



Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 12th July 2023 at the Unity Wellbeing Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson, Lancashire

Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 8.00pm

Councillors Present: Councillors Faraz Ahmad, Naeem Akhtar, Zafar Ali, Thabasum Ruby Anwar, Mohammad Aslam, Aqib Bashir, Sughra Bibi, Tallaha Fiaz, Rehan Hanif, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Hassan Mahmood, Anam Nawaz, Atique Rehman, Mohammad Sufyaan Sarwar, Marie Stone, Mohammad Ajmal Khan Ul Nisa and Sheila Wicks

Absent Councillors: Councillors Shabaz Ahmed, Iftikhar Ali, Husnan Arshad, Mohammad Kamran Butt, Mohammad Adeel Qamar, and Kashif Ur Rehman Chaudhry

Non-Councillor (without voting rights): None

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

Members of the Public: Two members of the public present

2023/053 (TC)	<p><u>ONE MINUTE SILENCE</u></p> <p>The Chairman invites members to observe a one minute of silence.</p> <p>The one-minute silence was observed.</p>
2023/054 (TC)	<p><u>CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS</u></p> <p>To receive the Chairman's opening remarks</p> <p>The Chairman for the meeting welcomed those present and thanked them for their attendance.</p>
2023/055 (TC)	<p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></p> <p>To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Assistant Town Clerk prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor M. Kamran Latif and Seconded by Councillor Naeem Akhtar and RESOLVED: That the apologies received from Councillors Shabaz Ahmed, Iftikhar Ali, Mohammad Kamran Butt, Mohammad Adeel Qamar and Kashif Ur Rehman Chaudhry are approved and accepted.</p>

2023/056 (TC)	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u></p> <p>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>
2023/057 (TC)	<p><u>ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u></p> <p>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>Two members of the public present.</p>
2023/058 (TC)	<p><u>MINUTES</u></p> <p>To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 14 June 2023 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Zafar Ali and Seconded by Councillor Mohammad Kamran Latif and RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 14 June 2023 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
2023/059 (TC)	<p><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u></p> <p>To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance and General Purposes Committee 28 June 2023 <p>Proposed by Councillor Zafar Ali and Seconded by Councillor Ruby Anwar, and RESOLVED: That the draft minutes listed above are approved as a true and accurate record.</p>
2023/060 (TC)	<p><u>REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</u></p> <p>To receive reports from the Borough or County Councillors</p> <p><u>Borough Council</u></p> <p>Councillor Ali gave a brief update to Members from the recent Nelson Area Committee meeting. A planning application was approved for a new wedding venue to be located just off Manchester Road. The capacity for the venue will be for up to 600 people. Various conditions have been attached to the approval and it is hoped that this will encourage more footfall in and around the town centre too.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p><u>County Council</u></p> <p>No County Councillors present to provide an update.</p>
2023/061 (TC)	<p><u>WALVERDEN PARK IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE</u></p> <p>To receive an update from Pendle Borough Council officer Phil Riley in relation to the latest with the improvements taking place at Walverden Park.</p> <p>Phil Riley had been invited along to the meeting and asked to provide an update in relation to the latest improvements to the parks in Nelson following this town council's financial contribution to the project. Some residents had questions in relation to Walverden Park and the amendment of the design to the initially proposed works that had been authorised.</p>

Victoria Park

Works at the tunnel are now completed. New lighting and a drainage issue have now been resolved and residents in the area are happy with the works which have been carried out.

A contract has now been awarded to a company to start the works at the Seedhill entrance to the park for some landscaping works. This should commence in late July/ early August.

A design for the new shelter has also been received. The officers assessed the plans and had a couple of minor changes they requested so this is now back with the designer and they are awaiting the updated plan.

Marsden Park

Works have started this week on the playground at Marsden Park. The playground has been fenced off and it will take three to four weeks to complete.

Funding is also there for resurfacing the tennis court and putting some new fencing up. A new MUGA will be installed but it hasn't yet been decided the best location for the MUGA. Consultations are still ongoing with the police and residents about the best area for the new MUGA.

The consultation around the pump track for bikes has also now finished. Overall, people were very positive about this being installed but further discussions need to take place between the Council and residents in the area the track is being proposed.

Walverden Park

The Senior end is now 90% completed. Lots of the equipment is aimed at fitness and has now been installed. The site is prone to vandalism so this was taken into consideration and durable equipment was selected.

A discussion also took place around the location of where the new cricket wicket was to be installed. It was highlighted that the wicket area had to be flat or else there was no point in having it there. Consideration also needs to be taken about where it can be located without the ball risking injury to people using other equipment within the vicinity.

A discussion also took place around the possibility of a walking and cycling track around the perimeter of the park. This is an idea currently under consideration and a further consultation will take place around this section of the park before a decision is reached.

Members also asked Phil whether signage would be put up at each location noting the Town Council's financial contribution to the projects – which he confirmed that there would be.

Proposed by Councillor Ruby Anwar and Seconded by Councillor Faraz Ahmad, and **RESOLVED:** That Phil Riley be asked to set up a further consultation date for discussions around Walverden Park which Councillors and Residents will be invited along to attend to try to finalise plans for works to the park.

Members noted the updates and thanked Phil for his time.

2023/062 (TC)	<p><u>CLIMATE EMERGENCY ISSUES</u> An 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 new items raised.</p>
2023/063 (TC)	<p><u>POLICE UPDATE</u> 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>Unfortunately, no Police were in attendance at this meeting to provide an update and no crime figures had been received at the office.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had been into the police station to speak to somebody about requesting attendance at future meetings. He has left his details with a member of staff at the station and has been promised a call to arrange police attendance at future meetings of this Council. No phone call had been received since this visit. Councillors had also spoken to members of the force when out and about and asked that they attend meetings.</p> <p>It was suggested that the Assistant Town Clerk contact the Police and Crime Commissioner to request his attendance at the next Full Council meeting.</p> <p>Some members did comment that when reports are logged on social media that they do get dealt with but this is not an ideal situation if there are pressing matters which need to be dealt with.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p>ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk to invite the Police and Crime Commissioner to the next meeting of the Council.</p>
2023/064 (TC)	<p><u>NELSON TOWN DEAL</u> To discuss the Nelson Town Deal and prepare for ways to which Nelson Town Council can assist with the process.</p> <p>Councillor Ali provided those present with an update on the Town Deal project.</p> <p>No meeting had taken place since the last time the Town Council had met, but one update which Councillor Ali provided was in relation to the Business and Resilience Growth Programme – Initially, it had been agreed that for the first two years of the project (2022/23 and 2023/24) the grant funding could be up to 50% of eligible project costs. The business would meet the remainder of the cost. The maximum grant is £100,000. The intervention rate was then to reduce to 20% in the final year of the project (2024/25). This has now changed to allow businesses in the final year to also apply for funding of 50% (subject to funding still being available at this stage).</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2023/065 (TC)	<p><u>BRITAIN IN BLOOM VISIT</u> To receive an update in relation to the Britain in Bloom competition and to discuss a volunteer morning in preparation for the visit.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk reminded Members that the judges visit for the Britain in Bloom competition would be on Tuesday 01st August 2023.</p> <p>Preparations for the visit are well underway. Hanging baskets, roadside barrier baskets and</p>

	<p>planters were all now filled with flowers.</p> <p>The old war memorial area has now been tidied by the handyman and jetwashing has also been completed. New flowers, trees and shrubbery are also in place ready for the visit.</p> <p>A landscaper also needs booking in to tidy the shrubbery areas and remove all the litter that builds up in these areas. Members and volunteers will help out with this before the judges visit.</p> <p>It was suggested that Councillors spend some time in the weekend before the visit to volunteer to do some general tidying of the planted areas and litter pick the town centre to make sure that the area is looking its best before the judges visit.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Zafar Ali and Seconded by Councillor Ruby Anwar, and RESOLVED: That Councillors are requested to meet on the morning of Saturday 29th July at 11:00am to help to tidy the town centre before the judges visit the following week.</p>
2023/072 (TC)	<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>Members at the Finance and General Purposes committee had also approved the installation of three new cameras at the subway near to Nelson and Colne College following recommendations from Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council who monitor the cameras on the town council's behalf. The old cameras were over 15 years old and needed replacing.</p> <p><u>MUGAS and Play Areas</u></p> <p>Some of the fencing has been damaged at the Marsden Hall Road North site and is potentially a danger to those using the MUGA. The Assistant Town Clerk has contacted Keith Higson at Pendle Borough Council and asked that this be repaired.</p> <p>Lomeshaye Park MUGA – this has now become dirty and also the lines on the pitch are faded and need repainting. Quotes have been requested for rectifying these issues.</p> <p><u>Parks Services</u></p> <p>Covered in the discussion with Phil Riley earlier in the meeting.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2023/073 (TC)	<p><u>ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA</u> To notify the Assistant Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <p>None.</p>
2023/074 (TC)	<p><u>DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING</u> The date of the next meeting of the Council is due to be held on Wednesday 13th September 2023.</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 8.00pm.</p>

Signed Chair:

Dated: