



Minutes of a meeting of the Environmental Improvements Committee held on Wednesday 01st September 2021 in the Selina Cooper Hall, Unity Well Being Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson

Commenced: 6.30pm - Concluded: 7.10pm

Councillors Present: Councillors Patricia Hannah-Wood, Russell Tennant and Sheila Wicks

Absent Councillors: Faraz Ahmad, Ali Baig, Wayne Blackburn, Michelle Pearson-Asher and Sufyan Sarwar

Non-Councillor (without voting rights): Adrian Barrett

Observing Councillors (not a member of the committee): Sadia Bashir and Atique Rehman

Officers: Nick Harbour – Assistant Town Clerk

Members of the Public: None

2021/015 (EI)	<p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Assistant Town Clerk prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Wicks and Seconded by Councillor Tennant, and RESOLVED: That the apologies received from Councillors Faraz Ahmad, Wayne Blackburn and Michelle Pearson-Asher, are approved and accepted.</p>
2021/016 (EI)	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u> 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>
2021/017 (EI)	<p><u>ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u> 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 present.</p>
2021/018 (EI)	<p><u>MINUTES</u> To approve the draft minutes of the Environmental Improvements committee meeting held on 02 June 2021 (previously circulated)</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Tennant and Seconded by Councillor Wicks, and</p>

	<p>RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Environmental Improvements committee meeting held on the 02 June 2021 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
2021/019 (EI)	<p><u>COMMITTEE REMIT</u> To discuss the Environmental Improvements committee remit.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Tennant and Seconded by Councillor Wicks, and RESOLVED: That this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Environmental Improvements committee.</p>
2021/020 (EI)	<p><u>ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS (PICK UP FOR PENDLE)</u> To receive an update from Members around the latest Pick up for Pendle projects which they have undertaken across the different wards.</p> <p>Councillor Hannah-Wood reported that the recent Pick Up for Pendle event held in the town centre prior to the visit from the North West in Bloom judges. This was well attended and a large amount of rubbish and litter was collected by all those present.</p> <p>Peter Smith from Pick Up for Pendle had emailed the office to state their representatives would no longer be attending the Environmental Improvements committee meetings, but would continue to liaise with the committee on future pick ups.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p>For future litter picks, Members discussed the equipment available and felt new litter pickers would be beneficial for those who go out to tidy up areas in the town.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Tennant and Seconded by Councillor Wicks, and RESOLVED: That the Assistant Town Clerk be asked to order 10 new litter pickers to be stored in the office so that Councillors can collect them when they are going out litter picking.</p>
2021/021 (EI)	<p><u>TREE PLANTING IN NELSON</u> Following approval at the last meeting to join the Lancashire Woodland Connect Project, Members are required to identify potential sites in the town which may be suitable.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk updated Members that he had been in conversations with Lee Johnson at Pendle Borough Council in relation to the project. Any assistance which the Town Council could provide would be appreciated by the LWCP. This could include planting on Council owned land (ie MUGA and play area sites) or simply Councillors volunteering to assist with the planting.</p> <p>A full list of sites already identified has yet to be received from Pendle Borough Council.</p> <p>Action: The Assistant Clerk to request the full list of identified sites from Lee Johnson and to circulate to Members of this committee.</p>
2021/022 (EI)	<p><u>ALLOTMENTS MANAGEMENT</u> To receive an update from Adrian Barrett with feedback from actions discussed at the last Allotments Society meeting.</p> <p>Adrian Barrett provided a brief update for the latest goings on with the allotments in and around Nelson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting lists are still long, though there are 4 vacant plots at Spring Bank Allotments • Audrey Drinkwater has been in touch with the allotments society asking for some trees to be cut back along the canal. The Rivers & Canal Trust are due to visit the area for an awards inspection and this area of land could do with tidying up a little. Adrian has requested the allotment holders in that area carry out the work themselves if possible,

	<p>but will possibly need to get in a professional tree cutting firm to sort any areas that may be dangerous for allotment holders to do themselves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review is still ongoing for the cemeteries adjacent to one of the allotment sites. A number of years ago, this was also looked at and a report came back saying that the bedrock was set at four feet, meaning additional graves could not be dug deep enough. Adrian will report back any further updates at a future meeting in relation to this once the review has been completed by Pendle Borough Council <p>Members thanked Adrian and noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/023 (EI)</p>	<p><u>NORTH WEST IN BLOOM COMPETITION</u></p> <p>To receive feedback following the recent visit from the judges of the North West In Bloom competition.</p> <p>Councillor Tennant updated Members that the judges from the North West in Bloom competition had recently been shown around the town centre by Councillors Ali, Bashir, Tennant and the Assistant Town Clerk. Feedback was generally positive and the judges suggested that the application be switched from a town entry to a town centre entry, given that the vast majority of the display was based in the town centre. This was acted upon and the competition organisers were happy to switch the categories.</p> <p>Results from the judging are expected at some point in September.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/024 (EI)</p>	<p><u>PIGEON ISSUES</u></p> <p>To receive an update around the Pigeon Issues in the town centre which was requested at the last meeting to become a standing item on the agenda.</p> <p>Councillor Hannah-Wood had previously noted that there were still major issues with people feeding pigeons in Nelson Town Centre. The existing signage appears to be too high and people are not reading it. Issues also now underneath the railway bridge where pigeon droppings are causing the footpath below to become hazardous to walk on. The Assistant Town Clerk had since written to Audrey Drinkwater at Pendle Borough Council to ask if signage at eye-level can be installed in the town centre warning people that they are breaking the law for feeding pigeons, and that British Rail are also contacted about the problem underneath the railway bridge. The signage cannot be lowered as when it previously has been, it's been torn down and damaged, resulting in expensive replacements being ordered.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor Tennant, and RESOLVED: That in the next newsletter, information is included in relation to the health and safety issues which can stem from feeding pigeons in the town centre.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk and Councillor Hannah-Wood had also been in contact with Network Rail with regards to the problem of pigeons nesting underneath the railway bridge. Network Rail acknowledged the concerns and the issue is currently still under investigation.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/025 (EI)</p>	<p><u>PARKS</u></p> <p>To receive an update around any environmental issues arising in Nelson's parks following site visits from Councillors of this committee.</p> <p>Councillors Hannah-Wood, Blackburn and Tennant had all recently been on site visits to each of the parks in Nelson in preparation of an upcoming transfer of services review being conducted between the Parks Working Group and Pendle Borough Council. Whilst out on the</p>

	<p>visit, the Councillors located a war memorial stone in Victoria Park, and felt that the Town Council could look to make some improvements around this area, be that something along the lines of benches, a floral tribute nearby and a general tidying up of the area. The Working Group will look to discuss this further at a future working group meeting then come back to either this committee or to Full Council to consider some proposals.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/026 (E1)</p>	<p><u>ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA</u> To notify the Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Remit • Nelson in Bloom • Sagar Street War Memorial • Parks
<p>2021/027 (E1)</p>	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> To note the date of the next committee meeting which is scheduled for 01st December 2021.</p> <p>There being no further, the meeting was closed by the Chair at 7.10pm.</p>