



**Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 09<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at the Unity Well Being Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson, Lancashire**

**Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 7.45pm**

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Zafar Ali [Chair], Faraz Ahmad, Omar Ahmed, Sadia Bashir, Patricia Hannah-Wood, Michelle Pearson-Asher, Nigel Pearson-Asher, Atique Rehman, Mohammad Sarwar, Russell Tennant, Yvonne Tennant, Ikram Ul-Haq and Sheila Wicks

**Absent Councillors:** Councillors George Adam, Zulfiqar Ali, Husnan Arshad, Mohammad Aslam, Ali Baig, Wayne Blackburn, Rehan Hanif, Nazeem Hayat, Mashuq Hussain OBE, Mohammad Kamran Latif and Mohammad Sakib

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

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

**Officers:** Nick Harbour – Assistant Town Clerk [minute taker] Frances Spencer - Administrator

**Members of the Public:** Sarah Mumby and Jane Turner

2021/183  
(TC)

**ONE MINUTE SILENCE**

The Chairman invites members to observe a one minute of silence

Members requested that the usual one-minute was extended to two minutes out of respect for those affected by the issues currently taking place in Ukraine.

The two-minute silence was observed.

2021/184  
(TC)

**CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS**

To receive the Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed all those present and thanked them for their attendance.

The first remarks were around the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. The Chairman highlighted this Council's stance on wanting to stand united with the people of Ukraine and the tragic circumstances currently taking place there. He also highlighted that many similar events have not been given the same levels of attention as the one in Ukraine and felt that the government should be taking a consistent approach to all these types of conflicts. Locally, residents will suffer knock on effects of what is happening elsewhere with things such as energy bill increases and diesel prices. Tough times are ahead for everybody.

Lastly, he welcomed new starter Frances Spencer. Frances joins the office team to provide some temporary administrative support.

2021/185 (TC)	<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 Zafar Ali and Seconded by Councillor Russell Tennant, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the apologies received from Councillors George Adam, Husnan Arshad, Wayne Blackburn, Mashuq Hussain, Mohammad Kamran Latif and Rehan Hanif are approved and accepted.</p>								
2021/186 (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.</p>								
2021/187 (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>Sarah Mumby and Jane Turner were present to discuss item 14 – Pendle Food For All.</p>								
2021/188 (TC)	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b> To approve the draft minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 09 February 2022 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor Bashir, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 09 February 2022 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>								
2021/189 (TC)	<p><b><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u></b> To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:</p> <table data-bbox="316 1308 1382 1451"> <tr> <td>• Finance &amp; General Purposes</td> <td>23 February 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• EO Events, Promotional &amp; Marketing</td> <td>23 February 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Environmental Improvements</td> <td>02 March 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Events, Promotional &amp; Marketing</td> <td>02 March 2022</td> </tr> </table> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor Michelle Pearson-Asher, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes listed above are approved on block as a true and accurate record.</p>	• Finance & General Purposes	23 February 2022	• EO Events, Promotional & Marketing	23 February 2022	• Environmental Improvements	02 March 2022	• Events, Promotional & Marketing	02 March 2022
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2021/190 (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>Councillors Ali and Ahmad gave a brief update having attended the recent Policy and Resources committee meeting at Pendle Borough Council. The Police who were present at the meeting stated that there were going to be some traffic calming measures implemented in the town soon.</p> <p>Some further good news for residents is that there will be some re-lining of the town centre parking areas and talks are also underway for some lighting column upgrades.</p>								

	<p>Members noted the update.</p> <p><u>County Council</u></p> <p>No County Councillors were present at the meeting to provide an update.</p>
2021/191 (TC)	<p><b><u>CLIMATE EMERGENCY ISSUES</u></b></p> <p>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>No issues identified.</p>
2021/192 (TC)	<p><b><u>POLICE UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>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> <p>PC Lorna Bolton was unable to attend the meeting, but had circulated the latest crime statistics from February for all areas of Nelson.</p> <p>Anti-social behaviour numbers had fallen in comparison to this stage last year, but burglary had increased.</p> <p>The main issues the Police have been working towards combatting are speeding, anti-social behaviour and drug related issues.</p> <p>The Chairman asked that if anyone present had any further queries around the figures provided that the contact PC Bolton directly.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2021/193 (TC)	<p><b><u>UPDATE ON COVID-19</u></b></p> <p>To receive an update around the action being taken in relation to the Covid-19 issue.</p> <p>Figures are gradually reducing in Nelson and Pendle, and the number of deaths being recorded is low. This is likely down to the large vaccination uptake in the local area.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that this standing item now be removed from future Full Council meetings and only return should there be a new outbreak of the virus.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2021/194 (TC)	<p><b><u>NELSON TOWN DEAL</u></b></p> <p>To discuss the Nelson Town Deal and prepare for ways to which Nelson Town Council can assist with the process.</p> <p>The Chairman informed Members that work continues at Pendle Borough Council in relation to the Town Deal. The communications strategy is currently coming together to ensure residents are fully up to date with the latest on the project.</p> <p>Public realm improvement discussions have now started. Consultants have also visited the town and following a walkabout in the town centre, early indications show the traffic flow through the town centre could detract from visitors using the town centre shops. There is a possibility that a new roundabout could be installed in place of traffic lights. A detailed traffic survey report will be prepared and those on the board can work towards decisions based on the findings.</p>

	<p>Phil Riley had recently expressed his thanks to this Town Council for offering to support the shortfall in the original planned funding to go towards the parks project of the Town Deal.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/195 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>BACK STREET PROJECT</u></b> To receive an update from the Vice-Chairman in relation to the Back Streets Project.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk noted that works have now begun on back Lomeshaye and Swaine Street. A temporary delay is in place due to a drainage issue but work will recommence shortly.</p> <p>A number of new streets for consideration have been submitted by Councillors which have now been added to the waiting list and will be dealt with at a later stage.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/196 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>PENDLE FOOD FOR ALL</u></b> To consider financial support for Pendle Food For All and to discuss ideas on how to make the project sustainable in the upcoming months.</p> <p>Jane Turner and Sarah Mumby of Pendle Food For All were present at the meeting and gave a brief background of the good work which the Pendle Food For All organisation cover. More and more families in Nelson are struggling to be able to afford food for themselves and the organisation help to support them in times of need. Whilst funding bids are in for grants available, it is likely that these won't be agreed for a further six months, meaning a shortfall of £12,000 in the meantime. They asked about the possibility of the Town Council contributing towards these costs and also for other ideas of support.</p> <p>The Town Council has had numerous such requests from other worthy organisations, but given budget restrictions, it is not viable for the Council to give out the full cost to cover the services. Councillors advised that the organisation should complete the small grant funding request form for up to £1,000 which can then be considered at a future Finance and General Purposes committee.</p> <p>Councillors also suggested contacting Sainsbury's, Morrison's and the Lancashire BME programme who all have funding available for such organisations.</p> <p>The Events committee will also be able to assist by allowing the organisation to come along to future Nelson Town Council events and allowing them to have a stall to raise awareness and also take donations on the day.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Assistant Town Clerk to send Jane and Sarah a copy of the Small Grant Funding application form.</p>
<p>2021/197 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>WARD FLORAL DISPLAYS</u></b> An item has been requested to be added to this agenda to discuss the possibility of installing some floral displays around each Ward in the town.</p> <p>Councillor Ahmad suggested to Members that it could be a good idea for each Ward in the town to install some floral displays in their area. On the back of the good work being done in and around the town centre, he felt that it would enhance some of the more residential areas further away from the town centre. He had identified a couple of locations in the Walverden Ward and suggested that Councillors may wish to see if there was anywhere in their Ward which could be suitable should they wish to progress the idea.</p> <p>Members were in agreement that this would be a good idea and would look at potential sites</p>

	<p>in their respective Wards. Once these areas are identified, the Council would need to find out who currently had ownership of these plots of land to gain the relevant permission to plant on them. It is likely that the majority of sites would be Pendle Borough Council owned.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Councillors to consider which plots of land in their Ward may be suitable for such a scheme and to compile a list of these. Work can then be carried out finding out who owned them and further discussions can take place thereafter.</p>
<p>2021/198 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>GIBB HILL</u></b> To receive an update on the future of Gibb Hill and the possibility of requesting a transfer of ownership from Pendle Borough Council.</p> <p>A meeting is still yet to take place between the Town Council and Borough Council with regards to the future of Gibb Hill. This was agreed at a Borough Council meeting almost a year ago but has not been arranged.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk will contact Philip Mousdale at Pendle Borough Council to arrange a meeting.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/199 (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 February 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> The reports have now been received from Pendle Borough Council in terms of what needs doing to the MUGAS and Play Areas. The Assistant Town Clerk will circulate these.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p> <p><u>Parks Services</u> No further updates around the transfer of parks services. As resolved at the January meeting, the Town Council have agreed to support the Nelson Town Bid parks project with a £50,000 contribution per year over the next five years.</p> <p>Concerns were raised with the condition of the bridge at Marsden Park. Members were keen to find out whether the Town Deal money would cover repairs/ replacement of this.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Assistant Town Clerk to raise this query with Phil Riley at Pendle Borough Council.</p>

	<p><u>Additional Services</u>  No additional services are currently being considered following the funding put towards the shortfall in the Town Deal parks project.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p>
2021/200 (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> <p>None.</p>
2021/201 (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 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 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 7.45pm.</p>