



Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 11th September 2024 at the Unity Wellbeing Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson, Lancashire

Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 7.35pm

Councillors Present: Councillors Faraz Ahmad, Shabaz Ahmed, Naeem Akhtar, Zafar Ali, Thabasum Ruby Anwar, Mohammad Aslam, Sughra Bibi, Julie Green, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Mohammad Adeel Qamar, Atique Rehman, Mohammad Sufyaan Sarwar, and Sheila Wicks

Absent Councillors: Councillors Iftikhar Ali, Husnan Arshad, Aqib Bashir, Mohammad Kamran Butt, Kashif Ur Rehman Chaudhry, Tallaha Fiaz, Mohammed Rehan Hanif, Hassan Mahmood, Anam Nawaz, Marie Stone and Mohammad Ajmal Khan Ul Nisa

Non-Councillor (without voting rights): None

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

Members of the Public: None

2024/059
(TC)

ONE MINUTE SILENCE

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

The Chairman asked Members to stand to observe the minutes silence and also notified those present that a former Councillor at Pendle Borough Council, Councillor Ansar, had sadly passed away recently and asked that he be in people's thoughts during the silence.

The one-minute silence was observed.

2024/060
(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.

His only remarks were around the recent Summer Fair which he noted was a success attracting hundreds of residents in August. The Nelson Food Festival also takes place on Saturday 14th September and he asked that all Councillors do their best to attend at least part of the day. The event starts at 10:00am and runs until 16:00pm.

2024/061
(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 Anwar and Seconded by Councillor Ahmad and

RESOLVED: That the apologies received from Councillors Aqib Bashir, Mohammad Kamran

	Butt, Hassan Mahmood and Marie Stone are approved and accepted.
2024/062 (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>
2024/063 (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>
2024/064 (TC)	<p><u>MINUTES</u> To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 10 July 2024 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Latif and Seconded by Councillor Qamar and RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 10 July 2024 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
2024/065 (TC)	<p><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u> To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Improvements Committee 04 September 2024 • Events, Promotional and Marketing Committee 04 September 2024 <p>Proposed by Councillor Latif and Seconded by Councillor Anwar, and RESOLVED: That the draft minutes listed above are approved as a true and accurate record.</p>
2024/066 (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. One planning application which was refused was for a small area of land at Walton Lane where somebody had applied to take over the site.</p> <p>Councillor Anwar did also highlight a new food waste initiative scheme which is to come into play in 2025. This is a Government wide initiative and not just taking place in Pendle. A consultation has recently taken place with residents and 79% of those who responded want both an indoor and outdoor bin for their food waste. This is likely to cost Pendle Borough Council over £3,000,000 to get started.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p><u>County Council</u></p> <p>No County Councillors present to provide an update.</p>

2024/067 (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 Ahmad did mention that he had received the August's 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 Ahmad to send the crime statistics to the Assistant Town Clerk to circulate to all Members.</p>
2024/068 (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 that £1.2 million had now been allocated to the Nelson Wavelengths site to make various improvements which are necessary to modernize the facilities in the building.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Town Deal Board is due to take place on Friday 13th September. Councillor Ali will once again inform Members of the Council of any progress at the next meeting. Pendle Rise and Trafalgar House will be discussed at this meeting.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p>Members also discussed the plans for Pendle Rise Shopping Centre, which seem set to be for the demolition of the existing building and replaced with a number of retail units. Some members felt that some form of leisure activities as well as shopping facilities could be beneficial to the area.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ahmad and Seconded by Councillor Sarwar, and RESOLVED: That the Chairman write to Pendle Borough Council to make the suggestion that some leisure facilities may be beneficial for the Pendle Rise site as well as retail units.</p> <p>ACTION: Councillor Ahmad write to Pendle Borough Council as agreed above.</p>
2024/069 (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 are still under review 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>This item will be brought back to the next meeting once PKF Littlejohn's have been back in touch with any findings.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2024/071	<u>VERNON STREET AND CATS PARK PLAY AREAS</u>

(TC)	<p>To receive an update around the previously approved works to be carried out at the Vernon Street and CATS Park Play Areas.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk and numerous Councillors had recently met with the Pendle Parks Team to discuss options for the CATS Park Play Area. Councillors selected the equipment and upgrades which they felt were appropriate having consulted with residents in that local area.</p> <p>Phil Riley then obtained the costings and presented them in a report to Members to consider at this meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Rehman and Seconded by Councillor Sarwar, and RESOLVED: That the options recommended in the report are approved at a cost of £63,582 which includes installation costs, resurfacing and new bins and benches as well as all the new play equipment.</p>
2024/072 (TC)	<p><u>BENCHES AT WALVERDEN PARK</u></p> <p>To consider allocating funding for two new benches at Walverden Park.</p> <p>A number of Councillors had been out on a ward walk recently in the Walverden Park area. After speaking with residents, it was apparent that there were not enough seating areas provided for all the park users, particularly for when the weather is much warmer.</p> <p>Members were asked to consider the idea of installing new benches at the site.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Anwar, and RESOLVED: That the Town Council are to fund two new park benches for Walverden Park and request that Pendle Borough Council fund a further two.</p> <p>ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk to get costings for the benches and present them to the Finance and General Purposes committee.</p>
2024/073 (TC)	<p><u>BACK STREET PROJECT</u></p> <p>To receive an update in relation to the Back Streets Project.</p> <p>The Chairman gave a very brief update in relation to the back streets project. A meeting recently took place with Pendle Borough Council who have now said that clearance has been given to a number of streets identified by Members back in 2022 to get started. The plans have now been submitted to Lancashire County Council and there should be a short waiting time until these can go ahead.</p> <p>Unadopted back streets are under review also, and a number of these have been completed recently by Pendle Borough Council.</p> <p>The waiting list remains quite long for those requested to be considered and the team will work through them as quickly as possible, but funding is as always quite limited for the number of back streets that have been requested to be reviewed.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2024/074 (TC)	<p><u>TRANSFERRED SERVICES</u></p> <p>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 July and August had been</p>

	<p>received and circulated to Members. No major issues were identified.</p> <p><u>MUGAS and Play Areas</u></p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had already mentioned that works to Vernon Street Play Area were due to commence on Monday 23rd September 2024.</p> <p>A discussion had taken place earlier with regards to an update at CATS Play Area. The Assistant Town Clerk will contact Phil Riley to notify him of the approval of the costings.</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>2024/075 (TC)</p>	<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>
<p>2024/076 (TC)</p>	<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 09th October 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>