



EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE  
**COUNCIL**  
TO BE HELD ON  
**MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**  
AT 7.00 p.m.

**IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

Minutes of all meetings held since the last Council meeting can be accessed via the Council's website [www.pendle.gov.uk](http://www.pendle.gov.uk) followed by the "Council" tab.

The meeting will also be live streamed and can be accessed via the following link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/@pendlecouncil7565/streams>

Members are reminded that it is now not necessary to submit amendments in writing prior to the start of the meeting. Members are however urged wherever possible to continue to do this so that the effect of amendments can be fully understood.

For further information please contact  
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**ROSE ROUSE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

If you would like this information in a way which is better for you, please telephone us.



اگر آپ یہ معلومات کسی ایسی شکل میں چاہتے ہیں، جو کہ  
آپ کے لئے زیادہ مفید ہو تو براہ مہربانی ہمیں بتائیے۔

Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies 2014, people attending open meetings can film, audio record, take photographs or use social media. Oral commentary is not allowed during meetings as it would be disruptive. If you are attending a meeting you need to be aware that you may be filmed by others attending. This is not within our control.



## **A G E N D A**

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests.

A Member must declare a disclosable pecuniary interest which he/she has in any item on the agenda. A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest in any item 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.

3. Notice of Motion

### Palestine and Israel

To be moved by Councillor A. Mahmood and seconded by Councillor M. Hanif –

Pendle Borough Council is deeply shocked and saddened at the dramatic escalation of the conflict between Palestine and Israel.

The conflict has led to a humanitarian crisis which can only be resolved by an end to the violence. We want to formally join the voices calling for an immediate ceasefire in the region and show our support for the international community to broker a peaceful and just resolution.

The Council condemns the outrageous attack by Hamas on 7<sup>th</sup> October killing 1200 civilians in Israel and demand the immediate release to all hostages.

This Council notes:

- At the time of writing there have been 12,000 deaths in Gaza including nearly 5,000 children. The United Nations has described the situation now as a graveyard for children. A group of United Nations experts expressed concerns the situation in Gaza has reached a "catastrophic tipping point."
- The UN relief agency for Palestinians says on average one child is killed and two are injured every 10 minutes during the war. Save The Children confirmed the number of children killed in Gaza in the first 3 weeks of the conflict by the Israeli government surpasses numbers killed in all conflicts since 2019. As the UN Secretary General said, "no party to an armed conflict is above international law."
- There is still a dire need for food, water, medicine, fuel, and essential supplies in Gaza. Two million Gazans are struggling to find drinking water. Operations and amputations are being conducted without anaesthesia.

- The call for an immediate ceasefire is not only echoed by the UN General Assembly, UNRWA, World Health Organisation, War on Want, World Food Programme CAFOD, Amnesty International Christian Aid and over 600 NGO's from across the world. Pope Frances and the Archbishop of Canterbury have called for similar. The French President Emmanuel Macron and the Irish Government have recently called for a ceasefire.
- At a domestic political level, the Mayors of London, Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire alongside the Scottish First Minister and Shadow First Minister have demanded an immediate ceasefire. So have over 100 MPs including nearly 20 Labour Shadow Front Bench members alongside the trade union movement and hundreds of Councillors.
- There are very strong feelings amongst Pendle residents over a long period of time regarding the Palestine/Israel conflict.
- The Council has town twinning links with Beit Leed, Palestine over a number of years, with reciprocal visits.
- There is a danger that an extended conflict may have adverse effects on the world economy and hence the local economy and so may already be exacerbating the cost of living crisis or may soon start to have such an impact.

This Council therefore resolves to publicly back an immediate ceasefire in the region by all parties and the unconditional release of all hostages.

This Council also resolves to ask the Chief Executive to:

- (1) Write to the Prime Minister:
  - (a) asking him to support the upholding of international law, with appropriate investigation and accountability for breaches including the use of white phosphorus and war crimes;
  - (b) asking for all efforts be made to ensure Israel does not 'land grab' and illegally occupy Gaza making a two-state solution impossible;
  - (c) asking him to support the unfettered humanitarian access to Gaza to alleviate the unacceptable levels of human suffering in the region;
  - (d) asking him to intervene and ask the Israeli government to stop escalation of violence from illegal settlers in the West Bank who are driving Palestinians from their homes; and
  - (e) asking him to endorse a serious and concerted reinvigoration of international efforts for a two-state solution.
- (2) Build on existing efforts to raise awareness of and challenge all forms of racism including antisemitism, islamophobia and anti-Palestinian racism.