



Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 8th June 2022 at the Unity Wellbeing Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson, Lancashire

Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 8.05pm

Councillors Present: Councillors Mohammad Kamran Latif (Chair), Zafar Ali, Faraz Ahmad, Omar Ahmed, Ali Baig, Rehan Hanif, Patricia Hannah-Wood, Mashuq Hussain OBE, Michelle Pearson-Asher, Nigel Pearson-Asher, Atique Rehman, Mohammad Sufyaan Sarwar, Mohammad Sakib, Russell Tennant, Yvonne Tennant, and Sheila Wicks

Absent Councillors: Councillors George Adam, Zulfiqar Chaudhry Ali, Husnan Arshad, Mohammad Aslam, Sadia Bashir, Wayne Blackburn, Nazeem Hayat 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] and Frances Spencer – Administrator

Members of the Public: Marie Stone

2022/022
(TC)

ONE MINUTE SILENCE

The Chairman invites members to observe a one minute of silence.

The one-minute silence was observed.

2022/023
(TC)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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 Mohammad Sakib and
RESOLVED: That the apologies received from Councillors George Adam, Husnan Arshad, Zulfiqar Chaudhry Ali, Sadia Bashir, and Wayne Blackburn are approved and accepted.

2022/024
(TC)

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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.

2022/025
(TC)

ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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>Local resident, Marie Stone, told those present she was disappointed by the apparent lack of festivities relating to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. She added that this apparent lack of organisation led her to be concerned about how the Nelson Town Deal will be handled.</p> <p>Councillors responded by thanking her for her comments and they would be taken on board. It was explained there was confusion between Pendle and Nelson Town Councils regarding who was putting up bunting in the town, and when this came to light, Members of this Council put up bunting in the town on Wednesday 01st and Thursday 02nd June.</p> <p>There was an event at Unity Well Being Centre on Saturday 04th June. The Town Council had a Spring Festival four weeks earlier, and as it lacks the building and staffing resources of some other town councils, and it wasn't possible to organise another town centre event in the timescale. In any case, the event at Unity Hall was very well attended by local residents and positive feedback was received by those present.</p> <p>However, it was acknowledged that more could have been done and lessons will be learned. The Town Council is in the process of recruiting another member of staff so this will make the organising of future events much easier.</p> <p>In regards to the concerns raised around the Nelson Town Deal – this is actually being driven by Pendle Borough Council. The Town Council are actively supporting the project, including providing a £250,000 contribution to go towards the upgrading of the three parks in the town.</p>						
2022/026 (TC)	<p><u>MINUTES</u> To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11 May 2022 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Hannah-Wood RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 11 May 2022 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>						
2022/027 (TC)	<p><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u> To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>• Finance and General Purposes Committee</td><td>25 May 2022</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Environmental Improvements</td><td>01 Jun 2022</td></tr> <tr> <td>• EO Events, Promotional and Marketing Committee</td><td>01 Jun 2022</td></tr> </table> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor R. Tennant, and RESOLVED: That the draft minutes listed above are approved as a true and accurate record.</p>	• Finance and General Purposes Committee	25 May 2022	• Environmental Improvements	01 Jun 2022	• EO Events, Promotional and Marketing Committee	01 Jun 2022
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2022/028 (TC)	<p><u>REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</u> To receive reports from the Borough or County Councillors</p> <p><u>Borough Council</u></p> <p>Councillors Ahmad and Ali had recently attended the Nelson Area Committee meeting. Nothing of significance was reported at the meeting, just a couple of minor planning applications in the Nelson area.</p> <p>Councillor Hannah-Wood asked the Pendle Borough Councillors present if there were any plans for the bank buildings which were now empty in the town centre. Councillor Ahmad stated that he hadn't heard any updates into these and that they were privately owned buildings so there wasn't too much Pendle Borough Council could do in terms of getting them occupied.</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>
2022/029 (TC)	<p><u>CLIMATE EMERGENCY ISSUES</u></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>Councillor R. Tennant asked that when the Council come to upgrade the playgrounds and MUGAs in terms of resurfacing, that contractors are asked to ensure the surface has a Green Certification (made from recycled tyres).</p> <p>Members noted the update and were in agreement that this should be requested of contractors in any future tenders.</p>
2022/030 (TC)	<p><u>POLICE UPDATE</u></p> <p>To receive an update from PCs Jemima Hill and/or Thomas Schofield around the latest issues happening in and around Nelson and to discuss the most recent crime figures for Nelson</p> <p>PCs Jemima Hill and Thomas Schofield had sent their apologies that they could not be present at the meeting to give an update. They submitted a Crime Report for the meeting.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2022/031 (TC)	<p><u>NELSON TOWN DEAL</u></p> <p>To discuss the Nelson Town Deal and prepare for ways to which Nelson Town Council can assist with the process.</p> <p>Councillor Ali gave a brief update around the latest with the Town Deal. Pendle Borough Council have now allocated funds for the CPO process at the Pendle Rise Shopping Centre. This is encouraging news and he will provide further updates at future meetings on how things are developing.</p> <p>The next scheduled meeting is at 10:00 am Friday 10th June. As always, the public are welcome to attend.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2022/032 (TC)	<p><u>BACK STREET PROJECT</u></p> <p>2022/032.1 To receive an update from the Vice-Chairman in relation to the Back Streets Project.</p> <p>As previously resolved at the Finance and General Purposes committee, Councillors Sakib, Ali and the Assistant Town Clerk are reviewing the current list of back streets and prioritise the order in which they should be tendered. Any future streets which are to go to tender are also requested to be done per block, rather than per street. Streets which have already been tendered but not yet approved will still go before Full Council for approval, as will any proposed works over £20,000 to ensure the Council's Financial Regulations are being met.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p>Action: The Assistant Town Clerk to chase an update for proposed start dates for work on 70-108 Barkerhouse Road and 110-118 Barkerhouse Road.</p>

	<p>2022/032.2 To consider the quotations received on the recent tender issues for works at Back Victoria/ Macleod Street.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Sakib, and RESOLVED: That approval is given to release the funding for works to be carried out at Back Victoria/ Macleod Street as recommended in the tender report provided by Pendle Borough Council.</p>
2022/033 (TC)	<p><u>AMENDMENT TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP</u> To consider an amendment to the Committee Membership for the Events, Promotional and Marketing Committee whereby Councillor Arshad is replaced by Councillor Bashir.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor Hussain, and RESOLVED: That Councillor Arshad is replaced by Councillor Bashir on the Events, Promotional and Marketing Committee.</p>
2022/034 (TC)	<p><u>LOMESHAYE ROAD MUGA - FLOODLIGHTS</u> To consider the release of funding for costings received from Pendle Borough Council for the repair of damaged floodlighting at Lomeshaye MUGA.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Hannah-Wood, and RESOLVED: That the quote obtained by Pendle Borough Council from LITE for £3,595 is approved and works to repair the damaged floodlights are to go ahead.</p>
2022/035 (TC)	<p><u>ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ISSUES IN NELSON</u> To look at dealing with anti-social behaviour issues in Nelson.</p> <p>Councillors had noted that a number of anti-social behaviour issues have recently been reported, particularly around the shuttle area in front of the Lord Nelson pub. One incident occurred whilst Councillors were putting up bunting in the town centre for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in early June. The Police were contacted and dealt with the issue but it appears to be a recurring theme in that area. The people involved are there on a seemingly daily basis and little appears to be done to resolve the problem.</p> <p>This item will be picked up again at the next meeting of the Council, where hopefully Police representatives will be in attendance and Councillors can discuss ways in which the Council can assist in helping the Police ensure the town centre is kept safe for residents and visitors.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2022/036 (TC)	<p><u>COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEMES</u> To look at community grants schemes.</p> <p>Members had requested that an item be placed on this agenda to look into how the grants budgets are being spent and to see if there are ways of encouraging more residents/ community groups to apply for what is available.</p> <p>Councillor R Tennant suggested setting up a working group to look at ways to increase knowledge of and applications to these undersubscribed grants. An initial idea raised was to have Councillors present on a stall at future Town Council events to promote what grant initiatives are available through this Council.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p>Action: Assistant Town Clerk to provide a breakdown of what grants have been awarded over the last two years and how many applications have been received.</p>

<p>2022/037 (TC)</p>	<p><u>DOG AWARENESS PROGRAMME</u> To look at a dog awareness programme for residents of Nelson.</p> <p>Cllr M Pearson-Asher had asked for an item to be placed on the agenda to discuss the possibility of setting up a Dog Awareness Programme for local residents. This came from the recent Spring Festival where a large number of visitors were keen to find out more about dogs following on from conversations with those manning the Pendle Dogs in Need charity stall.</p> <p>Ideas included visiting local schools, events in the park and town centre and also at the Unity Well Being Centre.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor M. Pearson-Asher and Seconded by Councillor Hannah-Wood, and RESOLVED: That a Dog Awareness Programme is approved by this Council and that the set up of the programme is delegated to the Events, Promotional and Marketing committee for further discussion.</p>
<p>2022/038 (TC)</p>	<p><u>TRANSFERRED SERVICES</u> To receive reports and consider any actions required in relation to transferred services.</p> <p><u>CCTV monitoring</u></p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk reported that CCTV monitoring report for February, March and April has now been received. No major issues were identified.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p> <p>Action: Assistant Town Clerk to re-send the reports to Councillor Hannah-Wood who appeared not to have received them when previously circulated.</p> <p><u>MUGAS and Play Areas</u></p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk reported that issues reported by a member of the public at Vernon St Play Area are in the process of being addressed. A new swing joint is needed and a request to fund this and power washing was approved at the Finance and General Purposes meeting on 25th May 2022.</p> <p>Councillor Ahmad also noted a request from residents at Bradshaw Street asking that the netting be raised as footballs keep going over the existing netting/ fencing.</p> <p>Action: Assistant Town Clerk to contact Scott Whalley to investigate costings for raising of the current netting.</p> <p>Councillors asked how inspections of play areas are verified, as it appears that issues have been overlooked.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p> <p>Action: Assistant Town Clerk to contact Keith Higson to ascertain how inspection are carried out and verified.</p> <p>The update was noted.</p> <p><u>Parks Services</u></p> <p>Members raised concerns that Marsden and Victoria Parks do not appear to be being</p>

	<p>maintained to a good standard. Concerns related to the ponds in the parks and also the trees.</p> <p>Action: The Assistant Town Clerk and Chairman to arrange a meeting to discuss the condition of the parks with the Pendle Borough Council maintenance team.</p> <p><u>Additional Services</u></p> <p>Reports have been received about the condition of the footpath in and around the town centre. These are maintained by Pendle Borough Council and Members asked that they be contacted to get them cleaned and leveled, particularly in the area outside the BetFred bookmakers area. The benches also need painting to make the area look better for visitors to the town.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hannah-Wood and Seconded by Councillor N Pearson-Asher, and RESOLVED: Assistant Town Clerk to contact Scott Whalley to request that the footpaths and pedestrianized area in the town centre are reviewed and cleaned, and that the handyman is asked to paint the benches ready for the Britain in Bloom judges visit on Tuesday 12th July 2022.</p>
2022/039 (TC)	<p><u>ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA</u></p> <p>To notify the Assistant Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <p>None</p>
2022/040 (TC)	<p><u>DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING</u></p> <p>The date of the next meeting of the Council is due to be held on Wednesday 13th July 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 8.05pm.</p>