

County Borough of Caerphilly

Nelson Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 13th November 2014 at 7.20pm

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

Mr A. Hoskins (Clerk)

In attendance: No one

Apologies for Absence: Cllr. L Lewis MBE

Prior to the meeting, members were addressed by Mr Robert Campbell (CCBC Traffic Management) on proposals for some minor changes to Traffic Orders at Nelson.

Cllr. Morgan declared an interest in the proposed changes at the lay-by near the Railway Inn and took no part in the discussion relating to these.

The changes were as follows:

1. Restrict all parking at the lay-by near the Railway Inn apart from a length of road east of the food outlet, where a 2 hour limit and no return within 4 hours restriction would apply.
2. Revoke parking restrictions on both sides of Ash Grove from the first bungalow in a westerly direction.
3. Change the time limits at the parking areas near the Library to bring them into line with other time limited areas within Nelson.

Any observations or comments should be received by 28th November 2014.

Members felt that if implemented, the proposed restrictions were unlikely to be enforced as parking was not seen as a priority issue by the police.

The Chairman thanked Mr Campbell for his input.

Declarations of Interest:

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

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. Blackman declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Nelson Community Centre Management Committee.

Cllr. Morgan declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Nelson Community Centre Management Committee and the Nelson Development Trust. He also declared an interest in any discussions relating to the former Police Station at Nelson.

Apologies for Absence:

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Lewis had tendered his apologies as he was attending a meeting at Lewis School.

1704 Report from the Police representative:

No officer was present. The Clerk reported that he had received an out of office response to his email. The usual letter had been sent to the local Inspector.

1705. Minutes:

- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9th October 2014 were Received and Approved.

1706. Matters arising from the Minutes:

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

1707. Report from the Chairman:

The Chairman had attended the Cor Rhosyn Charity Concert at Salem Church in aid of 'Save the Children' and had made a donation of £50. The programme also included some new local talent.

The Chairman had also identified a cornet player who played at the Remembrance Day service at the War Memorial. She had performed her role exceptionally well. It was agreed that she should be offered an honorarium of £50 to cover her time and expenses. She would be asked to play again at the 2015 service. The Chairman noted that her son's school had also provided a live recording on CD for future use, should a player not be available.

1708. Report from the Clerk:

a. PLANNING:

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

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|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. 14/0754/NCC | Dylan Jones Retail | Vary condition 8 of planning consent 14/0210/COU to reduce the maximum length of delivery vehicles and remove condition 9 at Gwent Constabulary Nelson Police Station, Dynevor Terrace. |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Cllr. Morgan declared an interest and took no part in the consideration of this item.

It was Resolved to express concerns about how the size of delivery vehicles would be monitored and what sanctions could be applied if the applicant failed to comply with a varied condition 8, if condition 9 is to be removed.

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

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|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. 12/0550/CON | Llandaff Diocesan BoF | Convert former rectory into two affordable houses and erect residential development of six dwellings at the Rectory and School Site, High Street. |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | 12/0571/FULL | Llandaff Diocesan BoF | Convert former rectory into two affordable houses and erect residential development of six dwellings at the Rectory and School Site, High Street. |
| 3. | 14/0589/FULL | Mr D Gilsenan | Erect double garage with pitched roof at 129 Shingrig Road. |

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

None received

b. ACCOUNTS:

The following payments were approved:

1.	D Gray	Cleaner Salary (November)	£68.03*
2.	British Gas	Electricity charges (Institute)	£28.85
3.	British Gas	Gas supply charges (Institute)	£186.38
4.	British Telecom	Telephone charges (Chamber)	£79.63 DD
5.	Andrew Lloyd	Plumbing repairs and replacement ceiling	£540.00

* Living Wage annual increase from November 2014

c. CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was received:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. | GAVO
Notice of AGM on 14 th October 2014 | <i>Noted</i> |
| 2. | Older People's Commissioner for Wales
Card Acknowledgement of receipt of letter | <i>Noted</i> |
| 3. | Older People's Commissioner for Wales
Response to letter re: Nelson Public Toilets
<i>Agenda item</i> | |
| 4. | One Voice Wales
Notice of AGM and Area Committee Meeting on 22 nd October 2014 | <i>Noted</i> |
| 5. | CCBC
CIL Draft Agreement for Consultation
<i>Agenda item</i> | |
| 6. | Community Centre Management Committee | |

Minutes of meeting held on 2nd September 2014

Agenda item

7. CCBC
Request for information on dates and times of Remembrance services
The Clerk had provided the information requested

8. CCBC
Consultation on proposed changes to Scrutiny Committee engagement with consultees *Noted*

9. CCBC
Changes to Service X38 and revised timetable *Noted*

10. Brian Hancock – T&CC JLC
Notice of postponement of next T&CC meeting
And notice of resignation as Clerk to the committee *Noted*

11. One Voice Wales
Notification of training re: Devolution of Services on 1st December 2014 at Radyr
The Chairman would attend

12. Cllr. Anne Blackman
Request for agenda item re: Wern Park Barrier
Agenda item

13. CCBC
Request for information re: weed control
*Cllr. Morgan had identified some areas
Cllr. Blackman would respond regarding a further area*

14. Gwent Police
Agenda for PCC meeting on 6th November
Forwarded to Vice Chairman

15. Helen Morgan (CCBC)
Consultation on SE Wales Valleys Local Transport Plan *Noted*

16. Disability Can Do
Request for information on application for financial assistance
The Clerk had forwarded an application form
17. Helen Morgan (CCBC)
Notice of cancellation of next JLC *Noted*
18. Helen Morgan (CCBC)
Notice re: removal of Paper Banks *Noted*
19. Mark S Williams (CCBC)
Request for confirmation of intentions re:
Public Toilets at Nelson
Agenda item

1709. Public Toilets at Nelson:

The further correspondence from Mark S Williams regarding potential disposal of the premises was noted with concern.

The Clerk tabled a response to the Community Council's complaint to the Older People's Commissioner for Wales which included a copy of her request for information to the Borough Council regarding the closure. Members welcomed the assistance the OPC was providing.

Cllr. Morgan read out some information regarding the Welsh Government future proposals for information.

Members considered Mr Williams' correspondence to be premature in the circumstances, as he had previously assured the Community Council that no action would be taken in respect of any disposal until our enquiry to the OPC had been resolved and was clearly not the case. The Council still needed to await the response of the Borough Council to the OPC's enquiry.

Members confirmed that the Community Council was still in favour of taking on the premises if this was proved to be necessary and providing the annual running costs could be met. The Clerk confirmed that the costs could not be funded from the council's existing budget and that additional funds would need to be obtained from an increase in the precept or any alternative sources of funding. He confirmed that no funds were available from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust as they were unable to provide funds directly to Town & Community Councils.

Cllr. Baldwin read out the approximate costs of opening and maintaining the building to the extent of the service that was provided by the Borough Council. This was approximately £7,000 p.a. The Clerk confirmed that the current Precept was just under £27,000 p.a. with a Band D equivalent charge of £17.27. This together with some smaller grants was fully committed to fund the council's current events and services. A grant of £500 would be available toward the running costs from the Borough Council, but this would still mean an increase of almost 25% in the annual Precept, an increase of approximately £4.32.

Members felt that if such an increase was proposed then all residents would need to be consulted on the matter. It was Resolved that an item seeking residents' views on the matter would be included in the Christmas Newsletter, to be circulated in early December. Meanwhile,

costings for alternative opening times and arrangements would be explored. The matter would be considered further at the next Ordinary Meeting in December.

The Clerk would respond to Mr Williams.

1710. Community Infrastructure Levy – Draft CCBC Agreement:

The content of the draft Agreement was noted and it was Resolved to adopt the document in its current format.

1711. Security Barrier at Wern Park upper car park:

Cllr. Blackman reported that the cost of opening and closing this barrier might need to be shared due to the CCBC budgetary constraints. The Clerk reported that the original agreement was that the three parties then involved – Borough Council, Community Council and Village Partnership – had originally agreed to share the cost by contributing 1/3rd of the total each. However, the Community Council (to date) had not been asked for any contribution.

1712. Christmas Market and Santa Event:

The Clerk reported that expressions of interest had been received from around 18 traders and that he was currently in the process of replying to them all. These included a children's battery operated Go-Cart attraction. He was currently checking that there would be sufficient space for this in the yard, without compromising any other traders who might be located there. He still needed to contact Mr Ron James to confirm some arrangements. Cllr. Gray would obtain Mr James' mobile telephone number.

Cllr. Davies reported that interest from local traders appeared to be only lukewarm this time.

1713. Christmas Newsletter:

The Clerk requested members to let him have any contributions for the newsletter within the next week or so to enable it to be published early in December.

1714. Reports from Nominated Members of External Organisations:

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

Cllr. Davies reported that the Technical Assistance Grant had now been approved for the NDT. Cllr Gray requested payment for printing and distribution of a flyer advertising the NDT's consultation event on potential uses for the new facility.

Cllr. Miles reported that both schools had held its respective Focus Meeting and each school was performing very well and had achieved a green status flag. As was the case across many local schools, attendance appears to be the biggest issue to be addressed.

The Chairman reported on behalf of One Voice Wales. There was a training event on the Devolution of Services to be held shortly, but if there was sufficient demand, a bespoke event could be provided for individual council. Members felt that it was sufficient for the Chairman to attend and report back to the council

Cllr. Morgan reported that CCBC was to trial its first filmed meetings shortly. He also reported on a number of general matters relating to the Borough Council. There was now a permit system for

residents who wished to use trailers or small vans to transport their waste materials to CCBC Civic Amenity Sites.

Cllr. Davies reported on the Police & Crime Commissioner event that she had attended together with Cllr. Gray. Some issues covered at the event included the lack of police attendance at T&CC meetings. It was felt by those present that the police were too focussed on meeting targets and were forgetting about ordinary people. It had also been decided to move away from holding regular PACT meetings due to poor attendance of the public.

Cllr. Davies also reported that the lady who had crocheted the remembrance poppies had raised around £750 and this had been rounded up to £1,000 by a local businessman. The money raised would be donated to support the Armed Forces Post Traumatic Stress charity.

1715. Questions/Comments from members of the public present:

No members of the public were present.

Members of the public would have needed to be excluded from the meeting by resolution during the consideration of the following items due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed. A resolution was not required however, as no members of the public were present.

1716. Draft Contract of Employment for New Clerk:

Subject to tailoring the document to the Community Council needs, the contract was adopted.

1717. Rental of 35 Commercial Street:

The Clerk reported that the tenant was in arrears with rental payments and had decided that reluctantly, it was not possible to carry on further profitable trading in the premises and had given notice of termination of the lease from 30th November. Members accepted the request for termination. The Clerk would discuss with the tenant what should be done with any equipment and fixtures & fittings prior to the tenant vacating the property.

Meeting Closed at 9.00 pm

Min/Nov/2014