

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NELSON COMMITTEE
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL
ON 2nd SEPTEMBER, 2019**

PRESENT –

Councillor M. Sakib (Chairman – in the Chair)

Councillors

G. Adam
Nadeem Ahmed
Z. Ali
M. Ammer
E. Ansar
J. Henderson
M. Iqbal
N. McGowan
K. E. Shore
Y. Tennant
S. Wicks

Co-optees

*N. Emery (Nelson Town Centre
Partnership)*

Police

Inspector Andy Cartwright

Officers in attendance:

<i>Julie Whittaker</i>	<i>Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager (Area Co-ordinator)</i>
<i>Alex Cameron</i>	<i>Planning Officer</i>
<i>Jane Watson</i>	<i>Head of Democratic Services</i>

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M. Aslam, T. Cooney and A. Mahmood).



49. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the requirements of the Member Code of Conduct concerning the Declaration of Interests.

50. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Paul Graham a resident of Nelson referred to the number of empty and boarded up houses in the Southfield Ward. He asked the Committee what steps the Council was taking to track down the owners of these properties and what help was being offered to help bring these properties back into use. The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager referred to the work carried out by the Council's Empty Homes Officer; the Council's loan scheme and the Compulsory Purchase Programme. Regular reports were also submitted to each Area Committee updating Members on the position with regards to vacant properties. It was also noted that although help was offered this was not always taken up. It was agreed that the Empty Homes Officer would contact Mr. Graham to discuss his concerns further.

51. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th August, 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

52.

PROGRESS REPORT

A progress report on action arising from the meeting of this Committee held on 5th August, 2019 was submitted for information.

53.

POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Inspector Andy Cartwright attended the meeting and gave an update on some key incidents which had taken place over the past few weeks.

He reported that over the August Bank Holiday weekend there had been a spate of arson attacks on 11 vehicles in the Nelson area. As well as the Police the Fire and Rescue Service responded to the first call at 11.30 p.m. and the incidents continued into the early hours of the following morning. Other resources were brought into Borough to help respond to the attacks as well as the Police helicopter. Inspector Cartwright said the Police were appealing to the local community to come forward with any information to themselves or to Crimestoppers with regards to these attacks. The Police were currently piecing together CCTV footage but the perpetrator(s) had yet to be identified.

The Committee were given an update with regards to Operation Tempest. Following a report of an incident of disorder between two families, where a machete attack had injured 2 people, a man had been charged and remanded in custody in connection with this incident. A further 8 arrests had been made on the night which later increased to 14 arrests, 13 of which had been released on bail (11 of which had been restricted from entering the Borough until their bail conditions had ended). The Police were aware that when these people were allowed back into the Borough intelligence was needed to help understand the tensions that had arisen.

This led to a discussion on knife crime and the Government's funding that was available to help address this issue. Inspector Cartwright said he was the lead for knife crime within the Pendle Community Safety Partnership and an education programme was being developed to present to local high schools during the current academic year.

It was also reported that as part of the uplifting precept in this year's Council Tax the Police and Crime Commission had increased funding to facilitate 40 new police officers across Lancashire. Four of these officers would be working in Nelson and would work alongside Inspector Cartwright and the Neighbourhood Policing Team. They would start on 16th September and their role/focus would impact on areas of greatest harm and the Neighbourhood Policing Priorities.

54.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications to be determined

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on planning applications to be determined as follows:

19/0194/FUL Full: Erection of a single-storey commercial unit for use as a car repair garage and MOT centre (Use Class B2) at J. F. Business Centre, Whitefield Mill, St. Marys Street, Nelson for Mr. Aslam

RESOLVED

That this application be deferred for a site visit and for further discussions with the applicant to address a number of outstanding issues.

19/0284/FUL Full: Erection of store to side of building (Use Class A1) (68 sq. m.) (part re-submission) at 60 Leeds Road, Nelson for Mr. Toqir Hussain

The Planning Officer circulated an update at the meeting which set out the objections received from the Environment Agency along with a further reason for refusal.

(Before the vote was taken, the Planning Officer advised that should the application be approved there would be a significant departure from policy. The matter would therefore be referred to the Head of Legal Services and subject to his agreement the decision would stand referred to the Policy and Resources Committee.)

RECOMMENDATION

That planning permission be **granted**.

19/0393/FUL Full: Erection of two-storey extension to south elevation of religious building (floor space 335 sq. m.) at Masjid Nimra, Bankhouse Road, Nelson for The Mosque Committee

RESOLVED

That this application be deferred for a site visit.

19/0432/FUL Full: Retention of installed double doors to front elevation with minor remedial works (retrospective) at 115 Manchester Road, Nelson for Mr. Mubashir Arif

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager be granted delegated authority to **refuse** planning permission, after the expiry of the consultation period, for the following reason:

The proposed design and finish of the doors would result in unacceptable harm to the character and appearance of the Whitefield Conservation Area. Whilst the harm to the significance of the Conservation Area would be less than substantial public benefits would not outweigh that harm and thus the development is contrary to Policies ENV1 and ENV2 of the Pendle Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (2011-2030) and paragraphs 193 and 196 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

- (2) That prosecution proceedings be commenced for failure to comply with the Enforcement Notice regarding the removal of the unauthorised roller shutter doors and installation of timber doors replicating the design and finish of the previous doors.

55. ENFORCEMENT/UNAUTHORISED USES

Enforcement Action

The Head of Legal Services submitted, for information, a report on outstanding enforcement cases in Nelson.

56. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20

The Housing, Health and Engineering Services Manager reported that the Committee's current balance for the 2019/20 Capital Programme was £1.

A full report would be submitted to the next meeting.

57. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND

Committee noted the uncommitted Community Investment Fund allocations as set out below:

Councillor	2018/19 Community Investment Fund	Committed	Balance	Details of Scheme
Marsden N. McGowan	£2,040.00	£0.00	£2,040.00	
Whitefield N. Ahmed	£2,040.00	£0.00	£2,040.00	

58. ARCADE BETWEEN SCOTLAND ROAD AND LEEDS ROAD, NELSON

The Chief Executive submitted a report following receipt of a request to close the passageway to enable the owner to redevelop the frontage (subject to planning permission) of the arcade on Scotland Road. The intention was to marry up the new development with the glass frame structure next door to create a better kerb side appeal.

The passageway was part of the premises known as 6-12 Scotland Road and 7-9 Leeds Road, Nelson. Committee were advised that there was an Agreement dated 1st June 1915 which stated that this passageway was dedicated as a public footway. The Agreement was between James Thomas Landless, the Nelson Central Property Company Limited and the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Nelson.

The Council had accepted the dedication and took on responsibility for the proper lighting, cleansing and maintenance of the passageway (with the exception of the roof).

There was currently a Note on the Land Registration document regarding an Agreement that the Council would accept the passageway as a dedicated public footpath. To enable the redevelopment of the site Council would need to agree for the Note to be removed.

RESOLVED

That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to enter into negotiations and formal agreement with the owner to enable the removal of the Note registered against the owner's title at the Land Registry with regards to the Arcade between Scotland Road and Leeds Road, Nelson.

REASON

The passageway was no longer required and provided no benefits to the Council.

59. WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

The Environmental Services Manager gave a presentation on waste and recycling collections within the Borough.

A number of questions were asked and issues raised with regards to uncollected bins; contamination of bins; replacement bins; business waste and communication regarding some of these issues.

During discussion the Chairman of the Committee was invited to join one of the waste services teams on a business waste round.

Chairman _____