

County Borough of Caerphilly

Nelson Community Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2013 at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllr. P Baldwin (Chairman)

Cllr. G Davies

Cllr. A Gray

Cllr. L Lewis MBE

Cllr. G Mahoney

Cllr. B Miles

Cllr. S Morgan

Mr A. Hoskins (Clerk)

In attendance: Member of the public

Apologies for absence: Cllr. A Blackman and Cllr. K Jones

Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. Baldwin declared a personal interest in matters relating to the Nelson Development Trust and to the Nelson Community Centre Management Committee.

Cllr. Davies declared a personal interest in matters relating to the Nelson Development Trust, Nelson Village Partnership and CCBC Standards Committee.

Cllr. Gray declared a personal interest in matters relating to the Nelson Development Trust.

Cllr. Morgan declared a personal interest in matters relating to the Nelson Village Partnership and the Friends of Wern Park.

Apologies for Absence:

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Blackman had spent the day working at CCBC offices and Cllr. Jones was attending a training event at Bridgend..

**1578 Report from the Police representative:**

The Clerk had received no apologies or monthly report.

Members expressed disappointment that no officer or report had been available for the meeting or for the meeting held in October. It was Resolved to write to the Chief Inspector to ask why there had been no attendance or report, with a copy to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent.

**1579. Minutes:**

· Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2013 were Received and Approved subject to the following correction and some minor typing errors.

o Cllr. Mahoney had said that the Teacher Assessment was the highest and not the standard of teaching as recorded.

**1580. Matters arising from the Minutes:**

Members were disappointed that the church had been unable to find a bugler to play at the recent Remembrance Day service.

The Clerk had not yet written the letter to the Head Teacher of Lewis Girls School.

**1581. Report from the Chairman:**

The Chairman had attended a charity concert given by the Phoenix Singers at Abercynon which was excellent. She had made a donation of £50 to the sponsored charity, which was the Stroke Association.

**1582. Report from the Clerk:**

**a. PLANNING:**

**The following planning applications relating to the Nelson area were received:**

1. 13/0754/FULL      Mr R Morgan                      Erect conservatory at Pengelli Farm, Llanfabon Road.

*It was Resolved that no objection or comment be made regarding the above application.*

The Clerk also brought member's attention to the application (CR1.) by Miller Argent (South Wales) Limited to mine approximately 6 million tonnes of coal from the Nant Llesg Surface Mine and to erect a new building at Cwmbargoed Disposal Point to house a coal washing plant.

*It was Resolved to object to support the local Protest Group in objecting to the scale of this development on grounds of its environmental impact, its impact on the visual amenity and to also object on its potential to impact on Nelson residents along the rail link from the site to Ystrad Mynach, due to the increased frequency and larger capacity of trains to be used to transport materials from the site.*

**For information: the following applications were approved by the County Borough Council:**

1. 13/0516/FULL Astra Plant (Treforest) Demolish existing commercial garage and construct three no. Link houses at Heol Fawr.

2. 13/0619/FULL Mrs E O'Neil Erect extension to existing bedroom plus en-suite above existing kitchen and bathroom at 72 Heol Fawr.

**For information: the following applications were refused by the County Borough Council:**

None received

**b. ACCOUNTS:**

**The following payments were approved:**

1.	D Gray	Cleaner Salary (July-October)	£258.28
2.	CCBC	Planning Application fee	£90.00

3.	British Gas	Gas usage charges (Institute)	£502.76
4.	Royal British Legion	Poppy wreath for Remembrance Sunday	£18.00
5.	British Gas	Electricity charges (Institute)	£26.80
6.	SLCC	Annual membership renewal fee	£101.00

**c. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**The following correspondence was received:**

1. CCBC

\* Notification of Planning Application re: Nant Llesg Surface Mine

*See Planning Applications above*

2. Noah's Ark Children's Hospital Charity *Noted*

Winter Newsletter

3. T&CC Joint Liaison Committee

Notice and minutes for a meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2013

*Noted*

4. CCBC

Consultation on Local Development Plan

*It was Resolved to Agenda the item for consideration at the December meeting.*

*Cllr. Morgan would extract those matters that affected the Nelson area from the report*

5. CCBC

Poster for display re: proposed development at Nant Llesg

*Posted in NCC notice board*

6. Urdd Gobaith Cymru

Information on 2014 Eisteddfod

*The Clerk has sent a Grant Aid form*

7. GAVO

8. T&CC Joint Liaison Committee

Draft Minutes of meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2013

*Agenda item*

9. CCBC

Notice of Exhibitions re: proposed Nant Llesg Surface Mine

*The Clerk has posted the notice in the NCC notice board*

10. Cllr. Anne Blackman

Request for information re: clearance of snooker hall and monies from  
Boxing Club

*The Clerk had provided the information requested by Cllr. Blackman*

11. LCAS

Joining instructions for H&S Seminar in Cardiff

*The Clerk attended this event on 23<sup>rd</sup> October*

12. Anouska Beaumont

Request for update on complaint and additional information

*The Clerk had provided the information requested*

13. Nelson Village Partnership

Minutes of meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2013

*Agenda item*

14. Cllr. A Blackman

Update of member's interests following resignation from the  
Nelson Development Trust on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2013

*The Clerk has noted the change*



15. CCBC

Remittance Advice for overpayment of Planning Application fee

*Local Authorities pay 50% of the advertised fee*

16. Cllr. S Morgan

Item for Christmas Newsletter

17. One Voice Wales

Ombudsman's Casebook Issue 14

*Noted*

*The document is available on-line*

18. One Voice Wales

Notification of Training Course on Community Engagement

*Noted*

*Cllr. Jones was attending*

19. Cllr. S Morgan

Link to go2mytown website

*It was Resolved to Agenda this item for consideration at the December meeting.*

*A link would be added to the NCC Website. Local traders would be informed.*

*Cllr. Morgan would produce a list of businesses operating in Nelson.*

20. Anouska Beaumont

Request for update regarding Complaint of Maladministration

*The Clerk had forwarded the draft response which is subject to its*

*Adoption at the meeting*

21. One Voice Wales Training

Confirmation of place for Cllr. K Jones on training course on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013 *Noted*

22. Paul Hudson (CCBC)

Sample risk assessment and list of mobile catering vans

*The RA had been passed to Cllr. Mahoney for completion*

*Agenda item*

23. Cllr. S Morgan

Request for Agenda item

*Agenda item*

24. CCBC (Helen Morgan)

Notification of meeting with Ian Johnston, Police and Crime

*Noted*

Commissioner for Gwent on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013

25. One Voice Wales

Letter from new Development  
Officer

*Noted*

*For information*

26. Craig Evans and Emily Williams (Playleaders)

Responses to complaints about the running of the Playscheme

*To be considered by the Activities Sub Committee*

27. Kerry Bain (Rooftop Aerials)

Termination of rental agreement at 35 Commercial Street

*Noted*

*For information*

*Original message sent to former email address*

*Consideration of the URDD 2015 was deferred until Mr Williams arrived.*

**1583. Christmas Market:**

The Clerk reported that although he had received 14 expressions of interest from traders, only two had actually confirmed by the previous Monday. Following a reminder email, a further four had now confirmed, plus one small trader who did not have PL insurance cover. Some local traders and local groups/organisations had requested space for a stall. The local police also wished to be present potentially using the mobile police station.

The Market would take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm with carol singing at 4.00 pm and Santa arriving at approximately 4.30 pm. Traders would remain on site until those activities were over before leaving, but could continue trading during these events. The school yard would need to be open from approximately 12.00 noon. Most shops would be open with the exception of Cafe Nelson.

Cllr. Mahoney tabled a draft risk assessment for consideration. Mr Paul Hudson had made a small number of observations regarding the assessment and these would be incorporated. Stewards would be required on the day and hi-visibility waistcoats/jackets will be needed. Paul Hudson would be approached to find out if these could be available for loan from the Borough Council.

The Community Council would need the cooperation of the residents of Thomas Street on the day for access to the upper school yard. The short length of roadway linking the lower yard to Commercial Street would need to be temporarily closed. Cllr. Baldwin would consult with those residents of Caerphilly Road regarding this.

Cllr. Gray confirmed that if the weather was inclement, the carols and Santa event could take place in the school hall.

**1584. URDD 2015:**

Cllr. Morgan had invited Mr Gareth Williams (Chair) to the meeting to explain what the local fundraising committee was doing in preparation for the URDD event 2015, which was being held at Llancaiach Fawr Manor.

The committee consisted of around ten members and it had already raised over £700 from two events recently organised. The included a concert and a harpist at CreativiTea. The annual target was £5,000. It was noted that Barclays Bank would match any monies raised by the committee.

The event itself, to be held in May 2015, was likely attract 120k to 150k people which would boost the local economy considerably.

Mr Williams would arrange for an URDD representative to address the Community Council at a future meeting. Mr Williams would also continue to liaise with the Council and report on progress. Members of the Council were welcome to attend the committee also.

The Clerk asked Mr Williams to produce a short article for inclusion in the Christmas Newsletter.

Mr Williams asked if the group could have a stall at the Christmas Market. This was agreed.

The Chairman thanked Mr Williams for the information.

**1585. Christmas Newsletter:**

The Clerk circulated a first draft for member's observations/comments. More content was required. An item would be drafted by Cllr. Mahoney on the proposed Nant Llesg development.

**1586. Nelson Boys and Girls Club progress:**

Cllr. Gray reported that the NDT would be presenting the business case to the Borough Council on 29<sup>th</sup> November. She would prepare a short article on this for the Newsletter.

**1587. Reports from Nominated Members of External Organisations:**

Minutes from a meeting of the Joint Liaison Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October were noted.

Minutes from a meeting of the Nelson Village Partnership held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September were noted.

Cllr. Miles reported that there had been a School Focused meeting at Llancaeach Junior School on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November, which had considered the school's pupil achievement targets, development plan and report to parents.

Mr Goulding, a long standing member of the teaching staff, would be retiring at the end of the year.

The school had been successful in achieving the Platinum Eco Schools Award. Cllr. Miles proposed that a letter of congratulations be sent to the Head. This was agreed.

Cllr. Gray reported that the Junior School Governing Body had its Bronze Award registration application accepted. This will require the Governing Body to submit a portfolio within the next year to demonstrate its effectiveness. The school concerts would take place from 16th to 18th December.

The Deputy Head of the Infants School was currently on maternity leave and a temporary replacement had been appointed. Their concert would be held on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of December. Parking was still causing issues at the school and the police had been informed. Letters had been sent to parents. Development of the Travel Plan was ongoing.

Cllr. Baldwin reported that the Community Centre Management Committee had asked whether these concerts might be combined, held in the Community Centre and opened to the wider community. Both Heads had agreed to look at this for next year's concerts. A grant toward the proposed kitchen extension could not be applied for before March 2014.

Cllr. Morgan reported that the Borough Council faced budget cuts of £15 million. Its Financial Plan was to be agreed by February 2014.

Cllr. Davies noted that the NVP minutes tabled were inaccurate. No minutes for the recent November meeting had been received. The Treasurer's Report had been received at the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> November and a proposal was made to disband the Partnership and form a Residents/Tenants Association instead. This would be the subject of a Special Meeting of the committee to be held on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**1588 Questions/Comments from members of the public present:**

There were no questions or comments from the member of the public who was present.

**1589. Complaint of Maladministration against the Community Council:**

The Clerk's response to the Complaint of Maladministration was Adopted.

Members thanked the Clerk for providing such a comprehensive response. The Clerk thanked Cllr. Morgan for his work in collating information from the Council minutes which formed the basis of the response. The Clerk would send a copy of the adopted response to the complainant.

**1590. Payment in respect of Property Damage at 33 Commercial Street:**

The Clerk outlined a claim for damage caused to the rear of the property at 33 Commercial Street following the ingress of water to the Snooker Hall last winter. The Clerk had been in discussions with the owner about the damage caused. In his view, the owner was entitled to receive compensation for the damage sustained to the rear of the property, was not entitled to any payment for consequential loss. The cost of the damage was too small for an insurance claim.

The Clerk had received an estimate for the work from a local roofing contractor. It was Resolved that the damage caused to the flashing at the rear of the property, which could be attributed to the Community Council, would be covered. The cost would be £260 if false lead was used or £320 for full lead. The contractor was recommending the use of full lead. It was noted that the owner is liable for its replacement should any lead be stolen.

*Meeting Closed at 9.15 pm*

Min/Nov/13