

County Borough of Caerphilly  
**Nelson Community Council**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MAY 2014 at 7.30pm**

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

Mr A. Hoskins (Clerk)

In attendance: Members of the public  
James Bridgeman and Rebecca Chilvers (Gwent Police)

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 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.

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:

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Lewis had tendered his apologies due to family commitments.

**1650 Report from the Police representative:**

In addition to regular foot patrols, in the last five months two Engagement Events had been held. Village 'hotspots' were patrolled and any issues dealt with proactively and efficiently.

The Neighbourhood Team worked closely with United Welsh Housing and Victim Support to provide mediation in two cases of neighbour disputes.

Reports had been received of off road bikes near the top of Heol Fawr, but none were seen. A youth and his parents have been spoken to after riding an off road bike around the site.

There was a small increase in damage to vehicles during the month. An offender has been identified in relation to at least one incident and is being dealt with by officers.

Boarding at the former Rectory had been damaged and the church Estates people had been informed.

Nelson police station was closed and no longer used for police business.

CSOs were working with the primary school to build positive links between the children and police.

ASB and crime continued to fall.

Questions/Comments:

It was noted that vehicles were parking on footpaths at numerous locations. Cllr. Davies thanked officers for promptly dealing with a vehicle at Heol Fawr.

Cllr. Gray thanked the officers for their valued input to the local schools.

Cllr. Blackman asked officers to request an attendance at a future meeting by the new Inspector.

Members asked for a leaflet to be circulated to the parents/children regarding parking violations at the schools.

The Chairman thanked the officers for their report.

**1651. Minutes:**

- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014 were Received and Approved, with an amendment to Cllr. Morgan's declared interests.

**1652. Matters arising from the Minutes:**

Cllr. Mahoney stated that his intention under the relevant minute was for the toilets to be reopened as soon as viably possible.

Cllr. Davies asked when local members became aware of the change of use of the former police station. Cllr. Blackman replied that she became aware when she received the public list of planning applications.

The Clerk reported that CCBC had requested a single speaker on behalf of each group who wished to speak on the planning application for the Change of Use of the former Police station. A member would need to be nominated to speak on behalf of the Community Council (*Agenda for next meeting*). Residents would need to meet to nominate a representative to speak on their behalf. It was agreed that a meeting of the residents could be facilitated at the Community Room. Cllr. Gray asked Ward Members to inform NCC as they became aware of local issues such as this.

Cllr. Davies reported that three members had met with officers of the CCBC to object to the withdrawal of bus services and put to them the reasons why the bus services were so vital to the community and had handed in a petition signed by 440 residents. Cllr. Gray reported that as other communities had taken similar action it was felt prudent to support Nelson residents also.

Cllr. Blackman read from a communication she had received from the Borough Council:

Although withdrawal of the services had not been formally confirmed, other operators had been approached with a view to taking them over. Regarding the C16 Service, the proposal was to only withdraw the daytime service. Cllr. Mahoney stated that he would be delighted if other providers did this and that bus services were as vitally important to people – particularly older persons – as the availability of public toilets.

**1653. Report from the Chairman:**

The new Chairman had nothing to report.

**1654. Report from the Clerk:**

**a. PLANNING:**

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

- |                 |        |  |
|-----------------|--------|--|
| 1. 14/0274/NOTT | BT PLC | Install Openreach broadband cabinet within the public highway at Land Opposite Royal Oak Hotel, Shingrig Road. |
|-----------------|--------|--|

*The above application was Noted*

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

- |                 |              |  |
|-----------------|--------------|--|
| 1. 14/0108/CLEU | Mrs E Shrubb | Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate for the existing garage conversion and porch at Sun Hill, Bryncelyn. |
|-----------------|--------------|--|

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

None received

**For information: the following application was withdrawn by the applicant:**

- |                 |           |   |
|-----------------|-----------|---|
| 1. 14/0116/FULL | Ms M Burt | Erect single storey extension to rear at Cromwell House, 112 High Street. |
|-----------------|-----------|---|

**b. ACCOUNTS:**

**The following payments were approved:**

- |    |                 |                                      |           |
|----|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | D Gray          | Cleaner Salary (May)                 | £66.30    |
| 2. | British Gas     | Electricity charges (Institute)      | £34.69    |
| 3. | CCBC            | Commercial Refuse collection         | £254.50   |
| 4. | British Gas     | Gas supply (Institute)               | £1,063.38 |
| 5. | British Gas     | Electricity supply (Institute)       | £30.77    |
| 6. | One Voice Wales | Fee for training event (Cllr. Jones) | £30.00    |
| 7. | British Telecom | Telephone charges (Chamber)          | £74.89    |

**c. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**The following correspondence was received:**

- |    |                                 |  |              |
|----|---------------------------------|--|--------------|
| 1. | CCBC                            |  |              |
|    | Nant Llesg planning application |  | <i>Noted</i> |

2. Came & Company  
Parish Matters (Newsletter) *Noted*
  
3. Helen Morgan (CCBC)  
Nant Llesg – information requested at JLC *Noted*
  
4. One Voice Wales  
Area Committee Agenda and minutes *Noted*
  
5. Gwent Police
6. Engagement Workshop 12<sup>th</sup> May *Noted*  
*One representative could attend*
  
7. Play Wales  
Play for Wales Spring Newsletter *Noted*
  
8. CCBC  
Remittance Advice for first Precept instalment *Noted*
  
9. Mrs Lisa Thomas  
Request for a donation to a third party charity  
*The Chairman would make a donation at the Fundraising Event*
  
10. Information Commissioner's Office  
Data Protection and Freedom of Information training *Noted*
  
11. Helen Morgan (CCBC)  
Report to Cabinet re: Public Facilities Grant  
*Relevant to Agenda Item 7*
  
12. Clerk  
Extract from the Minutes of a meeting held on  
11<sup>th</sup> February 2009  
*Agenda Item*
  
13. Nelson Community Centre Management Committee  
Minutes and Accounts

**1655. Closure of Nelson Public Conveniences:**

Cllr. Davies asked when Ward Members became aware of the Public Facilities Grant. Cllr. Blackman responded that it had been in a officer's report around July 2012. The grant was not directly related to the closure of the public facilities.

Cllr. Blackman had spoken against the closure at a special Cabinet meeting but the minutes of the meeting did not accurately reflect what she said. She had requested that the minute be amended.

Members felt that the closure went against the advice and guidance being given by a number of health related bodies.

Members were meeting with officers of the CCBC on the following Monday to discuss options in relation to the closure. It was Resolved to write to the Old People's Commissioner regarding the closure.

**1656. Nelson Boys and Girls Club:**

Cllr. Gray reported that Cllr. Morgan was currently undertaking an appraisal of the options available to the Nelson Development Trust in relation to the land and building.

**1657. Reports from Nominated Members of External Organisations:**

Cllr. Miles reported that the Governing Body at Llancaeal Junior School had been informed of Mr Ron James' impending retirement in December. Cllr. Davies suggested some form of recognition for his long and exemplary service at the Annual Community Show in August. This was unanimously agreed by members.

Minutes and agenda for a recent Community Centre Management Committee were noted. Cllr. Davies asked Cllr. Baldwin to clarify some issues regarding dates in relation to the meeting.

**1658 Questions/Comments from members of the public present:**

Observations were made regarding enforcement action against illegal parking. It was noted that CCBC were not prepared to take over responsibility for this at present.

A member of the public asked why local crafts people had not been approached to manufacture a case for the Chain of Office. The Clerk replied that in his view the case needed to be produced by the specialist company who manufactured the chain. Members asked the resident to provide some details to the Clerk for consideration at the next meeting. *Agenda item*

Cllr. Blackman congratulated Cllr. Morgan on becoming Vice Chair of the CCBC Policy and Resources Committee.

*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.*

**1659 Security Arrangements and Repair Works at 35 Commercial Street:**

Cllr. Morgan declared a personal interest.

Cllr. Gray felt that some form of compensation was warranted for the amount of remedial work undertaken by the new tenant upon occupying the premises.

Members required sight of evidence of the expenditure before making any decision. The Clerk would obtain copies of receipts from the tenant.

Members also required further information from the tenant on the insurance implications of removing the security shutter. The Clerk would follow obtain this information from the tenant.

**1660 Support for the Nomination of a resident for an Award:**

It was reported that a resident had approached a member to seek support from the Community Council for a nomination to receive an award.

The Clerk advised that if members were to consider supporting the request, an earlier decision by Council to not support such nominations as a matter of principal would need to be rescinded.

It was Resolved to rescind the decision of Council made under minute reference 989 from the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

It was Resolved to support the nomination by a majority of members voting. The Clerk would prepare a letter of support.

*Meeting Closed at 9.30 pm*

Min/May/2014