



**Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>  
October 2021 at the Unity Well Being Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson,  
Lancashire**

**Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 8.30pm**

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Zafar Ali [Chair], George Adam, Faraz Ahmad, Omar Ahmed, Zulfiqar Ali, Husnan Arshad, Mohammad Aslam, Patricia Hannah-Wood, Atique Rehman, Mohammad Sarwar, Russell Tennant, Yvonne Tennant, Ikram Ul-Haq and Sheila Wicks

**Absent Councillors:** Councillors Ali Baig, Sadia Bashir, Wayne Blackburn, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Nazeem Hayat, Mashuq Hussain OBE, Michelle Pearson-Asher, Nigel Pearson-Asher and Mohammad Sakib

**Non-Councillor (without voting rights):** Holly May Pinder (Police) and Judith Stockton (Pendle Borough Council)

**County/ Borough Councillors (without voting rights):** None

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

**Members of the Public:** None

2021/080 (TC)	<b><u>ONE MINUTE SILENCE</u></b> The Chairman invites members to observe a one minute of silence  The one-minute silence was observed.
2021/081 (TC)	<b><u>CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS</u></b> To receive the Chairman's opening remarks  The Chairman welcomed all those present and thanked them for their attendance.  The public launch of the Selina Cooper Project took place on Saturday 09 <sup>th</sup> October and was a success. Over 100 visitors turned up on the day and were impressed with the displays. The Chairman noted his thanks to the Project Facilitator and all the volunteers for their hard work in getting the launch to run smoothly.  The Chairman also reminded Members that the Pride of Nelson Awards are due to take place on Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> November at the Fence Gate Inn. Invites will be going out to guests in the next few days.
2021/082 (TC)	<b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b> To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Assistant Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

	Proposed by Councillor Zafar Ali and Seconded by Councillor Arshad, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the apologies received from Councillors Wayne Blackburn, Mashuq Hussain, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Michelle Pearson-Asher and Nigel Pearson-Asher are approved and accepted.
2021/083 (TC)	<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.  None.
2021/084 (TC)	<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.  None.
2021/085 (TC)	<b><u>MINUTES</u></b> To approve the draft minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 08 September 2021 (previously circulated).  Proposed by Councillor Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor UI-Haq, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 08 September 2021 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.
2021/086 (TC)	<b><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u></b> To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance and General Purposes <span style="float: right;">29 September 2021</span></li> </ul> Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor UI-Haq, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes listed above are approved on block as a true and accurate record.
2021/087 (TC)	<b><u>REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</u></b> To receive reports from the Borough or County Councillors  <u>Borough Council</u>  Councillor Ali informed Members that there wasn't much to report from the recent Area Committee meeting, other than several low-key planning applications for consideration. He did also note that Scott Whalley had requested some funding from the Area Committee, which if agreed the Town Council may be requested to match at some point in the future.  Members noted the update.  <u>County Council</u>  No County Councillors were present at the meeting to provide an update.
2021/088 (TC)	<b><u>POLICE UPDATE</u></b> To receive an update from PC Lorna Bolton around the latest issues happening in and around Nelson and to discuss the most recent crime figures for Nelson

	<p>PCSO Holly-May Pinder was in attendance and gave a brief update on the latest crime figures in Nelson. The good news is that there were reductions across the board for September in relation to anti-social behaviour, burglary, vehicle crime, assault and thefts.</p> <p>The team have been working with local youngsters by holding meetings with them in local parks to engage more with them and try to show them that the police are approachable and crimes can be reported directly to them. This has gone down well with good attendance figures during the most recent three sessions.</p> <p>Anti-social driving has been an issue in Nelson of late, and the Police are also working hard to raise awareness of the impact dangerous driving can cause. A week long targeting initiative is due to take place with a multi-agency approach to highlight the dangers. This will include visits to schools, mosques and churches.</p> <p>Bonfire night is fast approaching and Nelson and Brierfield have had issues with anti-social behaviour in the build up to the event with some people causing a nuisance setting off fireworks. Again, the team will be visiting schools, mosques and churches to highlight the dangers of fireworks and also the impact they can have on vulnerable residents.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2021/089 (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>Figures are starting to creep up again in Nelson and Pendle, though the number of deaths being recorded is low. This is likely down to the large vaccination uptake in the local area.</p> <p>The Unity Well Being Centre has now re-opened for bookings. The Caretaker is reminding customers to keep a distance where possible, to keep windows open for ventilation and all the other precautionary measures to try to keep the building as safe as possible for its users.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2021/090 (TC)	<p><b><u>CO-OPTION PROCEDURE – WALVERDEN WARD</u></b> To receive an update from the Assistant Town Clerk in regards to the vacancy in the Walverden Ward.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk notified Members that the vacancy had now been advertised on the Council website and notice board and that the deadline for applications was Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021. So far, no applications have been received in the office.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2021/091 (TC)	<p><b><u>NELSON TOWN DEAL</u></b> To discuss the Nelson Town Deal and prepare for ways to which Nelson Town Council can assist with the process.</p> <p>Judith Stockton of Pendle Borough Council was present at the meeting and gave a detailed presentation in relation to the latest with the Town Deal (see report for full details).</p> <p>A notable extract from the presentation highlighted that Town Deal representatives keen to work with the Town Council in relation to improvements at the parks, given the possibility of the Town Council taking ownership of them in the not-too-distant future.</p> <p>Members noted the update and thanked Judith for the presentation.</p>

<p>2021/092 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT GRANT</u></b> To note the potential of setting up a Business Improvement District in Nelson.</p> <p>Neil Watson of Pendle Borough Council had recently been in touch with the office to enquire whether the Town Council would be in a position to act as the governing body for a potential Business Improvement Grant bid in Nelson.</p> <p>Whilst nothing is yet confirmed, no decision needed to be taken at this stage, it was just to inform Members that a formal request may come in soon if the initiative is taken forward. Members indicated that they would be happy to support a BID for Nelson should one be submitted.</p> <p>Members at Pendle Borough Council will be discussing this further at a future Policy and Resources meeting and an update can be provided at a future meeting of this Council.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/093 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>ACE CENTRE</u></b> To discuss the uncertainty in relation to the future of the ACE Centre in Nelson Town Centre.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that discussions are still ongoing between Pendle Leisure Trust and Pendle Borough Council in relation to the future of the ACE Centre. Closure of the facility is the final option which all parties hope can be avoided. A review is currently being undertaken by the Leisure Trust and the Town Deal money could be used to help fund the running of the Centre.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/094 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>BACK STREET PROJECTS</u></b> To receive an update from the Vice-Chairman in relation to the Back Streets Project.</p> <p>A meeting recently took place between the Assistant Town Clerk, Chairman, Vice-Chairman and representatives from Pendle Borough Council to discuss the various options available in terms of the back street improvements finishes. Some residents had been calling for a kerbed finish on their back street rather than a smooth finish stretching across the entire back street. Whilst the kerbed finishes do look good, the vast majority of the time they are not practical due to various issues, including where utility mains are located on the back streets. The kerbed finishes are also considerably more expensive to have done.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had circulated the updated list of works to be carried out on the Back Streets Project.</p> <p>Councillors were reminded that if they have any further streets they would like to be passed on to Scott Whalley at Pendle Borough Council, to send the details through to the office.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/095 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>SPORTS AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE</u></b> To discuss setting up a new Standing Committee Group for Sports and Community items.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Ul-Haq, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That this item is deferred to a future meeting to enable Terms of Reference to be set out before being presented to the Full Council for a decision.</p>
<p>2021/096 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>CEMETERY ALLOTMENTS</u></b> To consider approving payment to the Cemetery Allotments Society for a recent soil survey they had done at a cost of £1,338.</p>

	<p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Adam, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That payment of £1,338 for the soil survey report be approved, subject to a copy of the report being submitted to the office.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Assistant Town Clerk to request a copy of the report from Cemetery Allotments before issuing the cheque for payment.</p>
<p>2021/097 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>MEETING SCHEDULE</u></b>  To review the meeting schedule for 2021/22 to rectify an administrative error for meetings set for Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk notified Members that an error had been spotted in the meeting schedule. On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021, two meetings had been scheduled for the same time (Finance and General Purposes and Personnel).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ahmad and Seconded by Councillor Tennant, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Personnel meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 18:30 is moved to Wednesday 03<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 at 18:30.</p>
<p>2021/098 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>TRANSFERRED SERVICES</u></b>  To receive reports and consider any actions required in relation to transferred services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) CCTV monitoring</li> <li>b) MUGAs/Play Areas</li> <li>c) Parks Services</li> <li>d) Additional services to consider from Pendle Borough Council following a recent meeting with Pendle Borough Council Officer Philip Mousdale</li> </ul> <p><u>CCTV monitoring</u>  The Assistant Town Clerk had circulated the September CCTV monitoring report to Members. Nothing of major concern was included in the report this time.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p> <p><u>MUGAS and Play Areas</u>  Pendle Borough Council have finished the annual audit of the Play Areas and MUGA's in August. The Assistant Town Clerk is awaiting the report with the findings of this years audit.</p> <p>New signage with the Town Council logo and contact details has now arrived. The maintenance team from Pendle Borough Council are currently installing these at all sites.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p> <p><u>Parks Services</u>  Members of the Parks Working Group had recently been out to visit the three parks in Nelson ahead of further discussions which are due to take place with Pendle Borough Council surrounding the transfer of services to the Town Council.</p> <p>Members stressed the importance of conducting an independent survey of each park to ensure that everything in there is currently safe and in working order, to ensure that no immediate costs are put on the town council in relation to matters which should have been already dealt with whilst still under ownership of Pendle Borough Council.</p>

	<p>The Working Group also recently met with representatives of the friends groups to discuss the future of the parks and it is important that the links with these groups are maintained.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p> <p><u>Additional Services</u> Philip Mousdale has requested a meeting Pendle Borough Council and all Town Council's in the Borough to discuss the potential of further transfer of services.</p> <p>Additional services which the Town Council's of the Borough have been invited to take over include town centre benches, town centre sweeping, cemeteries and other services. As of yet, costings for these services have not been provided to the office so without these, no progress can be made yet.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p>
2021/099 (TC)	<p><b><u>ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA</u></b> To notify the Assistant Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land next to Unity Well Being Centre</li> </ul>
2021/100 (TC)	<p><b><u>DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING</u></b> To note the date of the next Full Town Council meeting is to take place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at the Unity Well Being Centre.</p> <p>Members noted the date of the next meeting.</p> <p>There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed by the Chair at 8.30pm.</p>