



NELSON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NELSON TOWN COUNCIL held at the Council Chamber, Nelson Town Hall, Market Street, Nelson on Wednesday 09th January 2019 at 7.00pm

Councillors Present: Zafar Ali [Chair], Nazeem Hayat, Faraz Ahmad, Sajid Ali, Majid Ali Anwar, Mohammad Aslam, Mashuq Hussain, Neil McGowan, Mohammed Khalid, Sheila Wicks, Michelle Pearson-Asher and Nigel Pearson-Asher,

Absent Councillors: Cllrs George Adam, Zeeshan Amjad, Najaf Anwar, Adrian Barrett, Sadia Bashir, Mohammed Kamran Latif, Mohammed Malik, John Richardson, Saanval Safir, Mohammed Anwar Malik, Hassan Mahmood, Eileen Ansar

Non-Councillor (without voting rights): Mohammed Iqbal [absent] and County Councillor Azhar Ali [to 7.30pm]

Officers: Safia Kauser - Town Clerk/RFO [minute taker]

Members of the Public: Alan Neal [Area Secretary of the Burnley and Pendle Area and Vice President of the Lancashire Association of Local Councils]

2018/109 **ONE MINUTE SILENCE**
(TC) The Chairman invites members to observe a one minute of silence

A one minutes silence was observed.

2018/110 **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS**
(TC) To receive the Chairman's opening remarks

There were no opening remarks received from the Chairman.

2018/111 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
(TC) To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor S Ali and Seconded by Councillor McGowan, and
RESOLVED: That the apologies are received and approved from Councillors Sadia Bashir, Mohammed Latif, Mohammed Malik, Hassan Mahmood and Saanval Safir.

The apologies from Non-Councillor Mohammed Iqbal were received.

2018/112
(TC)

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members are reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests. A Member must generally declare a disclosable pecuniary interest which he or she has in any item on the Agenda. A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest may not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting and must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting. In addition, the Council's Standing Orders require a Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest to leave the room where the meeting is held while any discussion or voting takes place.

There were no declarations of Interest.

2018/113
(TC)

ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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 made under public participation.

There were no members of the public present.

2018/114
(TC)

REPORTS FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND INVITED GUESTS

2018/114.1 - To receive reports from the Borough or County Councillors

County Councillor Azhar Ali reported on the budget process at Lancashire County Council. Since 2010 half a billion cuts had been made to date. This year there were over £77 million cuts of savings made. Some proposals included switching off street lights until 5am, however it was felt that this would have an impact on crime where police numbers were already short. It was reported that there may be a possible closure of the nursery in Wolverden. Other budget cuts would have an impact on Adult Social care and the number of carers and services that help with respite support. A discussion took place surrounding the programme of replacing the orange street lights to LED street lights.

Proposed by Non-Councillor Azhar Ali and Seconded by Councillor Zafar Ali, and **RESOLVED:** That a letter is sent to the Chief Executive cabinet member for Wellbeing and Council leader, expressing the concerns of the possible closure of the nursery in Wolverden. The letter is to include the Town Councils view of other budget service cuts proposed by Lancashire County Council.

Action: Non-Councillor Azhar Ali to provide the details to the Clerk on the contents of the letter.

2018/114.2 - To receive reports from other invited guests

- Councillor Alan Neal - Area Secretary of the Burnley and Pendle Area & Vice President of the Lancashire Association of Local Councils

Cllr Alan Neal reported that he attended a meeting in London with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) earlier this week. Comments were made surrounding the positive work of Nelson Town Council following the recent appointment of their new Town Clerk, Safia Kauser. NALC passed on their congratulations to the Council on the Clerks appointment and praised the work of the Town Clerk/RFO who is very highly thought of by NALC.

It was reported that recent LALC meetings have had a very poor turnout and if delegates cannot attend then the Council could send substitute delegates comprising of two to three members. Positive comments were also made in regard to the recent asset transfers and the services NTC had protected by delivering them locally. The Chairman Cllr Zafar Ali thanked Councillors Sajid Ali, Eileen Ansar and Sheila Wicks who had been involved with asset transfers.

Cllr Mashuq volunteered to act as a substitute member to attend the LALC meetings.

2018/115
(TC)

MINUTES

To approve the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 12 December 2018

Proposed by Councillor Hayat and Seconded by Councillor Z Ali, and

RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 12 December 2018 be approved as a true record and signed by the chair

2018/116
(TC)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

To confirm the receipt of committee minutes previously circulated:

- Environmental Improvements 05 December 2018
- Events, Promotional & Marketing 05 December 2018
- Finance & General Purposes 19 December 2018
- EO Personnel 20 December 2018

Some members felt that they had not been given enough time to read the minutes which had been circulated earlier today.

Proposed by Councillor S Ali and Seconded by Councillor Aslam, and

RESOLVED: That the receipt of committee minutes (above) are deferred to the next meeting to allow members enough time to read them.

Action: Town Clerk to resend the minutes

2018/117
(TC)

FORMAL TOWN COUNCIL RESPONSE - ELECTORAL REVIEW OF PENDLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

To consider a formal Town Council response as a result of the electoral review to be undertaken by the Electoral Commission, requested by Pendle Borough Council. Presentation notes from the Boundary Commission provided to parishes at the meeting held on the 22nd November 2018 were circulated at the last full council meeting.

Note: Pendle Council is looking to reduce significantly the number of its councillors. This is done by way of a periodic electoral review carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission. Following discussions with the Commission the review is likely to start in December/January. The Commission will look at the current Borough wards and is likely to recommend very significant changes to these. This can have implications for parish and town councils which it will need to take into account. If a parish does not have wards then the whole of its area must lie wholly within a single Borough ward. If it does have wards then each ward must lie wholly within a single Borough ward. This may mean changes to existing parish wards and/or the creation of new wards. To be clear though it will not however lead to any changes to the boundaries of a parish.

It was commented that the last boundary review was carried out in 1999. The new parishes were formed including Colne and Nelson in 2009. Pendle Council is suggesting that the total number of borough councillors is reduced from 49 to 39, however these impact on some two and three ward councillors representing the Town Council. It was felt that there should be uniformity in the number of ward members.

Proposed by Non-Councillor Azhar Ali and Seconded by Councillor Zafar Ali, and

RESOLVED: That a letter is sent to the boundary commission to express the view of Nelson Town Council (*5 abstentions*)

Non-Councillor Azhar Ali left the meeting at 7.30pm.

2018/118
(TC)

BUDGET 2019/20

Councillors are asked to note that the precept is to be submitted to Pendle Borough Council no later than Monday 4th February 2019, however Full Council are scheduled to meet on Wednesday 13th February. The Clerk has requested for an extension until the

14th February, failing that, the Chairman will call an Extraordinary full Council meeting on the 30th January to approve the budget.

This was noted by members.

2018/119
(TC)

BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY 2019

To nominate the Chair or Vice-Chair to attend plus a spouse or companion to her majesty the Queen's Garden Party on Tuesday 15 May 2019.

Note: All nominations received by the due date, Wednesday 23rd January 2019, will be put into a ballot. Any entries received after this date will be ineligible. The invitation is to those who have NOT attended before and is for recognition of PAST service and it is therefore appropriate that outgoing members rather than those newly selected be chosen. The name of the winning nominee in the ballot will be forwarded to the National Association and in due course an official invitation will be sent from the Lord Chamberlain's Office direct to the winning nominee. Invitations are issued approximately 6 weeks before the event.

The council considered two nominations for the garden party 2019:

- Councillor Aslam nominated to attend - Proposed by Councillor Khalid and Seconded by Councillor N McGowan (*6 in favor, 5 against, 1 abstention*)
- Chair and Vice-Chair to attend – Proposed by Councillor S Ali and Seconded by Councillor Mashuq (*5 in favor, 5 against and 2 abstentions*)

Both councillors whom were nominated, did not secure an overall majority of votes (51%), therefore the Chairman exercised his casting vote.

Proposed by Councillor S Ali and Seconded by Councillor Mashuq, and

RESOLVED: That the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council are nominated to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party 2019

2018/120
(TC)

TRANSFERRED SERVICES

To receive reports and confirm any actions required in relation to transferred services (see report from the Town Clerk attached)

- MUGAs
- CCTV monitoring
- Parks Services
- Roadside seats

The monthly meeting with Philip Mousdale was due to take place next week and there was no report available on the transferred services.

2018/121
(TC)

REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS

To receive reports from town councillors who have attended recent meetings or events on behalf of the Town Council including representation on external bodies:

- Nelson Area Committee
- Lancashire Association of Local Councils, Lancashire Branch meetings
- Pendle Fair Trade
- Town Centre Partnership / Town Team
- Nelson Youth Forum
- Whitfield Community Forum
- Bradley Big Local Community
- Conferences and courses

Nelson Area Committee

A planning application for a hijama clinic was rejected as it was a request for a commercial business to be set-up in a residential property.

LALC

An executive meeting was scheduled to take place on the 19th January at 10.00am

Pendle Fair Trade

No updates reported.

Town Centre Partnership / Town Team

No updates reported.

Nelson Youth Forum

The Unity Centre was being used to host mental health workshops. It was suggested that the Youth Forum work more closely with the Town Council to deliver more sessions in the future.

Whitefield Community Forum

No updates reported.

Bradley Big Local

No updates reported.

No reports were received for conference and courses.

2018/122
(TC)

TOWN CLERK CORRESPONDENCE

To consider any correspondence or communication brought forward by the Clerk not otherwise specifically relating to items being discussed by the Town Council committees.

There was no further updates to report on the office re-location.

2018/123
(TC)

ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

To notify the Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting

None declared.

2018/124
(TC)

DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The next Nelson Town Council meeting is due to be held on Wednesday 13th February 2019 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Market Street, Nelson.

The meeting was closed by the Chair at 7.45pm.