



Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of Nelson Town Council held on Friday 01st May 2020 via Zoom video conference

Commenced: 7.00pm - Concluded: 8.00pm

Councillors Present: Councillors Zafar Ali [Chair], Faraz Ahmad, Omar Ahmed, Sadia Bashir, Laura Blackburn, Wayne Blackburn, Patricia Hannah-Wood, Nazeem Hayat, Fiona Holland, Mashuq Hussain OBE, Mohammad Kamran Latif, Mohammad Sakib, Mohammad Sarwar, Russell Tennant and Sheila Wicks.

Absent Councillors: Councillors George Adam, Zulfiqar Ali, Husnan Arshad, Mohammad Aslam, Ali Baig, Michelle Pearson-Asher, Nigel Pearson-Asher and Ikram Ul-Haq.

Non-Councillor (without voting rights): None

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

Members of the Public: None

2019/189 (TC)	<p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Clerk prior to the meeting.</p> <p>No apologies were received.</p>
2019/190 (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 declared.</p>
2019/191 (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 were present at the meeting.</p>
2019/192 (TC)	<p><u>MINUTES</u> To approve the draft minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meetings held on 14 April 2020 and 21 April 2020 (previously circulated).</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Mashuq Hussain and Seconded by Councillor Sheila Wicks, and RESOLVED: That the draft minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meetings held on the 14 April 2020 and 21 April 2020 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.</p>

2019/193
(TC)

UPDATE ON COVID-19

To receive an update around the action being taken in relation to the Covid-19 issue.

Staff

The Chairman reported that all staff are currently working from home where possible. The Catering Assistant has recently handed in her notice, meaning after lock down has ended, there are a number of positions which need to be filled. The Personnel committee will be meeting to discuss these vacancies.

Members noted the update.

Additional support for foodbanks

With lock down still in place and no imminent date set for restrictions to be lifted, Members discussed what further action the Council could take to support residents.

Proposed by Councillor Zafar Ali and Seconded by Councillor Patricia Hannah-Wood and **RESOLVED:** That the Catering co-ordinator is asked to prepare 50 meals per day to be distributed to food banks who in turn provide them to residents most in need in Nelson.

Action: The Assistant Clerk to meet with the Catering Co-ordinator to try to arrange this and discuss next steps.

Nelson Football Club

Due to the abandonment of all non-league football due to the Covid-19 outbreak, many teams are now struggling financially. Nelson Football Club have recently set up a 'Go Fund Me' page seeking donations to help the club with ongoing maintenance costs until football resumes and revenue can be made at games. So far they have achieved just over £1,100 of a target of £1,500. Members discussed ideas to which the Club could raise some much needed backing. Grants are available from Sport England, the Police and Crime Commissioners Office and through BuildBase.

Proposed by Councillor Zafar Ali and Seconded by Councillor Russell Tennant and **RESOLVED:** That Nelson Football Club are requested to write to the Town Council to outline their plans and what support they need going forwards.

Action: The Assistant Clerk to liaise with the Chairman of Nelson Football Club on ways to move forward.

Flower displays in the town centre

The Assistant Clerk gave a brief update in relation to the flower displays due to go up for the spring/ summer of 2020:

- Hanging baskets – 160 hanging baskets are now ordered and due to be installed by the handyman on week commencing 18th May 2020.
- Planters – 90 new planters have been ordered taking the total up to 123. These will be installed by Unique Clean next week so they are ready for when the bags of plants arrive on week commencing 18th May 2020.

Members noted the update.

	<p><u>Accounts</u></p> <p>The Assistant Clerk has been working with staff from Rialtas to catch up with the backlog of accounts so they are ready to be audited in June.</p> <p>Members noted the update.</p> <p><u>AGM</u></p> <p>LALC have advised that all positions should remain the same for 2020/21 as they were in 2019/20 as no AGM's can take place due to Covid-19.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor M K Latif and Seconded by Councillor M Sakib and RESOLVED: That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and all committee memberships are to remain the same for 2020/21 as they were in 2019/20.</p>
<p>2019/194 (TC)</p>	<p><u>ONGOING CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEE MATTER</u></p> <p>2019/194.1 Exclusion of the Press and Public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960. It is recommended that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Mashuq Hussain and Seconded by Councillor Patricia Hannah-Wood, and RESOLVED: That no Press or Public be permitted to attend this part of the meeting. Only the Members of the Town Council are to participate, with the Assistant Town Clerk in attendance as minute taker.</p> <p>2019/194.2 To receive an update surrounding a confidential employee matter.</p> <p>REDACTED.</p>
<p>2019/195 (TC)</p>	<p><u>ANY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FOR A FUTURE AGENDA</u></p> <p>To notify the Clerk of any matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid-19 update • Ongoing Confidential Employee Matter
<p>2019/196 (TC)</p>	<p><u>DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING</u></p> <p>To note the date of the next committee meeting is yet to be scheduled, but is expected to take place in May 2020 at Nelson Town Hall.</p> <p>There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed by the Chair at 8.00pm.</p>