

County Borough of Caerphilly
Nelson Community Council

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on 8th September 2016 beginning at 7.00p.m.

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

Mr T White (Clerk)

Apologies for absence, no apologies

Also in Attendance Inspector Muirhead, Gwent Police

Keith Downes NDT

Declaration of Interest:

Cllr Ann Gray

Nelson Development Trust

Relative to employee

Cllr Gill Davies

Nelson Development Trust

Caerphilly CBC Community Council Liaison

CCBC Standards Committee

1942 Inspector Muirhead appraised Members of the activities during July and August:

A slight increase in July and August with 24 and 18 incidents reported

Thefts during July were higher than normal but following the arrest of an individual the August figures were back down.

No major issues during the period although during the Summer holidays it is not uncommon to see an increase in Criminal Damage and ASB

Cllr Blackman identified speed of vehicles through the village as a concern as well as parking on pavements although as the Inspector explained in some areas it is a case of residents having nowhere else to park.

Cllr Miles explained that the placing of bollards would hopefully alleviate some of the parking issue previously experienced.

Cllr Baldwin identified the parking of large lorries close to the entrance to Shingrig Allotments as an issue as the view of pedestrians and motorists was obscured. The inspector asked that registration numbers be taken in future so his officers can follow up with the Drivers or vehicle owners.

Cllr Gray asked if Officers could address issues of cars parking on the double yellow lines by the Handball Court.

Cllr Lewis asked if there had been any reports of issues relating to the Royal Oak

Cllr Davies reported incidents of parking in Heol Fawr, outside the chapel.

Cllr Lewis thanked Inspector Muirhead of his report

1943 To receive apologies for absence.

No apologies:

1944 To Receive and Approve Minutes:

Minute of Ordinary meeting held on 14th July 2016 were accepted as a true record

1945 Matters arising

1933 - Grant Aid application received regarding Churchyard which will **be presented at next meeting.**

Noted that signs had been replaced at the Graveyard.

1934 - Members raised concerns that eight weeks had expired and no site meeting had been convened although Cllr Morgan and Cllr Blackman confirmed the request had been made to Officers

1946 Consider options for rental of Shop

The Clerk explained that he had contacted JPN Solicitors regarding outstanding rent on the shop who had provided a quote (£240 plus VAT) for a consultation and a letter. The Clerk explained he was in the process of locating the signed lease as this would be required by the Solicitor.

Members agreed when the lease was available the Clerk would arrange a meeting with the Solicitor.

The Clerk then reported that after contacting 3 Agents he had received a quotation from a letting Agent regarding them letting the Shop on behalf of the Community Council (although this would not involve rent collection or day to day management). The fee would be approximately 20-25% of the rental income. Members mentioned there may be others who would do this at a reduced costs.

The Clerk explained he had received some very positive interest from someone who wanted to rent the property as Nail Bar.

Cllr Jones enquired if the shop had been advertised via Business Forum as this may afford the opportunities for grants

Members agreed the **Clerk should arrange to show them** the shop with a view to renting at the rates previously agreed.

1947 Consider correspondence/report relating to Nelson Development Trust

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the reversion of the lease by CCBC for the Boys Club and Nelson Development Trust

Cllr Baldwin expressed her disappointment that the lease had been revoked

Cllr Morgan explained that he and Cllr Blackman had been summoned to a meeting with the Head of Property, Cllr Hardacre and Tim Broadhurst where they were told the lease would be revoked as there had been lack of progress or reports.

Cllr Mahoney expressed concern that the Community Council did not appear united in the plans of NDT

Cllr Blackman confirmed they had no formal prior notification of the meeting with Property Services

Cllr Davies (Chair of NDT) expressed her disappointment at what had transpired and felt the County Councillors had not fully supported the project and that they had not raised the issues of speaking to the Trust before the decision was made.

Cllr Morgan confirmed that the decision to revoke the Lease was a Delegated Powers decision and not taken by full Council.

Cllr Blackman left the meeting

Cllr Morgan stated he was informed that the Trust had been written to back in the previous November and June but CCBC had received no response or reports on progress (as required by the Lease)

Cllr Gray (Secretary of NDT) also expressed her disappointment at the decision, the fact that NDT had not been spoken to before the decision was made and that the lease was actually verbally extended to two years and now CCBC had reverted to the original 18 month period. Cllr Gray also confirmed that NDT had not received correspondence in June but they had responded to the correspondence received in November and that no other communication had been received from CCBC.

Cllr Miles wished to place on record the thanks of the Community Council for those who had worked on NDT in the preceding years.

Members agreed that Mr Downes could address the meeting now as it was relevant to the ongoing debate regarding NDT

Mr Downes reiterated what had been said by other members of NDT and his disappointment at the lack of communication and that CCBC had not arranged a meeting prior to revoking the lease plus the fact that the 2 year agreement had not been adhered to.

Cllr Gray confirmed that NDT was still in existence

Members agreed to explore the issue of an Asset Transfer for the boys club and surrounding grounds

Members also agreed that until there is a firm position agreed regarding NDT they would rescind the previous agreement for the £12,000 commitment from the Community Council.

Also agreed that Cllr Morgan would explore the Asset Transfer option with officers from CCBC and report back to the next meeting

The **Clerk would write to CCBC** and ask that should the Asset Transfer not proceed that they will consult with the Community Council before any decision is made regarding the future use of this land

1948 Approval of Accounts 2015/16

The Clerk presented the Accounts and the accompanying documentation to Members for consideration.

The Vice Chair explained how difficult it had been to produce the accounts this year and that various time extensions had been agreed with the Auditors.

The Clerk explained that various documents had already been provided to the Auditors and that all that was required now was the accounts approved by the Internal Auditor and agreed and signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

Members unanimously approved the accounts and agreed a letter of thanks be sent to **the previous clerk (Mr Alan Hoskins)** and **the internal auditor (Mr Wyndham Davies)** who had spent more time than usual in working with the Clerk to ensure the accounts were to the required standard (making a donation of £100 to Mr Davies for the Audit undertaken in 2014/15 and £150 for 2015/16).

Members also agreed that the **Clerk write to Mr Davies** to formally appoint/ask him to continue as the Internal Auditor for Nelson Community Council and report back on possible external support that may be required in future preparation of accounts .

Agreed in future there will be regular Finance Reviews to discuss with Members income and expenditure (these will be incorporated into scheduled meetings.

1949 Review events: Summer Newsletter, Summer Show, Songs of Praise, Summer Sport

Delivery of Newsletters had been undertaken by local youths and Cllr Gray would obtain letter confirming payment had been made. Cllr Gray confirmed they would be interested in undertaking future deliveries

Members agreed the Summer Newsletter was successful

Members agreed the Summer Show was also very successful and the Clerk **would write thanking all the Judges and the Caretaker**. also agreed that an ex-gratia payment would be made to the Caretaker of £100 for his assistance and attendance on the day.

An Activities Committee meeting will be arranged on the **22nd September** to discuss the various events in greater detail, arrange the Songs of Praise event, Winter Newsletter, Christmas event and Armistice day, etc.

1950 Chairs Report

The Chair thanked all those for the kind messages received during his recent illness and for all those who had provided cover for him both at meetings and at the Summer event. He also took the opportunity to thank those who had worked in providing the Summer event.

1951 Clerks Report

a PLANNING

Up to 9th August

No Applications

Up to 2nd August

No Applications

Up to 26th July

No Applications

Up to 19th July

No Applications

Up to 12th July

No Applications

b ACCOUNTS (cheque payments from 1st July to 31st August 2016 included below) - all other transactions included on bank statement

Summer show prize (Hiollybush Allotments)	50.00
D Gray Cleaner (August)	71.50
Playworks - September (including HMRC)	97.80
Tylers Arms (Summer Show)	128.55
Internal Audit (2014/15)	100.00
Postage (T White)	12.70
A Gray (Summer Show	19.64
Summer Show Prize money	860.00
Llancaeath (Grant Aid)	50.00
Master Foil	375.00
D Gray Cleaning Materials	10.00
Viking	27.36

The Clerk explained there were some issues regarding the payment of the Gas and Electricity bills and it was agreed he would **arrange for future bills to be paid by Direct Debit**

c CORRESPONDANCE

The following correspondence has been received

Rental of 35 Commercial Street

copy attached (Agenda item 4)

The Caerphilly you want Workshops

copy attached

Letter from new Chair of RCT, Caerphilly and RCT Area Committee

copy attached

One Voice Wales AGM Motions 2016

copy attached

Minutes Town and Community Council's Liaison Committee

copy attached

Merthyr Development Plan expressions of interest

copy attached

Dwr Cymru (helps us decide how to spend £30 million for the future)

copy attached

Well being and Future Generations Act

copy of presentation attached

5 Man Cleansing Team

copy attached

CSSIW correspondence

copy attached

Nelson CCTV

Copy attached (view of Council required)

Questionnaire (Planning Consultation)

Copy of contact details attached

Flood and Coastal erosion Committee Consultation

Copy of contact details attached

Ombudsman's Video for Councillors

Copy of contact details attached

What do you want for Caerphilly

Copy of contact details attached

PAW Planning Training

Copy attached

Pensions Regulator

Copy attached

1952 To Receive Reports from Members who serve on External Committees/Organisations

Cllr Davies reported back on the Well Being and Future Generations Act and the presentation received (copy attached)

1953 To receive any questions/comments from members of the public who are present

none

1954 No members of public present

Approve acceptance of National Pay award
Approve incremental spinal column point increase for Clerk

Meeting... September 8th 2016 closed at 9-00 pm suspended standing orders and reconvened, eventually closed at 9-20 pm