



## Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at the Unity Wellbeing Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson, Lancashire

**Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 7.35pm**

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Faraz Ahmad, Naeem Akhtar, Thabasum Ruby Anwar, Julie Green, Rehan Hanif, Marie Stone, Mohammad Sufyaan Sarwar and Sheila Wicks

**Absent Councillors:** Councillors Shabaz Ahmed, Iftikhar Ali, Zafar Ali, Husnan Arshad, Mohammad Aslam, Aqib Bashir, Sughra Bibi, Mohammad Kamran Butt, Kashif Ur Rehman Chaudhry, Tallaha Fiaz, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Hassan Mahmood, Anam Nawaz, Mohammad Adeel Qamar, Atique Rehman and Mohammad Ajmal Khan UI Nisa

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

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

**Members of the Public:** None

2023/173  
(TC)

### **ONE MINUTE SILENCE**

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

The one-minute silence was observed.

2023/174  
(TC)

### **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS**

To receive the Chairman's opening remarks

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

He also spoke about the news being reported from the various conflicts happening in the world, including Israel, Palestine and Ukraine and how such a loss of innocent lives was abhorrent and hopes that peace is reached in this and all other ongoing conflicts around the world.

2023/175  
(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 Hanif and Seconded by Councillor Stone and

**RESOLVED:** That the apologies received from Councillors Zafar Ali, Mohammad Aslam, Sughra Bibi, Anam Nawaz, Atique Rehman and Mohammad Ajmal Khan UI Nisa are approved and accepted.

2023/176 (TC)	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u></b></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>
2023/177 (TC)	<p><b><u>ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u></b></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>None present.</p>
2023/178 (TC)	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b></p> <p>To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 14 February 2024 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hanif and Seconded by Councillor Sarwar and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 14 February 2024 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
2023/179 (TC)	<p><b><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u></b></p> <p>To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance and General Purposes Committee 28 February 2024</li> <li>• Environmental Improvements Committee 06 March 2024</li> <li>• Events, Promotional and Marketing Committee 06 March 2024</li> </ul> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hanif and Seconded by Councillor Akhtar, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes from the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 28 February 2024 are approved as a true and accurate record. The Environmental Improvements and Events, Promotional and Marketing Committee meetings were not quorate.</p>
2023/180 (TC)	<p><b><u>REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</u></b></p> <p>To receive reports from the Borough or County Councillors</p> <p><b><u>Borough Council</u></b></p> <p>No major updates from Borough Councillors. Councillors Ahmad and Anwar noted that the planning application mentioned at the last meeting for a new wedding venue at the top of Halifax Road had been refused. Another application for works at Rockwood had been deferred to a future meeting.</p> <p>The Borough also approved funding for works to be carried out at Brunswick Street opposite the McMillan Nursery School to erect barriers and fencing to stop the parking congestion on the back street area. This was welcome news as the area had become very unsightly with multiple unused cars blocking off the access.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p><b><u>County Council</u></b></p> <p>No County Councillors present to provide an update.</p>
2023/181	<p><b><u>CLIMATE EMERGENCY ISSUES</u></b></p>

(TC)	<p>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 were raised at the meeting.</p>
2023/182 (TC)	<p><b><u>POLICE UPDATE</u></b> To receive an update from PC Jemima Hill 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 a verbal update into the latest crime levels across the town.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had spoken to two PCSO's leading up to the meeting and was passed on contact details for an officer named Donna Waterworth who now works in Nelson. An email had been sent to Donna with the details of the meeting but unfortunately, no response had been received.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2023/183 (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>No Members present had an update on the latest with the Town Deal Project. It is hoped that Councillor Ali will be in attendance at the next Full Council meeting to provide an update in April.</p> <p>Members did request that a meeting between some Members of the Town Council and Pendle Borough Council staff who are working on the project be set up to enable them to pass on some suggestions they have in relation to the project.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> The Assistant Town Clerk to request a meeting be set up between Town Councillors and Pendle Borough Council staff who are working on the project.</p>
2023/184 (TC)	<p><b><u>VERNON STREET AND CATS PLAY AREA UPGRADES</u></b> To receive designs and costings from Phil Riley of Pendle Borough Council in relation to the previously approved works scheduled to take place at Vernon Street and CATS Play Areas.</p> <p>Phil Riley had sent across a number of designs with associated costings for the Vernon Street and CATS play area schemes and asked that Members review them and consider what amounts they would like to allocate to each site and give feedback on the types of equipment they would like to have installed at the three play areas in question.</p> <p>Members discussed the options provided and were keen to see that some of the equipment on the sites include wheelchair friendly items to make the areas inclusive to all.</p> <p>Given the designs had only been with Members for 24 hours they requested a bit more time over the weekend to come up with final ideas and asked that a meeting be set up with Phil the following week to pass on final suggestions for what they would like to be included on the sites.</p> <p>Members discussed the costings for each site and based on the figures provided, we in agreement that £50,000.00 be allocated to the main play areas at Vernon Street and CATS play areas and £35,000.00 be allocated at the Junior site on Vernon Street.</p>

	<p>Proposed by Councillor Hanif and Seconded by Councillor Stone, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That £50,000.00 be allocated to the main play areas at Vernon Street and CATS play areas and £35,000.00 be allocated at the Junior site on Vernon Street from the MUGA and Play Area Improvements budget line previous agreed by the Council, and that a meeting be set up for the following week with Phil Riley to finalise what equipment is to be installed at each site.</p>
2023/185 (TC)	<p><b><u>PENDLE PEACE WALK 2024</u></b>  To consider supporting the Pendle Peace Walk in 2024. The event takes place annually and is managed by Building Bridges. The requested amount from Building Bridges for this years event is for £4,000.00.</p> <p>A funding request had been received from Building Bridges for £4,000.00 to go towards the annual Pendle Peace Walk for 2024. The Town Council have supported the event for the past three years with a contribution of £3,000.00. The extra funding was requested due to increased costs in the entertainment provided on the day of the event.</p> <p>Those present were happy to support the event again, having attended previous ones and seen the success of the walks. That said, before agreeing to any increase on the usual £3,000.00 provided, Members wished to see a detailed breakdown of where the additional £1,000.00 requested for this years event would be spent. Unfortunately, no representative from Building Bridges was in attendance at the meeting to clarify this.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hanif and Seconded by Councillor Ahmad, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That £3,000.00 is allocated to the project to go towards the Pendle Peace Walk for 2024 and that before the additional increase for this year's event is considered, a detailed breakdown of the expenditure for the additional amount is provided to this Council.</p>
2023/186 (TC)	<p><b><u>GRANT APPLICATION – RC LIONS CRICKET CLUB – RC COMMUNITY GROUP</u></b>  To consider supporting a funding request received from RC Community Group to support the running of the RC Lions Cricket Club to provide cricket facilities for residents throughout 2024. The funding request is for £3,000.00.</p> <p>Members had read through the support documentation provided for a funding request for £3,000.00 to go towards the running of the RC Lions Cricket Club. The club are aiming to set up multiple cricket teams (including a ladies side) to play at various locations across the town on different nights of the week. The funding will go towards the pitch hire and equipment costs as well as league entry fees. The remainder of the funding which the organisation need is being supplied by Lancashire County Council.</p> <p>Members agreed that the project was a worthwhile cause, would benefit all members of the community who wished to join and would promote health and wellbeing across the town.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Stone and Seconded by Councillor Green, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the funding request for £3,000.00 from the RC Community Group for the running of the RC Lions Cricket Club initiative is approved.</p>
2023/187 (TC)	<p><b><u>TRANSFERRED SERVICES</u></b>  To receive reports and consider any actions required in relation to transferred services.</p> <p><b><u>CCTV monitoring</u></b></p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk reported that CCTV monitoring report for February had been received and circulated to Members. No major issues were identified.</p>

	<p><u>MUGAS and Play Areas</u></p> <p>As per discussion at item 2023/184.</p> <p><u>Parks Services</u></p> <p>Councillors asked about the safety surfacing at Marsden Park. This item will be brought up in a meeting between Town Councillors and Phil Riley of Pendle Borough Council next week.</p> <p>Members noted the above updates.</p>
2023/188 (TC)	<p><b><u>ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA</u></b></p> <p>To notify the Assistant Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <p>None.</p>
2023/189 (TC)	<p><b><u>DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING</u></b></p> <p>The date of the next meeting of the Council is due to be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024.</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 7.35pm.</p>