

County Borough of Caerphilly

Nelson Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 12th February 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr. K Jones (Chairman)
Cllr. P Baldwin
Cllr. A Blackman
Cllr. G Davies
Cllr. A Gray
Cllr. G Mahoney
Cllr. B Miles (from 7.25 pm)
Cllr. S Morgan

Mr A. Hoskins (Clerk)

In attendance: Inspector Ian Muirhead (Gwent Police)
Morys Gruffydd and Gareth Williams (Urdd)

Apologies for Absence: Cllr. L Lewis MBE

Declarations of Interest:

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

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

Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were reported from Cllr. L Lewis MBE.

1745. Report from the Police representative:

Inspector Ian Muirhead introduced himself to those present.

The Inspector reported that the local management structure had been changed to form a new area designated as Caerphilly North. In his view, this would be a substantial improvement as it allowed for the management of a broader range and an increased number (42) of officers within the area. Local PCSOs were still in place, plus Neighbourhood Patrol Officers and Ward Managers.

His ethos was for prevention in the first instance, so not having to deal with problems once they had occurred. He was pleased that the issues currently being dealt with in Nelson were generally of a minor nature. Fifty incidents had been reported over the past two and a half months, mostly related to anti-social behaviour – twenty-one such calls had been received in the last three nights. Other crimes included assault, shoplifting and the occasional burglary.

Questions/Comments from Members:

Cllr. Blackman queried whether the OWL Programme could be better promoted. Cllr. Davies congratulated the Inspector on the current implementation of the Scheme and suggested the use of leaflets targeting the elderly.

Cllr. Mahoney reported that some parents had been abusive to police officers when they had advised them on parking issues outside the Llanfabon Infant's School.

Cllr. Baldwin explained that she also received abuse from some parents when accessing the rear lane to her property (adjacent to the Junior School) at school pick-up times. Articles in the Community Council Newsletter, CCBC NewsLine and leaflet distribution to parents via their children, advising them of the issues had been tried, but these had not been very successful as some parents continued to cause access problems at the start and end of the school day and

Cllr. Gray commented that there had been a number of near miss incidents outside the Infant's School. The Inspector believed that a face-to-face approach was best, but that unless the Traffic Order applying to the area specified 'No Loading/Unloading' then motorists were allowed a brief period in which to drop off or collect passengers or goods. He would speak with the local Sergeant regarding the issue.

Cllr. Davies asked for clarification regarding parking on pedestrian crossing zigzags. The Inspector confirmed that there was no leeway allowed in that respect and that such an offence also carried a penalty of points on the offender's licence.

There was no feedback regarding off-road bikes at Llanfabon.

The Chairman thanked the officer for his attendance and report.

1746. Minutes:

- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th January 2015 were Received and Approved subject to minor amendment.
- Minutes of a Meeting of the Appointments Sub-Committee held on 13th January 2015 were Received and Adopted
- Minutes of a Meeting of the Appointments Sub-Committee held on 27th January 2015 were Received and Adopted

1747. Matters arising from the Minutes:

1733. 1720 Matters arising from the minutes: Cllr. Morgan reported that he had telephoned Cllr. Davies on the day, but it was then too late for her to attend. Cllr. Gray noted that a matter relating to trees along the cycle path was also not reported on the Weekly List. The Clerk advised that some matters were not subject to formal planning approval and these included highways related modifications. The Clerk reaffirmed the content of the minute and noted that unless a formal objection had been submitted, no further information was provided in respect of any application for planning consent. Members asked the Clerk to write to the Head of Planning (copy to Cabinet Member) to request a means of informing Community & Town Councils on when applications within their area (or impacting on their area) were being considered by the Planning Committee.

1748. Report from the Chairman:

The Chairman reported that she had received a positive response from the Library with respect to lodging the books including work by a local poet there. She proposed to purchase the books from her Chairpersons Allowance.

Cllr. Morgan moved precedence for a report from representatives of the Urdd, so that they were not unduly delayed, as one of their members was returning to Aberystwyth that evening.

1755. Reports from Nominated Members of External Organisations: (Urdd representatives)

Mr Morys Gruffydd (Eisteddfod Organiser for South and West Wales) thanked the Community Council for the opportunity to address the members.

He reported that arrangements were well underway and that local towns that were likely to benefit from the event were usually festooned and decorated to make them even more attractive. The Local Committee had proposed a shop window decoration scheme and bunting could be made available to residents who wished to adorn their properties.

A provisional Traffic Management Plan had been devised in collaboration with the Borough Council. Car parking areas were designated at land near Ty Du and at the land used for the local Car Boot Sales. There were 5,000 spaces equally allocated between the two sites. No local areas had been identified for use by campers or for caravans. Nelson RFC had been invited to help steward the car parks.

Construction at the Llancaiach Fawr site would begin during April and the site would be cleared by mid June. 24 hour site security would be operating during the event.

Members from the local community were invited to act as stewards at the event and did not necessarily need to be Welsh speaking. Mr Gruffydd thanked the Community Council for its financial support to the Local Fundraising Committee which had now almost achieved its target. It was estimated that the event usually injected an additional £6M into the surrounding communities.

It was noted that a large amount of related information was available on the urdd.cymru website.

A member suggested that perhaps the use of part of the car parking areas at Penallta Country Park might be considered for use by camper vans and/or caravans during the event.

The Chairman confirmed continued support for the event by Nelson Community Council.

Representatives from the Local Committee would attend the next Ordinary Meeting to provide members with a further update. It was agreed that another meeting, separate from the Community Council's normal meetings should also be arranged on a date to be determined.

1749. Report from the Clerk:

a. PLANNING:

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

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|-----------------|---------------|---|
| 1. 14/0823/FULL | Mr R Meredith | Construct detached residential dwelling with off-street parking at Plot 1 74 Heol Fawr. |
| 2. 14/0824/FULL | Mr Mr S Lyons | Construct detached residential dwelling with off-street parking at Plot 2 74 Heol Fawr. |

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|-----------------|----------------|---|
| 3. 14/0825/FULL | Mr M Williams | Construct detached residential dwelling with off-street parking at Plot 3 74 Heol Fawr. |
| 4. 14/0840/FULL | Mr J Chatters | Demolish single-storey extension and construct a two-storey extension at 15 Heol Fawr. |
| 5. 14/0848/FULL | AEW Architects | Install a new aluminium framed shop front in enlarged opening with aluminium framed door, a new stone lintel above, replace windows and provide a rear access door at Nelson Police Station, Dynevor Terrace. |

For information:

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------|--|
| 1. 15/0031/FULL | Mr A Price | Install 250kWp roof mounted solar PV system to be sited on 4 existing commercial shed roofs at Gelliargwellt Uchaf Farm Gelligaer Road Gelligaer. (<i>Gelligaer CC Ward</i>) |
|-----------------|------------|--|

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

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

None identified

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

None identified

b. ACCOUNTS:

The following payments were approved:

1. D Gray	Cleaner Salary (February)	£68.03
2. British Gas	Electricity charges (month)	£25.98
3. Clerk	One off non-consolidated payment December 2014	£23.78 Net
4. HMR&C	Income Tax (above payment)	£5.95
5. Nelson Dev. Trust	Draw down of funds for Lease Transfer payment	£850.00
6. VisoniCT	Website Hosting and Support 2015-16	£300.00
7. Elsbury Plant Sales Ltd.	Festive Lighting systems management	£2,176.50
8. MDC Electrical	Testing fire alarms, extinguishers and e-lighting	£95.00
9. Steve Kelland	Modifications to Institute CH systems	£448.00
10. R Brain	Cost of purchase/organising of Christmas Trees	£50.00*
11. British Telecom	Telephone charges (Chamber)	£78.91 DD
12. British Gas	Gas supply charges (Institute)	£662.29

* Agreed a donation be made to the Vernon Jenkins charity appeal in lieu of payment as requested by Mr Brain

In view of the ongoing expenditure being incurred on the heating system, an item to consider this matter more fully (including possible replacement of the boiler) would be placed on the Agenda of the next Ordinary Meeting to be held on 12th March 2015. An estimate of the cost of this work would be obtained prior to the meeting.

c. CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was received:

1. One Voice Wales
Date of next Area Committee, Agenda and Minutes *Noted*

2. Older People's Commissioner for Wales
Response re: closure of Toilets
Agenda item

3. Police and Crime Commissioner
Feedback from 'Getting it Right' event
It was noted that the report omitted to clarify that consultation with NCC and other local organisations was not formally undertaken.

4. Western Power Distribution
Certificate of Temporary Unmetered Supply *Noted*

5. Urdd
Request for support from Welsh speakers *Noted*

6. Teenage Cancer Trust
Request for financial support
The Clerk has sent a Grant Aid application form

7. CCBC
Notification of repair carried out at the Institute to secure a loose slate *Noted*
There may be a recharge for this service

8. Nelson Community Centre Management Committee
Remittance Advice for Grant to Playscheme *Noted*

9. One Voice Wales
Invitation to renew membership for 2015/16
Members agreed that it was important to continue with membership of One Voice Wales

10. Urdd Committee Nelson
Request for financial support
The Clerk has sent a Grant Aid application form

11. Mrs Delphine Brown

- Acceptance of terms of employment for position of Clerk & RFO *Noted*
- The Clerk would invite Mrs Brown to attend the next Ordinary Meeting of Council*
12. NDT
- Request for funding to pay CCBC for release of lease transfer on the Nelson Boys & Girls Club premises *Noted*
13. Inspector Ian Muirhead (Gwent Police)
- Notification of change of Inspector *Noted*
14. Cllr. S Morgan
- Request for Agenda item.
- Agenda Item*
15. Helen Morgan (CCBC)
- Request for information re: representation on JLC
- The Clerk had provided the information requested*
16. CCBC Highways Division
- Notice re: changes to parking restrictions
- The Clerk had questioned item 5 on the Notice
The response from Mr Bob Campbell was Noted*
17. Anne Blackman (Community Centre MC)
- Copies of previously circulated minutes (by email) *Noted*
18. Spinal Injuries Association
- Request for financial support by holding a Fish & Chip Supper charity event *Noted*
19. Wales Government
- Extract from White Paper re: Community Involvement
- Agenda Item*
20. Anne Blackman (Community Centre MC)
- Minutes of meetings held on 17th December 2014
- Agenda Item*
21. Clerk

Lease Agreement for shop premises at 35 Commercial Street

Agenda Item

1750. Public Toilets at Nelson – Response from OPC and Signage to Nelson Library toilet:

The response from the Older People's Commissioner for Wales was Noted. The content of the Guidance Document would be updated and strengthened.

Cllr. Morgan proposed that a request be made to the Borough Council for the erection of a sign at the former public toilets, to indicate the availability of a toilet facility at Nelson Library, together with a list of opening times for the premises. It was agreed by members that the Clerk should make a request for this provision to the Borough Council. Cllr. Gray wished it to be noted that in her opinion, the toilets at the Library were provided for the benefit of the staff and those residents who used the facility and not for the benefit of the wider community.

It was also proposed that the Borough Council should be asked to re-open the public toilets on a temporary basis, during the period when the Urdd Eisteddfod was being held at Llancaiach Fawr. The Clerk would write to Mr Mark S Williams regarding this.

1751. CCBC Consultation on the Local Development Plan:

Cllr. Morgan updated members on the current position. The consultation period would run from 11th February to 24th March. CCBC Officers would be present at a number of venues in major towns for members of the public to find out more about the Plan and to ask any questions they might have regarding the proposals.

It was noted that the land at Ty Du was now to be designated as housing for up to 300 dwellings and the remaining 7.5 Hectares would remain designated for industrial development.

An area had been identified as having a potential use as a Park & Ride facility when the railway line was extended for use by passenger freight.

The land at Bryn Compost would likely be further developed and a new by-pass was planned to reduce the current traffic bottlenecks on the A472 through Maesycwmmmer.

The LDP would be an Agenda item at the next meeting and a separate meeting would be called, if required on 17th or 18th March, to enable an agreed response to be made by the Community Council before the close of the consultation exercise.

1752. Reforming Local Government – Welsh Government White Paper:

The content of the White Paper, as it referred to Welsh Community & Town Councils, was Noted.

1753. Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – Internal Audit:

In view of the time constraints, it was agreed that consideration of this matter should be Deferred for consideration at the next full meeting of Council.

1754. Lease of Shop Premises at 35 Commercial Street:

The five year lease on the premises at 35 Commercial Street was signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in the presence of the Proper Officer of the Council, who would endorse and date the document.

1755. Reports from Nominated Members of External Organisations:

Cllr. Mahoney reported that the designation of the Llafabon Infants School had now been revised to 'Green' status, from the 'Yellow' banding previously awarded. Both Cllr. Mahoney and Cllr. Gray were delighted that this had now been done and wished to congratulate all staff and others at the school that had made this achievement possible.

Cllr. Davies reported that the Lease Agreement on the premises was now in place.

Minutes from recent meetings of the Community Centre Management Committee were received and the content noted. Cllr. Blackman reported that improvement works were continuing at the Community Centre.

Cllr. Morgan reported that the revised CCBC Budget was due to be confirmed at a meeting to be held on 25th February 2015. He also noted that the Welsh Government was allocating £70k for the drawing up of proposals and plans for the upgrading of the railway line.

1756. Questions/Comments from members of the public present:

No members of the public were present.

Meeting Closed at 9.05 pm

Min/Feb/2015