



Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 10th July 2024 at the Unity Wellbeing Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson, Lancashire

Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 7.25pm

Councillors Present: Councillors Shabaz Ahmed, Naeem Akhtar, Zafar Ali, Thabasum Ruby Anwar, Mohammad Aslam, Sughra Bibi, Mohammed Rehan Hanif, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Anam Nawaz, Atique Rehman, Mohammad Sufyaan Sarwar, Marie Stone and Sheila Wicks

Absent Councillors: Councillors Faraz Ahmad, Iftikhar Ali, Husnan Arshad, Aqib Bashir, Mohammad Kamran Butt, Kashif Ur Rehman Chaudhry, Tallaha Fiaz, Julie Green, Hassan Mahmood, Mohammad Adeel Qamar, 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

2024/040
(TC)

ONE MINUTE SILENCE

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

The one-minute silence was observed.

2024/041
(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 highlighted that this was the first meeting since the general election and hopes that the new government will bring some stability to the country and look at ways of trying to resolve conflicts both at home and abroad.

2024/042
(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 Latif and Seconded by Councillor Akhtar and

RESOLVED: That the apologies received from Councillors Faraz Ahmad, Julie Green and Mohammad Adeel Qamar are approved and accepted.

2024/043 (TC)	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u> 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>
2024/044 (TC)	<p><u>ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u> 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>No members of the public present.</p>
2024/045 (TC)	<p><u>MINUTES</u> To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 12 June 2024 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Aslam and Seconded by Councillor Latif and RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 12 June 2024 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
2024/046 (TC)	<p><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u> To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance and General Purposes Committee 26 June 2024 <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Latif, and RESOLVED: That the draft minutes listed above are approved as a true and accurate record.</p>
2024/047 (TC)	<p><u>APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES</u> To appoint members to committees in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unity Wellbeing Management Committee 2 vacancies <p>Two vacancies were still available on the above committees.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Anwar and Seconded by Councillor Ali, and RESOLVED: That Councillors Ruby Anwar and Sughra Bibi be appointed to the Unity Wellbeing Management committee for 2024/25.</p>
2024/048 (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>No major updates from Borough Councillors. Councillor Anwar noted that a small number of minor planning applications had been approved at the Nelson Area Committee which were all just general householder applications.</p> <p>Councillor Anwar did also highlight an issue that arose in the recent elections – a number of incorrect postal votes had been issued to local residents as well as people being sent to the wrong address to cast their vote on the day. Residents were not best pleased by this and having to go to another site to vote than they were originally told – many of whom had been sent to the wrong place when they were expecting to only need to take ten or so minutes</p>

	<p>during their lunch break from work to cast their votes. It is hoped that lessons are learnt from this election and residents are provided with the correct information at the next elections.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p><u>County Council</u></p> <p>No County Councillors present to provide an update.</p>
2024/049 (TC)	<p><u>POLICE UPDATE</u> To receive an update from a member of the local policing team 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>Councillor Ali did mention that he had received the June crime statistics and would send them to the Assistant Town Clerk to circulate to all Members.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p>ACTION: Councillor Ali to send the crime statistics to the Assistant Town Clerk to circulate to all Members.</p>
2024/050 (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, who sits on the Nelson Town Deal Board, informed Members a consultation is due to take place tomorrow with Pendle Borough Council staff and any resident who wishes to attend in relation to the pump track at Marsden Park.</p> <p>He also noted that regeneration funding was now open to all local businesses to apply for (which was previously just for manufacturing businesses). A 50% contribution is available for improvements to businesses is currently available.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Town Deal Board is due to take place towards the end of July and Councillor Ali will once again inform Members of the Council of any progress at the next meeting.</p> <p>He also mentioned the links to the Long Term Plan for the town centre. A meeting had recently been set up between the consultants for the project and Town Councillors where discussions took place around what the town council would like the project to look at. A new street warden being one of the main focusses for the town along with many other initiatives. Members were also encouraged to send their thoughts and any suggestions that had been passed on by residents directly to the consultants for them to consider.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2024/051 (TC)	<p><u>EXTERNAL AUDIT</u> To receive an update from the Assistant Town Clerk in relation to the External Audit being conducted by PKF Littlejohn.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk informed Members that the external audit documents for 2023-24 had now been submitted to PKF Littlejohn's.</p>

	<p>The documents will be reviewed and are usually signed off around September time all being well and the Assistant Town Clerk will keep Members updated throughout the process.</p> <p>Members thanked the Assistant Town Clerk for the work done in relation to the auditing process and noted the update.</p>
2024/052 (TC)	<p><u>CATS PARK PLAY AREA</u> To receive an update around the previously approved works to be carried out at the CATS Park Play Area.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk informed Members that Phil Riley at Pendle Borough Council had now received drawings in relation to the CATS Park Play Area site with suggestions of what types of equipment could be installed there.</p> <p>It was suggested that a meeting take place between Phil and representatives of the Town Council to share ideas and for Councillors to attend to pass on their own views as well as those of residents who they have spoken with about the site.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Anwar and Seconded by Councillor Latif, and RESOLVED: That a meeting be set up to discuss what equipment Members would like to see installed on the CATS Park Play Area site. This meeting is to be scheduled for Wednesday 24th July at Nelson Town Hall.</p>
2024/053 (TC)	<p><u>LEA BANK ALLOTMENTS</u> To consider the approval of funding for a new shed and office space at the Lea Bank Allotments at a cost of £3,250.00</p> <p>The secretary at Lea Bank Allotments had provided quotes for some works which need doing at Lea Bank. The allotments society had recently met and agreed to use rent collection fees to contribute towards this work and asked that the Council approve to release these funds which are held in the Council bank account.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Aslam and Seconded by Councillor Latif, and RESOLVED: That £3,250 be allocated from the allotment society budget code to go towards the Lea Bank Allotment shed and office space.</p>
2024/054 (TC)	<p><u>SMALL GRANT APPLICATION – CURRY ON THE STREET</u> To consider a small grant application received from Curry on the Street to go towards funding of free lunches during the school holidays for local children and to host a small community event. The funding request is for £1,000.00.</p> <p>A small grant application had been received from Curry on the Street to go towards the provision of free meals during the school holidays for local children and to host a small community event during the break.</p> <p>Councillors were in agreement that the funding would benefit lots of local children in the town and that the organisation running the initiative provided an excellent service to residents.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Latif and Seconded by Councillor Wicks, and RESOLVED: That £1,000.00 be allocated to go towards the provision free lunches during the school holidays for local children and to host a small community event</p>
2024/055 (TC)	<p><u>WORKS TO WAR MEMORIAL SITE</u> To consider the approval of funding for works to the area at the War Memorial site on Sagar Street. These works will include power washing of the whole area, weeding of the plants and general maintenance of the site, including painting of the whole wall behind the car park as</p>

	<p>requested by the Environmental Improvements Committee. The total cost for the job will be £2,355.00.</p> <p>Members of the Environmental Improvements committee had suggested that this area needed tidying up and refreshing before the judges visit for the Britain in Bloom competition entry. Pricing for the works had now been received and Members of the Council were asked to consider approving the funding.</p> <p>Councillors were in agreement that this work was necessary as the current condition of the area was poor and in need of refreshing ready for the judges visit for the Britain in Bloom Town Centre entry.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Stone and Seconded by Councillor Latif, and RESOLVED: That £2,355 be allocated to go towards works to the area at the War Memorial site on Sagar Street. These works will include power washing of the whole area, weeding of the plants and general maintenance of the site, including painting of the whole wall behind the car park as requested by the Environmental Improvements Committee.</p>
<p>2024/056 (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 June had been received and circulated to Members. No major issues were identified.</p> <p><u>MUGAS and Play Areas</u></p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk mentioned that works to Vernon Street Play Area had a slight delay due to two pieces of the equipment not having arrived yet. These are due in the first week of August and as soon as they arrive, work will commence.</p> <p>A discussion had taken place earlier with regards to an update at CATS Play Area.</p> <p><u>Parks Services</u></p> <p>No new updates on Parks Services this month.</p> <p>Members noted the above updates.</p>
<p>2024/057 (TC)</p>	<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance at Sagar Street • Conservation Area at Whitefield
<p>2024/058 (TC)</p>	<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 11th September 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 7.25pm.</p>