



Nelson
Town Council

Nelson Town Council

Town Hall

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Minutes of a meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Wednesday 10th December 2025 at the Unity Wellbeing Centre, Vernon Street, Nelson, Lancashire

Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 7.15pm

Councillors Present: Councillors Faraz Ahmad, Naeem Akhtar, Zafar Ali, Thabasum Ruby Anwar, Riaz Bashir, Sughra Bibi, Rehan Hanif, Muneeb Iqbal, Marie Stone, Julie Sutcliffe, Ikram Ul-Haq and Sheila Wicks

Absent Councillors: Councillors Iftikhar Ali, Shabaz Ahmed, Husnan Arshad, Mohammad Aslam, Aqib Bashir, Mohammad Kamran Butt, Kashif Ur Rehman Chaudhry, Hassan Mahmood, Anam Nawaz, Mohammad Adeel Qamar, Atique Rehman and Mohammad Sufyaan Sarwar

Non-Councillor (without voting rights): None

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

Members of the Public: None

2025/122 (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>
2025/123 (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> <p>He reminded everyone present that the Nelson Winter Wonderland is taking place this coming Saturday from 12:00pm – 20:00pm and encouraged everyone to pop down for a visit if they have the time.</p> <p>He also mentioned that Lancashire County Council had been in discussions with Walverden and Marsden Primary Schools in relation to implementing a one way system around the schools to help relieve traffic issues. This hasn't been finalised but could impact on two of the local wards.</p>
2025/124 (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 Ahmad and Seconded by Councillor Anwar and</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the apologies received from Councillors Shabaz Ahmed, Aqib Bashir, Anam</p>

Signed Chair:

Dated:

	Nawaz, Mohammad Adeel Qamar and Mohammad Sufyaan Sarwar are approved and accepted.
2025/125 (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>
2025/126 (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>No public present at the meeting.</p>
2025/127 (TC)	<p><u>MINUTES</u></p> <p>To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 12 November 2025 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Stone and Seconded by Councillor Anwar and</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 12 November 2025 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>
2025/128 (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 26 November 2025 <p>Proposed by Councillor Anwar and Seconded by Councillor Stone, and</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the draft minutes listed above are approved as a true and accurate record.</p>
2025/129 (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>No major updates from Borough Councillors. A small number of planning applications were considered but nothing major – just general householder applications.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p><u>County Council</u></p> <p>No County Councillors present to provide an update.</p>
2025/130 (TC)	<p><u>POLICE UPDATE</u></p> <p>To receive an update from PC Donna Waterworth 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 note that the Police were present at the recent Pendle Borough Council Area Committee meeting and they gave a brief update as to what the issues were locally.</p>

	<p>At present the main areas of concern are around anti-social behaviour in and around the town centre. Nitrous Oxide canisters are frequently being found in the area and are a concern. The Police have stepped up patrols in the area to monitor the situation.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2025/131 (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 Ahmad informed Members that Electricity North West have now finished their works around the town centre, so a major improvement in terms of delays should be seen going forwards.</p> <p>Discussions have also taken place around what is to happen with the old Trafalgar House building on Market Street. Currently it looks like the front of the building will be preserved and a car park will be build behind it but this is yet to be confirmed.</p> <p>He noted that the date of the next meeting is on Tuesday 16th December 2025 and everyone is welcome to attend if they wish.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p>
2025/132 (TC)	<p><u>NOTICE OF VACANCY – BRADLEY WARD</u> To receive confirmation of a notice of vacancy after Councillor Mohammad Kamran Butt has not attended a meeting of this Council nor had apologies accepted for six months and to authorise the next steps in the vacancy procedure.</p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk notified Members that Councillor Mohammad Kamran Butt has not attended a meeting of this Council nor had apologies accepted for six months and therefore according to policies would need to be removed as a Councillor and a vacancy advertised.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Anwar, and RESOLVED: That Members note the notice of vacancy update and request that the Assistant Town Clerk notify the Pendle Borough Council elections team to start the advertising process for the vacancy in the usual manner.</p>
2025/133 (TC)	<p><u>PENDLE PRIMARY SCHOOLS FREE SWIMMING INITIATIVE 2026/27</u> To consider a request from Pendle Leisure Trust to once again support the free swimming initiative for school children. The funding request is for £16,427.25.</p> <p>Members discussed supporting the Leisure Trust in funding for the free swimming initiative for school children of Nelson for the upcoming year. The Assistant Town Clerk informed those present the figures provided for service use for the current year showed an excellent attendance from those children who participated in the sessions and Members present agreed it was a worthwhile project to support again in 2026/27.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Stone and Seconded by Councillor Ali, and RESOLVED: That the Town Council provide the funding of £16,427.25 to support the free swimming initiative for school children in Nelson.</p>
2025/134 (TC)	<p><u>BUDGET FOOR 2026/27</u> To consider forming a Budget Working Group to assist with the setting of the budget for the financial year 2026/27.</p>

	<p>Each year, a Budget Working Group is formed to assist with the setting of the next financial year's budget. Once the draft budget is agreed by the working group, it will be brought before the Full Council in early 2026 for other Members to review and approve.</p> <p>Members agreed that this was a productive way forward and has worked well in previous years.</p> <p>An asset transfer list has also been sent across from Pendle Borough Council as usual and the Assistant Town Clerk suggested that this be reviewed at the same time as the budget to incorporate any additional numbers that potential asset transfers could cost.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Stone and Seconded by Councillor Anwwar, and RESOLVED: That the Assistant Town Clerk prepares a draft budget to be reviewed by the working group, who then bring back an item to the Full Council to review and sign off after discussion.</p> <p>ACTION: The Assistant Town Clerk to set a date for the working group to meet and circulate to Members who can then join the working group if they have availability.</p>
2025/135 (TC)	<p><u>NEW CAMERAS AT UNITY WELL BEING CENTRE</u></p> <p>To consider the replacement of two cameras at the Unity Well Being Centre which are no longer operational. The costing for the cameras is £350.00 + VAT.</p> <p>The CCTV at the Unity Well Being Centre has recently undertaken its maintenance check and two of the cameras (both on the outside of the building) are now showing a fuzzy picture and deemed unfit for purpose by the engineer and ideally need replacing. The indoor cameras are all fine at the moment. This is not unusual with outdoor cameras given weather conditions. The cameras have now been up for over 7 years.</p> <p>The quotation for replacing the two broken cameras is £350.00 + VAT.</p> <p>Members agreed that these would need replacing to ensure the security of the building and the local neighbourhood.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Ali and Seconded by Councillor Stone, and RESOLVED: That the two broken cameras on the outside of the building at the Unity Well Being Centre are replaced as per the quote provided.</p>
2025/136 (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 November had been received and circulated to Members. No major issues were identified.</p> <p><u>MUGAS and Play Areas</u></p> <p>No new updates on play areas or MUGA's. Phil Riley of Pendle Borough Council is currently working on ideas and costings for the sites at Poplar Street and Fleet Street discussed at the previous meeting. Drawings are being made for the Poplar Street site following a consultation with neighbours in that area.</p> <p><u>Parks Services</u></p> <p>No new updates around the parks this month.</p>

	<p>As highlighted earlier in the meeting, Pendle Borough Council have sent over an asset register enquiring if this Council would like to discuss the potential of taking over further services. This will be reviewed and sent back to this Council for further discussion at a future meeting in 2026.</p> <p>Members noted the above updates.</p>
2025/137 (TC)	<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
2025/138 (TC)	<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 14th January 2026.</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 7.15pm.</p>