



**Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>  
February 2025 at the Unity Wellbeing Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson,  
Lancashire**

**Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 7.45pm**

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Faraz Ahmad, Zafar Ali, Thabasum Ruby Anwar, Aqib Bashir, Riaz Bashir, Sughra Bibi, Julie Green, Mohammed Rehan Hanif, Hassan Mahmood, Mohammad Adeel Qamar, Mohammad Sufyaan Sarwar and Marie Stone

**Absent Councillors:** Councillors Shabaz Ahmed, Naeem Akhtar, Iftikhar Ali, Husnan Arshad, Mohammad Aslam, Mohammad Kamran Butt, Kashif Ur Rehman Chaudhry, Anam Nawaz, Atique Rehman, Mohammad Ajmal Khan Ul Nisa and Sheila Wicks

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

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

**Members of the Public:** None

2024/151  
(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.

The one-minute silence was observed.

2024/152  
(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 as well as wishing them all a Happy New Year.

He also expressed his disappointment with only just over half of Members in attendance at the meeting.

2024/153  
(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 Stone and Seconded by Councillor Anwar and

**RESOLVED:** That the apologies received from Councillors Naeem Akhtar, Mohammad Aslam and Kashif Ur Rehman Chaudhry are approved and accepted.

2024/154 (TC)	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u></b> 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>
2024/155 (TC)	<p><b><u>ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u></b> 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>
2024/156 (TC)	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b> To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15 January 2024 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Stone and Seconded by Councillor Qamar and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 15 January 2025 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
2024/157 (TC)	<p><b><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u></b> To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finance and General Purposes Committee 29 January 2025</li> </ul> <p>Proposed by Councillor Anwar and Seconded by Councillor Bibi, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft minutes listed above are approved as a true and accurate record.</p>
2024/158 (TC)	<p><b><u>REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS</u></b> To receive reports from the Borough or County Councillors</p> <p><u>Borough Council</u></p> <p>Councillor Ali mentioned that at the recent Pendle Borough Council Executive meeting, a substantial amount of funding had been authorised to start a new Holiday Activity Scheme for local children in the Pendle area. This will be managed by Pendle Leisure Trust.</p> <p>Members agreed that this was a very good initiative and encouraged that the scheme be advertised as much as possible to ensure all venues where the activities are running from are well promoted to ensure maximum usage is made of the programme.</p> <p><u>County Council</u></p> <p>No County Councillors present to provide an update.</p>
2024/159 (TC)	<p><b><u>POLICE UPDATE</u></b> 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>Members did briefly discuss their concerns around speeding vehicles on most of the major roads in and around the town centre. This is an area that the police are working on and it is</p>

	<p>hoped that there will be a further update at an upcoming Pendle Borough Council meeting with how things are progressing to prevent the speeding vehicles around the town.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2024/160 (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>Councillor Ali informed Members that no recent meetings had taken place over the last month, but a meeting was due to take place on Friday this week. Members were encouraged to also attend the meeting which takes place in Nelson Town Hall at 10:00am.</p> <p>The only brief updates available were that works had started on Holme Street and Sagar Street but there has also been a delay to works commencing on Scotland Road and Charles Street.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2024/161 (TC)	<p><b><u>NOTICE OF VACANCY – BRADLEY WARD</u></b> To receive an update around the Bradley ward vacancy.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk updated Members that an election had been called following the recent advert for the vacancy in Bradley.</p> <p>The election is scheduled to take place on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Nomination papers must be submitted to Pendle Borough Council by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 before 16:00.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2024/162 (TC)	<p><b><u>BACK STREET PROJECT</u></b> 12.1 To receive an update in relation to the Back Streets Project.</p> <p>A meeting is due to take place in February to discuss the next stages of the back street project. Various delays over the last two years have slowed the project down, but recent changes at Lancashire County Council mean things should progress a lot more quickly in 2025.</p> <p>12.2 To consider the tenders for various backstreet resurfacing works in Nelson as provided by Pendle Borough Council.</p> <p>Tenders had now been received for the following back street works to be undertaken:</p> <p>Phase 4 – Derby Street and Crawford Street Phase 5 – Carr Road and Vernon Street Phase 6 – Holly Street and Hilldrop Road</p> <p>A&amp;G Landscapes &amp; Groundworks Ltd were the lowest quotes on all three of the above tenders.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Mahmood and Seconded by Councillor Ali, and <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the tenders received for phases 4, 5 and 6 of the back streets project received by Pendle Borough Council on behalf of the Town Council are approved and accepted and awarded to A&amp;G Landscapes &amp; Groundworks Ltd.</p>
2024/163	<b><u>NORTH WEST IN BLOOM ENTRY</u></b>

(TC)	<p>To consider whether the Council would like to enter the 2025 North West In Bloom competition. The Council received a Silver Gilt Award in the competition in 2024.</p> <p>Members were all in agreement that the Town Council are to once again apply for the Britain in Bloom competition for 2025. The Events, Promotional and Marketing Committee are asked to discuss the project at their next meeting to look to get more community involvement in place which will hopefully push up this year's score as the Council look to improve on the Silver Gilt award received last year. It was also suggested that Phil Riley of Pendle Borough Council is asked for input and that local schools and community groups are encouraged to assist with the project.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Stone, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That Nelson Town Council enter the Britain in Bloom competition for 2025 for the town centre category award.</p>
2024/164 (TC)	<p><b><u>MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2025/ 26</u></b></p> <p>To receive and approve the draft meeting schedule for 2025/ 26.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk had previously circulated a draft meeting schedule for the year 2025/2026 for Member approval.</p> <p>Members were happy with the draft schedule but asked to incorporate one change – to bring forward the Finance and General Purposes meeting scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> February to 11<sup>th</sup> February so that it can take place before Ramadan.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Stone and Seconded by Councillor Ali, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the draft meeting schedule as presented before this committee is approved and accepted for 2024/25 with one change to bring forward the Finance and General Purposes meeting scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> February to 11<sup>th</sup> February so that it can take place before Ramadan.</p>
2024/165 (TC)	<p><b><u>MAZE AT VICTORIA GARDENS</u></b></p> <p>To consider a request from Building Bridges to use the previously allocated funding of £994.98 for a shared stage to go towards the Maze project at Victoria Gardens</p> <p>At a Finance and General Purposes meeting back in 2023, £994.98 had been allocated to go towards funding for a shared stage between the Town Council, Building Bridges and Insitu. Unfortunately, Insitu were having difficulties finding the match funding and the stage had not been purchased.</p> <p>Building Bridges asked that the money for the stage be re-allocated to go towards the Maze Project which will be taking place in Spring 2025.</p> <p>The Town Council's events usually have a larger stage for things like the Christmas Lights Switch On so those Members present were happy to re-allocate the funding to the Maze Project.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Mahmood and Seconded by Councillor Sarwar, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the £994.98 previous allocated for the stage to be authorised to be spent on the Maze Project at Victoria Gardens.</p>
2024/166 (TC)	<p><b><u>COMMUNITY IFTAR AT PENDLE RISE SHOPPING CENTRE</u></b></p> <p>To discuss the upcoming Community Iftar event at Pendle Rise Shopping Centre and ways in which Nelson Town Council can contribute.</p> <p>Some Members of this Council had been approached by NWF to ask for support in relation to</p>

	<p>an upcoming Community Iftar event scheduled to take place in March in the Pendle Rise Shopping Centre. Whilst final costings have yet to be announced, the organisers estimate a shortfall of approximately £700 which will cover some catering costs as well as the additional staff time for the security team who will be in attendance to manage the event.</p> <p>Members agreed it was a good idea for a community event and were supportive of spreading the word around what goes on at Iftar's and it would also be a good opportunity for members of the community to get together.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Stone, and  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Town Council support the Community Iftar at Pendle Rise Shopping Centre and that details are passed on to the Finance and General Purposes committee once received next week for further review.</p>
2024/167 (TC)	<p><b><u>TRANSFERRED SERVICES</u></b></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 January had been circulated and no major issues were identified.</p> <p><u>MUGAS and Play Areas</u></p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk updated Members that Phil Riley had been in touch requesting a meeting around the site at Poplar Street. The transfer of the land is still with the legal team at Pendle Borough Council but he suggested meeting now to talk over some initial ideas to things can get moving once the transfer is completed. This meeting will likely take place next week and the Assistant Town Clerk will inform Members once the date is set and invite them along if they wish to attend.</p> <p><u>Parks Services</u></p> <p>No new updates on Parks Services this month.</p> <p>Members noted the above updates.</p>
2024/168 (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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nelson Football Club</li> </ul>
2024/169 (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 09<sup>th</sup> April 2025.</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 7.45pm.</p>