



**Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at the Unity Wellbeing Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson, Lancashire**

**Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 8.10pm**

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Zafar Ali [Chair], Zulfiqar Ali, Faraz Ahmad, Omar Ahmed, Mohammad Aslam, Sadia Bashir, Ali Baig, Patricia Hannah-Wood, Mashuq Hussain OBE, Mohammad Sakib, Mohammad Sarwar, Russell Tennant, Yvonne Tennant and Sheila Wicks

**Absent Councillors:** Councillors George Adam, Husnan Arshad, Wayne Blackburn, Rehan Hanif, Nazeem Hayat, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Michelle Pearson-Asher, Nigel Pearson-Asher, Atique Rehman and Ikram Ul-Haq

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

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

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

**Members of the Public:** None

2021/202 (TC)	<p><b><u>ONE MINUTE SILENCE</u></b> The Chairman invites members to observe a one minute of silence</p> <p>The one-minute silence was observed.</p>
2021/203 (TC)	<p><b><u>CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS</u></b> To receive the Chairman's opening remarks</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed all those present and thanked them for their attendance.</p> <p>The first remarks were highlighting that we are currently in the month of Ramadan, the month of giving and thinking of those less fortunate.</p> <p>Secondly, he also briefly discussed the ongoing conflict in the Ukraine, and that the Council's thoughts are also with those suffering due to the war.</p> <p>Lastly, he mentioned that Purdah is now in place due to the upcoming local elections, and wished all those standing this year all the best with their election campaign. The next Town Council elections are due to be held next year, 2023.</p>
2021/204 (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 Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor Russell Tennant, and</p>

	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the apologies received from Councillors Wayne Blackburn, Rehan Hanif, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Michelle Pearson-Asher and Nigel Pearson-Asher are approved and accepted.</p>
2021/205 (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>
2021/206 (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>None.</p>
2021/207 (TC)	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b> To approve the draft minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 09 March 2022 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Sarwar and Seconded by Councillor Hannah-Wood, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 09 March 2022 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
2021/208 (TC)	<p><b><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u></b> To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unity Wellbeing Management <span style="float: right;">23 March 2022</span></li> </ul> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ahmad and Seconded by Councillor Hussain, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes listed above are approved as a true and accurate record.</p>
2021/209 (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 Ahmad noted that not much was discussed at the latest Pendle Borough Council meeting in relation to planning applications.</p> <p>Councillor Ali did however provide good news in that the 'Virtual High Street' service is now due to go live in the next few days. The service will provide shops in Nelson the opportunity to promote and take orders for their shops online. Click and collect services can also be provided on the website. Councillor Ali encouraged those present to speak with any shop owners who aren't already registered for the service and to contact Mike Williams if they'd like to sign up.</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>
2021/210	<p><b><u>CLIMATE EMERGENCY ISSUES</u></b></p>

(TC)	<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>
2021/211 (TC)	<p><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> <p>PC Lorna Bolton was unable to attend the meeting but had circulated the latest crime statistics from March for all areas of Nelson. She had also informed Members when circulating the report that she will now be moving over to Barrowford. The good news though is that two new officers (Tom Schofield and Jemima Hill) have been appointed to work in Nelson, and interviews are currently taking place for a third.</p> <p>Members asked that their thanks be recorded to PC Bolton for all her hard work in Nelson over the last few months.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2021/212 (TC)	<p><b><u>MEETING SCHEDULE</u></b> To approve the enclosed meeting schedule for the year 2022/23.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had previously circulated a draft meeting schedule for the year 2022/2023 for Member approval.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor Baig, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft meeting schedule as presented before this committee is approved and accepted for 2022/23.</p>
2021/213 (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>Discussions are continuing at Pendle Borough Council in terms of next steps for the Town Deal. Plans have been drawn up for improvements to the access of Nelson – which are estimated to cost £20,000,000. The Town Deal has just over £3,000,000 allocated to this part of the project, meaning there is a significant shortfall to what has been drawn up in the proposed plans. Downgrading of these plans is highly likely, however Councillors at all levels are against this and are hopeful that funding can be sourced from elsewhere, including Lancashire County Council.</p> <p>The first three areas for improvement could potentially be sites at Railway Street near the bus station, Scotland Road near Home Bargains and Sagar Street near the Police Station – these are yet to be confirmed.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2021/214 (TC)	<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><b>2021/214.1 To receive an update from the Vice-Chairman in relation to the Back Streets Project.</b></p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had circulated the updated list of back streets which had been approved and had on the timescales of when the works are likely to commence. Councillors</p>

	<p>asked that residents are made aware that it was Nelson Town Council who provided the funding for these works as opposed to Pendle Borough Council or Lancashire County Council. This will be highlighted in the upcoming Town Council newsletter, and Members were also encouraged to speak with residents in their area to ensure they know it was provided by the Town Council. Letters can also be provided at the office should Members wish to post these out to residents who have had works done behind their property.</p> <p><b>2021/214.2 To consider the quotations received on the recent tender issues for works at Fir and Larch Street, York Street and Ripon and Beaufort Street.</b></p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Sarwar and Seconded by Councillor Hussain, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the quote for the works at Back Fir and Larch Street, Back York Street and Back Ripon and Beaufort Street are approved as recommended by Pendle Borough Council.</p>
<p>2021/215 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>SIX-MONTH DISPENSATION FOR COUNCILLOR GEORGE ADAM</u></b>  To consider a six-month dispensation for Councillor George Adam.</p> <p>Councillor George Adam has recently been experiencing some health complications and is currently on the waiting list for some surgery. He explained to the Assistant Town Clerk that he is having difficulties with movement in his leg and that it is a struggle to attend meetings, and therefore requested that Members consider a six-month dispensation for him from Council meetings.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor Ali, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the six-month dispensation for Councillor George Adam is granted, and that a letter is sent to him passing on all Member’s best wishes.</p>
<p>2021/216 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>TOWN CENTRE FLORAL DISPLAYS</u></b>  To consider the approval and purchase of new town centre floral displays in preparation for the upcoming North West In Bloom competition.</p> <p>The Chairman and Assistant Town Clerk had been working behind the scenes on ways to improve the town centre floral displays ready for the North West In Bloom competition due to take place in the summer of 2022. They had identified two areas where they thought floor planters would be beneficial – outside the medical centre on Leeds Road and also outside the former Black Bull Pub on Scotland Road. Quotes were received for these and previously circulated to Members. In addition to this, they also suggested that the existing tiered planters in the town centre are now looking worn and that these are replaced. The existing ones could then be kept and relocated at other sites on the outskirts of the town centre to start expanding the displays. Quotes were also provided and previous circulated for these new planters.</p> <p>All present were in agreement with the ideas and read through the report which contained the quotes and pictures of the products available.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Russell Tennant, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the quotes provided by GE Views are approved for the four new tiered planters for the town centre and also for the four new floor planters for Leeds Road and Scotland Road.</p>
<p>2021/217 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>PARKS CONTRIBUTION</u></b>  To authorise an amendment to the pay structure of the recently agreed £250,000 funding request to Pendle Borough Council for the proposed works to parks in Nelson relating to the Nelson Town Deal.</p>

	<p>Phil Riley of Pendle Borough Council had recently contacted the office in relation to the recently agreed parks contribution. The plans drawn up were for a five-year financial project, the first of which being 2021/22. Given that financial year has now ended, he requested that the Town Council pay the contribution in four installments over the next four years, rather than the initially approved five years. This means that £62,500 would be paid each of the next four years rather than £50,000 over five years. There will be no additional costs to the Council than what were previously approved.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Hannah-Wood, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the contribution from Nelson Town Council is approved to be made at £62,500 over four years rather than £50,000 over five years.</p>
<p>2021/218 (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>Councillor Yvonne Tennant gave a brief update around the future of Gibb Hill. It had been approved at a recent Pendle Borough Council meeting that a working group be set up between five Borough Councillors to identify next steps about the future of the land.</p> <p>Councillor Tennant suggested that this keeps on the Town Council radar and that they request frequent updates from this newly formed working group.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/219 (TC)</p>	<p><b><u>ROAD SAFETY MATTERS</u></b>  To resolve an implementation plan to tackle the issue of anti-social driving and speeding in the town.</p> <p>Anti-social driving and speeding around the town continues to be a major safety issue and Members discussed ways in which the Town Council could help to deter dangerous driving. It was sadly reported the previous week that there had been a three-way vehicle smash on Manchester Road, and that there were numerous people severely injured and unfortunately, one fatality.</p> <p>The Police have now increased their patrols in the area and have also set up some operation dates where they will be monitoring the situation further.</p> <p>A press release will also be going out in the next few days where some Town Councillors along with school children have been down to the incident site to start a campaign against dangerous driving.</p> <p>Members also noted that a major problem was now outside schools where parents are dropping their children off in the mornings. This is still occurring despite schools placing staff outside their buildings encouraging the drivers to not pull in at the congested entrances. Members agreed that more needs to be done in these locations and will look at ways to combat the issues. They also agreed that early intervention towards dangerous driving could be a way forward to help prevent future incidents.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
<p>2021/220 (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> </ul>

	<p>c) Parks Services d) Additional services to consider from Pendle Borough Council following a recent meeting with Pendle Borough Council Officer Philip Mousdale</p> <p><u>CCTV monitoring</u> The Assistant Town Clerk had circulated the March 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></p> <p>Councillor Ahmad had recently visited a number of MUGAS and Play Areas and had some concerns about the conditions of some of the sites. He requested that the trees at Lomeshaye MUGA were cut back as branches were falling onto the pitch and that the fencing needed cleaning.</p> <p>He also asked that a padlock be removed from one of the entrances at Vernon Street Play Area.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p> <p><u>Parks Services</u></p> <p>At the previous meeting of the Council, concerns were raised in relation to the condition of the bridge at Marsden Park. The Assistant Town Clerk had contacted Pendle Borough Council to raise this issue and was informed by Phil Riley that this was already in hand and the bridge will be being replaced.</p> <p>The update was noted.</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>
2021/221 (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>
2021/222 (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 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at the Unity Wellbeing 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 8.10pm.</p>