven't done so already.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Adam and Seconded by Councillor Latif, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That Members contact the Assistant Town Clerk with their views on what works need to be carried out in their specific Ward. The Assistant Town Clerk can then continue with the process of ordering replacement benches where necessary.</p>
2020/058 (TC)	<p><b><u>TRANSFERRED SERVICES</u></b> To receive reports and consider any actions required in relation to transferred services.</p>

- a) CCTV monitoring
- b) MUGAs/Play Areas
- c) Parks Services

CCTV monitoring

The Assistant Town Clerk had circulated a report with the statistics from September. There were no significant cases that needed discussing.

MUGAS and Play Areas

As already mentioned during the Covid-19 update, the MUGA's and play areas are still being used despite the Council's best efforts to keep them secure with barrier fencing. The Police have been contacted and requested to carry out more regular patrols of the areas to ensure the safety of residents.

The update was noted.

Parks Services

The working group set up at the last meeting of the Town Council are still trying to set up a meeting with officials at Pendle Borough Council to discuss this. In the meantime, it was suggested that the working group meet up to discuss plans before meeting with the Pendle Borough Council officers to move things along.

The update was noted.

**Action:** The Assistant Town Clerk to arrange a Zoom meeting between the working group members to discuss the transfer in further detail.

2020/059  
(TC)

**ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA**

To notify the Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.

No matters were requested to be included on the next agenda.

2020/060  
(TC)

**DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

To note the date of the next Full Town Council meeting is to take place on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at Nelson Town Hall.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed by the Chair at 7.30pm.