

County Borough of Caerphilly
Nelson Community Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 10th July 2014 at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllr. A Gray (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. P Baldwin
Cllr. A Blackman
Cllr. G Davies
Cllr. L Lewis MBE
Cllr. G Mahoney

Mr A. Hoskins (Clerk)

In attendance: Sgt. S Greening, CSO R Williams and CSO J Bridgeman (Gwent Police Members of the public)

Apologies for Absence: Cllr. K Jones

In the absence of the Chairman, the meeting was chaired by the Vice-Chairman.

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. 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.

Apologies for Absence:

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Jones was returning from an event and would not be home in time to attend the meeting. No further apologies had been received.

1671 Report from the Police representative:

The officers table a written report, the content of which was noted. Reported incidents at Nelson were very low.

The officers introduced members to the new Sergeant in charge of the Ystrad Mynach Neighbourhood Team. It was noted that a new Inspector had also been appointed.

Cllr. Davies reported that some youths were engaging in inappropriate behaviour at the Skate Park.

It was noted that a small group of Travellers were currently resting within the Wern Park area. They would be moving on by the end of the week. They were not causing any issues.

It was reported that youths were climbing onto the kitchen roof at Salem Church.

The Chairman thanked the officers for their attendance and for their report.

1672. Minutes:

- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th June 2014 were Received and Approved.
- The Report on a Meeting of the Appointments Sub-Committee with appointed Play Leaders held on 1st July 2014 was Received and Noted.

1673. Matters arising from the Minutes:

None.

1674. Report from the Chairman:

The Chairman had provided the Clerk with a written report, which was circulated to members.

The report was comprehensive and its contents were noted.

A significant matter contained in the report included the potential reduction in Library Services, with the potential closure of the Library at Nelson.

It was also noted that Mr Ron James had indicated his intention to retire from his role as Caretaker at Llancaeath Junior School at the end of the year. Members felt that since this year's Annual Show might be the last at which Mr James assists the Community Council, some mark of recognition for his continuing support over many years should be made. It was agreed to consider the form and value of such recognition at the next Activities Sub Committee.

1675. Report from the Clerk:

a. PLANNING:

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

1. 14/0401/FULL Ms M Burt Erect single-storey extension to rear at Cromwell House, 112 High Street.
2. 14/0418/FULL Mr G Sawyer Erect single-storey extension to rear of property at 46 Tawel Fan.
3. 14/0437/FULL Mr G Jones Erect two-storey extension to rear of property at 3 Bwl Road.

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:

None received

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

None received

b. ACCOUNTS:

The following payments are to be approved:

1.	D Gray	Cleaner Salary (Jul)	£66.30
2.	L Jenkins	Cleaning materials for Institute	£9.27
3.	Makro	Bottled water for Chamber	£3.19 DC
4.	Viking	Stationery	£62.44
5.	Salem Church	Donation in lieu of Internal Auditor fee	£125.00

c. CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was received:

1.	Nelson Community Centre Management Committee Minutes of meeting held on 8 th May 2014 <i>Agenda item</i>	
2.	Nelson Community Centre Management Committee Approval for use of the Centre for the Annual Play Scheme	<i>Noted</i>
3.	Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Report 2013/14	<i>Noted</i>
4.	CCBC Introduction to the Community Infrastructure Levy	<i>Noted</i>
5.	CCBC Mayor Invitation of Charity Event on 27 th June 2014 <i>Passed to Chairman</i>	
4.	Welsh Government Notification of revised Code of Practice on Workplace Matters	<i>Noted</i>
5.	Welsh Government Notification re: new E-Learning package on Complaints Policies	<i>Noted</i>
6.	CCBC Revised timetables for Services 7 and 11	<i>Noted</i>
7.	Salem Church Invitation to Charity Concert on 11 th July 2014	

Passed to Chairman

8. One Voice Wales
Notice of Area Committee meeting on 17th July 2014 *Noted*

9. CCBC
Officer's Report to Cabinet re: former Police Station
Agenda item

10. Older Peoples' Commissioner for Wales
Response to enquiry re: Provision of Public Conveniences
Agenda item

11. CCBC
Invitation to ceremony on 25th July 2014
Passed to Chairman

12. CCBC
Information from Mark Williams re: Nelson Public Toilets – running costs
Agenda item

13. CCBC
Reply from John Forester re: new security shutter at 35 Commercial Street
The Clerk will make the application for Planning Approval

14. Clerk
Accounts, etc. for financial year ended 31st March 2014
Agenda item

15. CCBC
Mobile Customer Service Centre *Noted*

16. Welsh Government
Publication of White Paper re: Local Government Reforms in Wales *Noted*
Consultation period ends on 1st October 2014
Agenda for September meeting of Council

The Clerk reported that he had received copies of the minutes of the Community Centre AGM and of a recent meeting of its Management Committee. These would be received at the September meeting.

The Clerk reported that he had met with a representative from Groundwork Caerphilly who had advised that a small amount of funding might be available toward the supply and installation of a new Central Heating Programmer in the Community Room. He had also been advised to look at alternative gas suppliers as the current deal with British Gas was more costly than some other providers.

The Clerk also reported that the Internal Auditor had suggested using a non contract PAYG mobile telephone in the Chamber instead of continuing to rent a BT Business Line, as very few calls were actually being made and a large amount was being expended on the line rental. Members agreed to this.

1676. Annual Return 2013-2014:

The Accounting Statements, Annual Governance Statement and Internal Audit Report for the Financial Year Ending 31st March 2014 were Approved for submission to the External Auditor.

1677. Former Police Station Planning Application:

The CCBC Officer's Report to the Planning Committee was considered.

Members asked the Clerk to seek clarification on what was meant (in paragraph 1 of the Analysis) by the comment: "Nelson is identified as a Local Centre based on its function as a major employer." Did this refer to existing businesses, or did it include potential future developments, such as the land at Ty Du. Members did not consider Nelson to be functioning as a major employer. The Clerk would write to the officer concerned.

Members continued to express concern that a representative of the Community Council would not be allowed to speak as well as a resident representative. Some members believed that more than one objector addressing the Committee had been previously allowed and asked the Clerk to clarify with the Planning Committee whether the rules relating to this had been changed.

1678. Closure of Nelson Public Conveniences:

Members welcomed the response on the matter from the Old People's Commissioner for Wales.

In the light of that response, members requested the Clerk to question whether the procedures followed had been adequate and whether the consultation process had been sufficient to enable a fair and equitable decision to be made regarding the closure. The Clerk would write to Mr Mark S Williams to seek the information required.

Members would feed back to the Clerk any additional questions/comments they wished him to make.

It was agreed not to progress with any further consideration of adopting the toilets until the above matters had been clarified.

1679. Nelson Boys and Girls Club:

Cllr. Davies reported that the CCBC Cabinet had granted a 25 year lease to the Nelson Development Trust on the premises and land. This would now allow them access to a number of funding options, including the Big Lottery..

Members of the Trust were overjoyed at this result and the Trust would now be applying for registration as a charity.

Other members present congratulated all of the members of the NDT for achieving such a positive outcome.

1680. Reports from Nominated Members of External Organisations:

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Centre Management Committee were received and the content noted.

1681 Questions/Comments from members of the public present:

It was reported that cars were using the upper Wern Park car park as a racing area since it appeared that the barrier was not being locked during the evening. It was suggested that this was due to a lack of funding from the Community Council. The Clerk replied that that barrier was opened and closed by a member of the CCBC Parks Department, although the Community Council had some involvement with funding early on.

Following a question, the Clerk advised that copies of the Community Council's approved minutes were available on the council's website. They would normally be uploaded within a week of the meeting at which they were approved.

A member of the public felt that it was an abuse of power to only allow one objector to speak on planning applications.

Concern was expressed that due to proposed mergers, the elections might potentially be deferred for an additional year.

Meeting Closed at 8.35 pm

Min/July/2014