

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 22nd SEPTEMBER, 2022
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

Councillor N. Ahmed (Chairman – in the Chair)

Councillors

<i>Z. Ali</i>	<i>M. Hanif</i>
<i>D. Cockburn-Price</i>	<i>A. Mahmood</i>
<i>S. Cockburn-Price</i>	<i>A. Sutcliffe (Substitute)</i>
<i>M. Goulthorp</i>	<i>D. Whipp</i>

Also in attendance:

Councillor M. Iqbal
Councillor K. McGladdery

Officers in attendance:

<i>Rose Rouse</i>	<i>Chief Executive</i>
<i>Richard Gibson</i>	<i>Chief Finance Officer</i>
<i>Howard Culshaw</i>	<i>Head of Legal/Monitoring Officer</i>
<i>Neil Watson</i>	<i>Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager</i>
<i>Joanne Eccles</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>



The following people attended the meeting and spoke on the items indicated:

<i>Lisa Tennant</i>	<i>22/0471/FUL Full: Retention of use of land for</i>	<i>Minute No.57(a)</i>
<i>Mark Attwood</i>	<i>private equine use, dog rehabilitation use and</i>	
<i>Robbie Atilgan</i>	<i>associated rural workers dwelling at Pendle</i>	
<i>Jax Hodson</i>	<i>Bridge Lodge, Woodend Road, Brierfield</i>	
<i>Sharon Ashley</i>		
<i>Tracy Law</i>		
<i>Liz Kidd</i>		
<i>Ian Shutt</i>		
<i>Maria Clancy</i>		
<i>Pauline McCormick</i>		
<i>Graham Roach</i>	<i>Colne Neighbourhood Plan</i>	<i>Minute No. 61</i>
<i>Emma Hartley</i>		



54. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the requirements of the Member Code of Conduct concerning the declaration of interests.

55. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A local resident asked for an update with development at Further Clough Head. The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager said that the developer was looking at the topography of the site and remodelling a housing scheme to fit in. A planning application was expected shortly.

56. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 25th August, 2022 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

57. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) 22/0353/HHO Full: Erection of first floor and single storey ground floor extensions at Monkholme Lodge, Robinson Lane, Brierfield for Mr S. Choudrey

At a meeting of the Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee on 5th September, 2022 the decision to approve this application was referred as a recommendation to this Committee as the decision was contrary to policy and would represent a significant departure from policy.

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **refused** for the following reason -

1. The proposed extension would result in a further disproportionate extension of the original building and is therefore inappropriate development in the Green Belt, the extension would cause harm to the openness of the Green Belt and no very special circumstances have been demonstrated that would clearly outweigh that harm, the proposed extension is therefore contrary to policy ENV2 of the Pendle Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy and paragraphs 147-150 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

(b) 22/0471/FUL Full: Retention of use of land for private equine use, dog rehabilitation use and associated rural workers dwelling at Pendle Bridge Lodge, Woodend Road, Brierfield for K9 Rehab

At a meeting of the Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee on 5th September, 2022 the decision to approve this application was referred as a recommendation to this Committee as the decision was contrary to policy and would represent a significant departure from policy.

RESOLVED

That planning permission be **refused** for the following reason -

1. The proposed building in an isolated position, away from a settlement and would result in an isolated dwelling in an unsustainable location with insufficient justification to warrant approving such a development in the open countryside. In addition the development is inappropriate development in the green belt. There are no very special circumstances that would justify allowing such inappropriate development which would be harmful to the

openness of the green belt. The proposal is contrary to paragraphs 80,147 and 149 of the Framework, Policies ENV2, ENV4, LIV 1 and SUP2 of the Local Plan: Part 1 Core Strategy.

58. QUARTER 1 – REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING 2022/23

The Chief Finance Officer submitted a report on the Quarter 1 position for the Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2022/23.

The Council had been asked to confirm if it wished to remain in the existing Lancashire Business Rates Pool under the same pooling arrangements as current.

The report referred to two items which showed the biggest increases with regards to the Capital Programme:

New Cemetery Site (Halifax Road)

A provisional sum of £1.4m had been included in the programme and funded in 2022/23 through slippage most notably within the Regeneration schemes which would not be spent this year. Council would be required to approve this addition to the Capital Programme at its next meeting on 29th September.

Nelson Town Deal

The programme now included £10.1m of capital spend for the Nelson Town Deal with a further £13.2m to be added when these business cases were signed off. The balance of the £25m was being revenue funded.

There was a discussion about Area Committee budgets being funded by the Capital Programme and, going forward, the practicality of bids having to be over £10k and on Council owned assets.

It was noted that a revised deadline of 30th November had been set for the draft Statement of Accounts 2021/22.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Quarter 1 position on the Council's Revenue Budgets for 2022/23 be noted.
- (2) That the decision to remain in the Lancashire Business Rates Pool for 2023/24 be noted.
- (3) That the Quarter 1 position on the Council's Capital Programme for 2022/23 be noted.
- (4) That the proposed changes to the Capital Programme to be taken to Council on 29th September, 2022 be noted.
- (5) That Council be recommended at their next meeting to agree that the Area Committee budgets be revenue rather than capital funded.

REASON

- (1) ***To inform the Committee of the Council's Quarter 1 position for revenue and capital budgets for 2022/23.***

(2) To enable Area Committee budgets to operate efficiently and effectively.

59. STRATEGIC MONITORING REPORT 1st APRIL, 2021 TO 30th JUNE, 2022

The Chief Finance Officer submitted, for information, a report which provided performance monitoring information on the Council's service and financial plans for the period 1st April to 30th June, 2022.

RESOLVED

That the progress made on actions identified in the Corporate Plan (shown at Appendix A of the report) be noted.

REASON

To inform the Committee of performance monitoring information relating to the Council's services.

60. TRANSFORMING PENDLE PROGRAMME

The Chief Executive submitted a report which represented a key part of the Transforming Pendle governance framework by providing the Committee with a quarterly review (Quarter 2) and a summary of progress to date for the development and delivery of the Programme.

There were two new additions to the programme: Enforcement Review and Business Support Review. It was noted that the collection, not the disposal of waste, was part of the Transformation Programme. Waste disposal issues would be looked at elsewhere.

RESOLVED

That progress to date be noted and the proposed next steps toward the continued development and delivery of the programme, as detailed in the report, be approved.

REASON

To continue to develop and deliver the Programme.

61. COLNE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

At the meeting the Head of Legal Services reported that, in discussion with the Chairman, it was proposed to defer this item and discuss the Plan at a separate meeting of this Committee. This would give officers time to give the Neighbourhood Plan further consideration and enable Members to have a full discussion on the various issues.

RESOLVED

That this item be discussed at a separate meeting of this Committee, to be arranged in October.

REASON

To ensure the final draft of the Colne Neighbourhood Plan is given full consideration.

62. PENDLE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report on progress made in the preparation of a new Statement of Community Involvement for Pendle. It confirmed the measures that the Council would put in place through the plan-making and decision-taking processes to promote stakeholder engagement and facilitate the involvement of the local community.

The following updates had been made to reflect recent changes to:

- Planning legislation, regulations, policy and guidance.
- Best practice following the COVID 19 pandemic (i.e. the increased use of electronic and online consultation techniques).
- The circumstances associated with the preparation of a Local Plan for Pendle.

Following a recent public consultation no comments were received in relation to the above changes.

RESOLVED

That the content of the Pendle Statement of Community Involvement (third revision) be noted and formally adopted.

REASONS

- (1) ***To adhere to the adopted Local Development Scheme.***
- (2) ***To ensure compliance with Section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act and Regulation 10A of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended).***

**63. BUSINESS RESILIENCE AND GROWTH PROJECT
TOWN DEAL BOUNDARY BUFFER ZONE**

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report following a recommendation from the Nelson Town Deal Board to create a 0.5 mile buffer zone to the existing Town Deal boundary for the Business Resilience and Growth project.

It was reported that the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities had confirmed that they were happy for the Town Deal boundary to be extended with the proposed half mile buffer around the existing boundary on the condition that they be provided with:

- A definitive map of the new boundary, and
- An assurance that the Town Deal Board had been consulted and agreed these changes with any affected neighbouring MPs or local authorities.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the creation of a 0.5 mile buffer zone to the existing Nelson Town Deal boundary be agreed in principle for the Business Resilience and Growth project.

- (2) That the eligible business in the existing Nelson Town Deal boundary be contacted as soon as possible to be made aware of the grants available and encouraged to apply.
- (3) That only applications be allowed from businesses within the Nelson Town Deal boundary in year one of the project.
- (4) That the take up from businesses within the Nelson Town Deal boundary be reviewed at the end of year one, with a view to allowing applications from businesses within the buffer zone in year two, should the evidence suggest demand for the funding was low and businesses within the existing boundary would not be disadvantaged; that the Town Deal Board be asked to set appropriate thresholds for applications from businesses within the buffer zone for years 2, 3 and 4 of the grant scheme; and that in addition to meeting the grants criteria, businesses in the buffer zone be asked to provide additional reasons why their grant should be approved.

REASONS

- (1) ***In order that highly appropriate businesses that are on the edge of the existing Nelson Town Deal boundary do not lose out on the opportunities offered by the Nelson Town Deal grants, where they would provide benefits to the town's economy.***
- (2) ***In order that Nelson benefits from the inclusion of these businesses.***

64. TOGETHER AN ACTIVE PENDLE – UPDATE

The Chief Executive submitted a report which outlined progress with the Pathfinder phase of the Together an Active Pendle programme which was now complete and plans for the Accelerator phase (2022-2025). The scheme aimed to tackle physical inactivity and poor mental health wellbeing. The funding for the programme, which was entirely provided by Sports England, was set out at Appendix 1.

The Pathfinder phase focused on research and community engagement on the priority themes to understand barriers, experiences and behaviour change motivators for particular communities. The Pathfinder Engagement findings were set out at Appendix 2 of the report. Appendix 3 set out the workplans for the Accelerator Phase which would focus on supporting those living with or at risk of long-term health conditions in the 2 Pendle Primary Care Network areas and families through a place-based approach.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report and progress made on the Pathfinder Phase of the Together an Active Pendle programme be noted.
- (2) That the approach for the Accelerator Phase be noted.

REASON

To ensure delivery of the Sport England Local Delivery Pilot.

65. REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS FROM THE COUNCIL'S FLEET

The Environmental Services Manager submitted a report which provided an update on the financial impact and carbon emissions savings during the six month trial of Hydrated Vegetable Oil (HVO) within the Council's recycling fleet and to seek approval to continue using HVO and investigate further use of the fuel across the fleet.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That approval be given to officers to continue to use alternative fuels within the recycling fleet and the subsequent increases in costs for both fuel and infrastructure.
- (3) That the continued investigation into the use of Hydrated Vegetable Oil across the remaining fleet be supported and the increase in operational costs this would incur be acknowledged should further vehicles be moved to Hydrated Vegetable Oil.

REASONS

- (1) *To fully advise the Committee on the usage, associated costs and carbon savings created by the use of HVO.*
- (2) *To ensure the Council meets its target to reduce emissions from its transport fleet as set out in the Climate Emergency Action Plan.*

66. LEVELLING UP – PARKS FUND

At the 25th August meeting this Committee considered a report from the Environmental Services Manager in relation to grant funding as part of the Government's levelling up agenda.

Pendle Council was due to receive a grant of £85,000 to fund the creation or significant refurbishment of parks. Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee and Colne and District Committee were invited to consider sites in their area which should be put forward for the project proposal and which met the guidance provided by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). Their comments were as follows -

Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee (5th September, 2022)

"That the Policy and Resources Committee be advised that Netherfield Road, Nelson is the Committee's preferred option for refurbishment."

Colne and District Committee (8th September, 2022)

"That the Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to site the project at the area of land off Windy Bank, Colne."

RESOLVED

That the Environmental Services Manager apply to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for the £85,000 funding providing a project proposal for the refurbishment of parks at Netherfield Road, Nelson and Windy Bank, Colne.

REASON

To improve residents' access to urban green spaces within these areas of Pendle that are recorded to have less than 5% of green cover.

67. TENDERS

The Chief Finance Officer submitted, for information, a report on tenders which had been received and accepted since the last meeting.

68. MATTERS REFERRED FROM AREA COMMITTEES

(a) Cricket provision at Edge End Playing Fields, Brierfield

At a meeting of the Nelson, Brierfield and Reedley Committee it was resolved "that the Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to approve a supplementary estimate for £5,000 to reinstate the cricket pitch at Edge End Playing Fields, Brierfield as traditional grass field, as detailed in the report.

The report considered by the Committee was submitted for information.

RESOLVED

That a supplementary estimate for £5,000 to reinstate the cricket pitch at Edge End Playing Fields, Brierfield not be agreed.

REASON

This scheme could be funded by the Area Committee and/or Town Council.

Chairman _____