County Borough of Caerphilly

## Nelson Community Council

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

**HELD ON THURSDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2014 at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllr. P Baldwin (Chairman)

 Cllr. G Davies

Cllr. A Gray

Cllr. K Jones

Cllr. L Lewis MBE

Cllr. G Mahoney

Cllr. B Miles

Cllr. S Morgan

Mr A. Hoskins (Clerk)

In attendance: URDD

Apologies for absence: Cllr. A Blackman

 Sergeant Carl Morgan (Gwent Police)

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 Friends of Wern Park.

Apologies for Absence:

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Blackman had tendered her apologies by email, with no specific reason given. Cllr. Lewis had tendered his apologies due to a family bereavement.

**1616 Report from the Police representative:**

No Officer was present.

The Clerk reported that he had emailed Sergeant Carl Morgan and sent the usual letter of invitation to the police station in Ystrad Mynach.

**1617. Minutes:**

* Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9th January 2014 were *Received and Approved*
* Minutes of an Activities Sub-Committee held on 23rd January 2014 were *Received and Adopted*
* Minutes of a Special Meeting held 23rd January 2014 were *Received and Approved*

**1618. Matters arising from the Minutes:**

There were no matters arising which were not covered by items on the agenda.

**1619. Report from the Chairman:**

The Chairman had not attended any events since the last meeting.

She had returned her application to attend a Queen’s Garden Party.

**1620. Report from the Clerk:**

**a. PLANNING:**

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

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

2. 14/0036/RET Mr A Saeffadin Retain the change of use of former Wern Stores from a fruit and veg wholesalers to the current mixed use of a motor vehicle maintenance repair and MOT testing centre and a hand car wash with a replacement canopy extension at Wern Stores, Caerphilly Road.

3. 14/0060/FULL Mr & Mrs Lloyd Erect single storey kitchen extension at 31 Pine Tree Way.

4. 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 approved by the County Borough Council:**

1. 13/0804/FULL Mr L Manlati Convert garage to extra living space to include lounge, shower room, toilet and modify the utility room at 16 Heol Tasker.

**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.

1. **ACCOUNTS:**

**The following payments are to be approved:**

1. D Gray Cleaner Salary (January) £67.83
2. British Gas Electricity supply (Institute) £38.97
3. Elsbury Plant Hire Supply/erection/storage of Festive Lighting £2,172.00
4. MDC Electrical Fire protection maintenance (Institute) £215.00
5. MDC Electrical Replacement emergency light unit £45.00
6. G Bridges Replace post and re-hang gate to car park (Institute) £420.00
7. British Telecom Telephone charges (Chamber) £75.10 DD
8. British Gas Electricity supply (Institute) £31.21
9. VisionICT Limited Development of new CC Website £600.00\*

*The Clerk reported that the website was nearing completion and the invoice needed to be*

*submitted to claim the grant. Payment would not be made until the site was fully completed.*

**c. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**The following correspondence was received:**

1. One Voice Wales

 The Voice newsletter – winter 2013 *Noted*

1. One Voice Wales

Papers for Area Meeting on 23rd January 2014

1. Bobath

 Acknowledgement of grant aid *Noted*

1. Cooperative Bank

Returned cheque re: Christmas Market *Noted*

1. CCBC

Secondary Rationalisation Phase 1 – Additional Information *Noted*

4. Anouska Beaumont

 Response re: Community Room *Noted*

1. Cllr. K Jones

Withdrawal of interest in shop premises *Noted*

1. Western Power Distribution

Certificate of unmetered supply re: festive lighting *Noted*

1. CCBC (Regeneration & Planning)

 Consultation re: Employment Sites Supply and Market Appraisal

 *Considered under Agenda item 7 – CCBC LDP*

1. CCBC

Remittance advice re: festive lighting *Noted*

 *CCBC grant for £800 toward costs*

1. Cllr. A Blackman

 Request to use recording equipment during Council Meetings

 *Agenda item*

1. Tina McMahon (CCBC)

 Response to letter re: Nelson Village Partnership outstanding issues

 *Agenda item*

The Clerk also reported that the recent high winds had dislodged some ridge tiles from the roof of the Institute, with one tile falling onto the roadway next to the zebra crossing. CCBC had attended to close off the footpath and engaged a contractor to construct scaffolding and make the area safe by removing the other partially dislodged tiles. The Clerk had contacted a local roofing contractor to undertake the necessary repair work.

**1621. CCBC Local Development Plan:**

A letter from CCBC regarding consultation on Employment Sites and Market Appraisal was considered.

It was agreed that the five bulleted points contained in the letter would be fully supported. It was also resolved that it should be emphasised in the Council’s response that generally only brown field sites should be considered for development and that there should be a presumption against any development of green field areas. The Clerk would respond.

**1622. go2mytown Website:**

It was noted that the CCBC JLC would be feeding back information on this.

**1623. Restructuring of Local Authorities in Wales:**

Members’ initial response to the Williams Report on proposals to reorganise local authorities in Wales was to exclude C&TCs from merging as was suggested in the report. C&TCs provided a very local service in most areas, elected members are unpaid and most did not provide any statutory services.

Members felt that it would be a retrograde step to merge these councils which would make them more remote from the communities they serve. The matter would be considered further at thenext meeting as an *Agenda Item.*

**1624. Recording of Council Meetings by a Member for Personal Use:**

The Clerk tabled a further communication from Councillor Blackman regarding her request.

Members were concerned that the Councillor had given apologies, as there was now no opportunity for them to ask questions of her. Members found some difficulty in understanding what benefit the provision of recording the meeting would provide in terms of participation.

Members were not prepared to put questions to Councillor Blackman remotely and desired a face to face meeting in order to progress the matter.

The Clerk reported that he had contacted One Voice Wales for initial guidance and they had provided him with references on the legal requirements. He required further guidance on the matter. It was agreed that the Clerk should also seek guidance from the Monitoring Officer at CCBC.

It was *Resolved* to defer consideration of the request until the next meeting. *Agenda Item.*

**1625. Nominating Individuals for Queen’s Honours Awards:**

It was agreed that nominations by third parties could be considered for support and that each nomination would be considered on its merits. Cllr. Morgan would contact the resident who originated this proposal and if required, *Agenda* the item for consideration at the next meeting.

**1626. Nelson Boys and Girls Club progress:**

It was reported that the NDT had received a letter (copies of which were tabled) from CCBC rejecting the revised Business Plan due to concerns about the long term viability of the proposals. Members of the NDT were seeking a further meeting with CCBC and would report back.

It was agreed that the matter should be considered as a substantive *Agenda* item at the next meeting.

**1627. Reports from Nominated Members of External Organisations:**

Members of the URDD local fundraising committee who were present reported that local fundraising events continued to be organised and they had made an application for financial assistance from the Community Council. They asked to include a short article in the CC Summer Newsletter. This was agreed. Members also considered this might be a suitable theme for the Summer Play Scheme and potentially a competition at the Community Show.

Cllr. Baldwin reported that work at the Community Centre was ongoing and that a new Caretaker had been appointed. Activities at the Centre were going well.

The response from Tina McMahon regarding outstanding issues with the NVP was noted. Ms McMahon had offered to meet with some members to discuss the matters raised. It was agreed to defer the decision on whether to meet until after the consultation meeting, due to take place shortly, regarding the setting up the proposed Resident’s Association.

**1628 Questions/Comments from members of the public present:**

It was reported that there was some confusion on when the public meeting concerning the setting up of the Resident’s Association would be held at the Community Centre.

*Meeting Closed at 9.05 pm*

Min/Feb/2014