



**Minutes of a meeting of the Environmental Improvements Committee held on Wednesday 02nd March 2022 in the Selina Cooper Hall, Unity Well Being Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson**

**Commenced: 6.30pm - Concluded: 7.15pm**

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

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

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

**Observing Councillors (not a member of the committee):** None

**Officers:** Nick Harbour – Assistant Town Clerk

**Members of the Public:** None

2021/043 (E1)	<p><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.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Blackburn and Seconded by Councillor Wicks, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the apologies received from Councillors Faraz Ahmad and Zafar Ali, are approved and accepted.</p>
2021/044 (E1)	<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>
2021/045 (E1)	<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 present.</p>
2021/046 (E1)	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b> To approve the draft minutes of the Environmental Improvements committee meeting held on 01 December 2021 (previously circulated)</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Wicks and Seconded by Councillor Tennant, and</p>

	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes of the Environmental Improvements committee meeting held on the 01 December 2021 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
<p>2021/047 (EI)</p>	<p><b><u>CLIMATE EMERGENCY ISSUES</u></b> A standing item to identify and consider council initiatives which will help deal with the climate emergency through Nelson Town Council’s functions, facilities and any other remit.</p> <p>The Chair raised two issues that this Council could possibly look at in terms of Climate Emergency issues. The first being the amount of fumes emitting from vehicles in the town centre. Members were keen to investigate the emissions figures in Nelson to see how high they were, and if they were higher than expected then perhaps this could be an area to look at in relation to the Climate Emergency.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Assistant Town Clerk to try to source the emissions figures for Nelson.</p> <p>The second item was in relation to trees. Residents have been cutting down trees on their own land to make way for extensions to their property. Whilst they are fully entitled to do this, the concerns are that no trees are being planted elsewhere to replace the felled ones.</p> <p>Members also discussed the possibility of influencing the Town Deal to try where possible to make things carbon neutral. This will require a discussion at a future meeting.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/048 (EI)</p>	<p><b><u>COMMITTEE REMIT</u></b> To discuss the Environmental Improvements committee remit.</p> <p>An item has been on this committee’s agenda for the past three meetings to discuss a potential review of the committee remit. Given that all committee remits are due to be reviewed in the near future, it was decided to defer this item and discuss at a future Full Council meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Blackburn and Seconded by Councillor Hannah-Wood, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That this item be requested to go on a future meeting of the Full Council to discuss this committee’s remit along with other committees.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Councillor Blackburn to submit a motion to Full Council to discuss the matter further.</p>
<p>2021/049 (EI)</p>	<p><b><u>ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS (PICK UP FOR PENDLE)</u></b> To receive an update from Members around the latest Pick up for Pendle projects which they have undertaken across the different wards.</p> <p>Members present discussed litter in and around the town centre and concluded that it seems to have got slightly worse over these last few months – particularly in some locations where the Council had cut back shrubbery near Home Bargains.</p> <p>It was agreed to set a date for a litter pick in this area and to invite Pick Up For Pendle as well as all Councillors to come and help out. This will also coincide with the Great British Spring Clean.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Blackburn and Seconded by Councillor Tennant, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That a litter pick is arranged, beginning at Home Bargains, on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 10:00am. All Councillors are requested to attend and Pick Up For Pendle are also to be invited.</p> <p>Councillors were reminded that if they needed any litter pickers or bin bags for future collections in their own area, they are available from the Unity Well Being Centre or from Pendle Borough Council.</p>

<p>2021/050 (E1)</p>	<p><b><u>GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN</u></b> To discuss ways in which this Town Council can get involved in the upcoming Great British Spring Clean due to take place 25<sup>th</sup> March to 10<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p>As resolved in the above item, Members have approved to take part in the Great British Spring Clean in Nelson Town Centre on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Assistant Town Clerk to inform Audrey Drinkwater of the Council's plans for participation.</p>
<p>2021/051 (E1)</p>	<p><b><u>ALLOTMENTS MANAGEMENT</u></b> To receive an update from Adrian Barrett with feedback from actions discussed at the last Allotments Society meeting.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had spoken with Adrian Barrett prior to the meeting and provided a brief update for the latest goings on with the allotments in and around Nelson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waiting lists are still long, though there are 4 vacant plots at Spring Bank Allotments. Another 5 applications had been received this month alone. This is likely down to people wanting an allotment ready for the spring.</li> <li>• Some minor repair work had to take place down at Hodge House Allotments where a tree had fallen in the recent storms and caused damage to a lady's fence in an adjoining property. This work has now been completed.</li> </ul> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/052 (E1)</p>	<p><b><u>PIGEON ISSUES</u></b> 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>At the previous meeting of this committee, the Assistant Town Clerk was requested to ask Pendle Borough Council to jet wash the walkway underneath the railway bridge. This appears to have now been actioned as the walkway is much improved in recent times and is no longer slippery when walking across it.</p> <p>Councillor Ahmad was also asked to raise the issue of people feeding pigeons in the town centre with Pendle Borough Council at the Nelson Area Committee meeting. Unfortunately, Councillor Ahmad was not present at this meeting to give an update. Members commented that it does appear to be less of an issue at present, but that is likely down to people not sitting out to eat during the winter months. This will continue to be reviewed as we head into the spring.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/053 (E1)</p>	<p><b><u>PARKS</u></b> To receive an update around any environmental issues arising in Nelson's parks following site visits from Councillors of this committee.</p> <p>The update around the Parks remains the same as at the previous meeting.</p> <p>The Town Deal grant recently achieved by Pendle Borough Council does have lots of funding that is due to be allocated to the town's parks. Meetings are due to take place soon to see how exactly this money will be spent. The next steps for the Town Council will pend on the outcome of these meetings. Regular updates are now received from the Chairman at Full Council meetings, so for now it remains a 'watch this space' item before any further decisions are made in relation to the parks.</p>

	Members noted the update.
2021/054 (EI)	<p><b><u>NELSON IN BLOOM</u></b> To discuss Nelson in Bloom as requested to be placed on this agenda at the previous meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Tennant reported that volunteer numbers for Nelson in Bloom are still quite low – mainly due to the ongoing pandemic. The volunteers have been out on occasions and worked on planters in the town centre. They are keen to begin working on the Sagar Street War Memorial which is now looking a little unkempt and overgrown.</p> <p>The main focus of the volunteers will now be on the Sagar Street War Memorial and also the 5 tier planters in and around the town centre. Councillor Tennant is currently in the process of looking at sourcing some funding for the group.</p> <p>Councillor Wicks also stated that she will be attending the Walverden Friends Group meeting next Tuesday and will inform the volunteers there of the updates around Nelson in Bloom and see if anyone there would be interested in helping out when they have some free time.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2021/055 (EI)	<p><b><u>SAGAR STREET WAR MEMORIAL</u></b> To discuss the Sagar Street War Memorial as requested to be placed on this agenda at the previous meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Tennant informed Members that Nelson in Bloom team are planning on doing some work to the Sagar Street War Memorial if they can get the required funding.</p> <p>The memorial has been left unattended for some time now as the team had been concentrating on the town centre area. Some of the plants at the site have now become overgrown and too big for the area.</p> <p>Nelson in Bloom are hoping to remove the overgrown plants and will look to re-plant them at other areas in the town and replace them with some smaller, more manageable plants in the next few months.</p> <p>Councillor Tennant is currently looking to source some funding for materials and new plants. He will be contacting Mike Williams at Pendle Borough Council who has some grant money available.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2021/056 (EI)	<p><b><u>ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA</u></b> To notify the Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United Nations Sustainability Goals</li> </ul>
2021/057 (EI)	<p><b><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></b> To note the date of the next committee meeting which is scheduled for *June 2022.</p> <p>*The finalized Meeting Schedule for 2022/23 has yet to be resolved by Full Council.</p> <p>Members noted the date of the next meeting.</p> <p>There being no further, the meeting was closed by the Chair at 7.15pm.</p>