

County Borough of Caerphilly
Nelson Community Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 10th APRIL 2014 at 7.15pm**

Present: Cllr. P Baldwin (Chairman)
Cllr. A Blackman
Cllr. G Davies
Cllr. A Gray
Cllr. K Jones
Cllr. L Lewis MBE
Cllr. G Mahoney
Cllr. S Morgan

Mr A. Hoskins (Clerk)

In attendance: Members of the public
PC Westley Morgan (Gwent Police)

Apologies for absence: Cllr. B Miles

Nelson RFC Presentation:

Prior to the meeting, a presentation was made to members present by Nelson RFC, outlining the direction in which the club intended to develop its facilities, to make them family friendly and integrate to a larger extent with the community as a whole.

Members welcomed the club's proposals and hoped to work more closely with the club in the future where this was possible and beneficial.

The Chairman thanked Mr Webster for his presentation.

Declarations of Interest:

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

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

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

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

Cllr. Morgan declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Community Centre Management Committee and Friends of Wern Park.

Apologies for Absence:

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Miles was away on holiday.

1640 Report from the Police representative:

PC Morgan tabled a written report, the content of which was noted.

Questions/Comments:

It was noted that traffic speed had been monitored as requested, but that speeds generally were within the local limits.

Cllr. Davies again complained about vehicles parking on the footpath at Heol Fawr, forcing pedestrians to walk into the road. This would be an *Agenda* item at the next meeting.

The Chairman thanked the officer for his report.

1641. Minutes:

- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19th March 2014 were Received and Approved. It was noted that Cllr. Gray had reported that the Fire Appliance had some difficulty in accessing the Infants School, not that it was unable to access the property.
- Minutes of a Grant Aid Meeting held on 26th March 2014 were Received and Approved

1642. Matters arising from the Minutes:

There were no matters arising.

1643. Report from the Chairman:

The Chairman wished her Allowance to be used to provide a suitable case for the storage of the Council's regalia. The Clerk would contact the suppliers to obtain an indication of what was available and the potential cost.

The Clerk would also compile a list of Past Chairpersons, to enable the new links on the chain to be engraved with their names.

The Chairman also wished the Village Songs of Praise to be better advertised. It was agreed that the Clerk would invite members of both local choirs to attend if they so wished, as well as the local churches and chapels.

The Clerk reported that he had emailed the local photographer regarding the portraits but had not yet received any reply. He would provide contact details to the Chairman.

1644. Report from the Clerk:

a. PLANNING:

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

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|-----------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1. 14/0151/FULL | Mr G Davies | Erect single-storey extension to rear of bungalow at 52 Lon Y Celyn. |
| 2. 14/0161/FULL | Mr C Sloggett & Ms A Pope | Erect two-storey side extension to provide garage/kitchen and first floor bedroom at 72 Heol Tasker. |
| 3. 12/0163/FULL | Mr C Land | Erect two-storey side extension at 6 Lon Y Llwyn. |

It was Resolved that no comment or objection be made to the above applications.

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

1. 14/0060/FULL Mr & Mrs Lloyd Erect single storey kitchen extension at 31 Pine Tree Way.
2. 14/0060/FULL Mr & Mrs Lloyd Erect single storey kitchen extension at 31 Pine Tree Way.
3. 14/0066/FULL Mr L Butcher Erect two-storey side extension to provide garage and bedroom at 11 St John's Lane.

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

1. 13/0843/FULL Mr C Land Erect first floor extension at rear at 6 Lon Y Llwyn.

b. ACCOUNTS:

The following payments were approved:

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| 1. | D Gray | Cleaner Salary (April) | £66.30 |
| 2. | CCBC | Commercial Refuse Collection | £254.50 |

c. CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was received:

1. CCBC
Procedure for dealing with Nant Llesg planning application *Noted*
2. CCBC
Byelaws relating to Acupuncture, Tattooing, Semi-Permanent Skin Colouring, Cosmetic Piercing and Electrolysis *Noted*
3. Nelson Development Trust
Report to AGM
Agenda item
4. Cllr. S Morgan
Proposal re: Nelson Toilets
Agenda item
5. The Solitaires Jazz Band
Acknowledgement of Grant Aid *Noted*
4. Aber Valley Heritage Group
Service of Remembrance on 23 May 2014 *Noted*
5. CCBC

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| | Mobile Customer Service Centre | <i>Noted</i> |
| 6. | Cllr. S Morgan
Email to Robert Campbell re: including parcel of land in LDP | <i>Noted</i> |
| 7. | Gail Williams (CCBC)
Confirmation of date for member training on Conduct at Meetings
<i>Members to note in their diaries</i> | <i>Noted</i> |
| 8. | Shannon Robinson (OVW)
Confirmation of meeting to be held at Nelson on 22 April 1014 | <i>Noted</i> |
| 9. | From Internet
Article re: proposed law re: Public Toilet availability
<i>Agenda item</i> | |
| 10. | Mazars
Notification of Annual Audit of Accounts | <i>Noted</i> |
| 11. | CCBC
Notice re: Parking Charges at Country Parks | <i>Noted</i> |
| 12. | One Voice Wales
Consultation on Inquiry into Making Laws in the Fourth Assembly | <i>Noted</i> |
| 13. | CCBC
Notice of CCBC Annual Meeting on 8 May 2014

<i>It was agreed to defer the Community Council's Annual and Ordinary meeting by one week to avoid conflicting with this The meetings would now be held on Thursday 15th May.</i> | |
| 14. | L & S Jenkins
Letter re: Security Shutter at 35 Commercial Street

<i>Agenda item</i> | |

1645. Proposed Closure of Nelson Public Conveniences:

It was noted that as part of their budgetary cost saving exercise, the Borough Council were to close the public toilets at the Bus Station, Nelson.

It was reported that information was available which had not been taken into account when this decision was taken. This included the withdrawal of the Public Facilities Grant, which recompensed local establishments for allowing public use of their toilets, and the proposed intention of the Wales Government, to include a statutory requirement for public toilets in the forthcoming Public Health Legislation.

Cllr. Morgan spoke to his proposal for the Community Council to take over some of the costs of keeping the toilets open, on a reduced availability, if agreement could be reached with the Borough Council.

Cllr. Mahoney felt that any commitment to do this should be for the short term only, in light of the introduction of a statutory duty on Local Authorities to provide, in the new legislation.

Cllr. Blackman reported that a report to Cabinet was to be made within a few weeks.

Cllr. Lewis would support the proposal if no alternative option was available.

Cllr. Gray supported Cllr. Mahoney's proposal and felt that the Community Council should seek to work with the Borough Council to achieve a satisfactory outcome.

It was Resolved to write to CCBC outlining the Council's proposals and seek an urgent meeting with officers/members in order to progress the matter.

1646. 35 Commercial Street – Security Shutter and repairs to Floor:

Due to the confidential nature of this item, consideration of the matter was deferred to the end of the meeting.

1647. Nelson Boys and Girls Club:

The content of the Report of Nelson Development Trust to its AGM was noted.

Cllr. Davies spoke to the report and reported that the NDT was shortly to meet with representatives of the Big Lottery Grant, and Colin Jones (CCBC) to discuss grant potential for the project.

1648. Reports from Nominated Members of External Organisations:

Cllr. Baldwin reported that the Community Centre would be arranging some WW1 related activities, including a Fete & Gala and a Tea Dance. A Sub-Committee of the Centre Management Committee would be formed.

Cllr. Mahoney reported on a Governors meeting at the Infants School.

Cllr. Gray reported on a Focus Meeting at the Junior School.

1649 Questions/Comments from members of the public present:

Members of the public present expressed serious concerns over the closure of Nelson Public Toilets. These were used by parents/children on their way to school as no other facility was available to them at that time of day. The elderly also need access to public toilets, often for medical reasons.

The proprietor of Cafe Nelson, explained that not all businesses were in a position to offer use of their toilets to members of the public. It was noted that a petition against the closure had been

submitted, but was too late to be accepted, even though virtually no notice of the intended closure had been provided.

It was Resolved that the public would need to be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following item in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Deferred Agenda Item:

1646. 35 Commercial Street – Security Shutter and repairs to Floor:

The new occupier had requested that the external security shutter remain in place due to implications regarding insurance on the property.

Members wished to have sight of evidence of the cost implications on insurance if the shutters were removed. Members agreed to a temporary dispensation on removal of the shutter until alternatives could be investigated.

It was noted that extensive repairs to the floor area at the rear of the premises had been undertaken by the new tenant. It was agreed that evidence of the cost of these repairs should be provided to Council in order that support toward the costs might be considered. The Clerk would progress the matter with the tenant.

Meeting Closed at 8.45 pm

Min/Apr/2014