

Nelson Community Council

Ordinary Meeting held on 12th May 2022 beginning at 7-00 pm. at Nelson Institute.

Present:

- Cllr. R Powell (Chair)
- Cllr. G Davies
- Cllr. L Dufty
- Cllr. S Morgan
- Cllr. E Ap Dafydd
- Cllr. A John
- Cllr. B Miles
- Cllr. B Jenkins
- Cllr. A Gray

Mr. L John (Clerk)

- C Savaa, Police
- A Croker, Police
- Member of the public

No declarations of interest were received.

The Chair thanked all Members for their support during the last year.

1 To Receive apologies for absence

There were no apologies to consider.

Cllr Miles gave apologies for her need to leave the meeting at 8pm.

2 To Receive a Report from the Community Police Representative

A report had been received in advance relating to crimes reported in April. Members welcomed 2 police representatives. The following was noted:

- There has been a decrease in crime in the last month but an increase in ASB.
- The number of crimes were shared and some of the detail relating to ASB was provided.
- There had been another report relating to the Old Rectory which was not related to young people. The site, however, is still secure.

Members raised the following queries and concerns with the police representatives present:

- Reports of substance misuse at Wern Park. Members asked if the police were still patrolling the area. It was confirmed that the area is monitored but there has been limited evidence of the activities. Members of the public were encouraged to report with details of people or vehicles.
- Members raised an issue relating to drink-driving and drug-related activities on Lanfabon mountain near the substation that had been reported previously. It was confirmed that the police are aware of the complaints and that the activities tend to take place during the night and it can be challenging for the neighbourhood team to patrol the area and follow up reports if there is no first-hand evidence of crimes being committed. The police confirmed that they would copy the Council to the email in which they will share the information with wider police teams to monitor the reported problems.
- Members raised the issue of localised fires near the rugby field and the challenges of the neighbourhood police team being able to easily monitor and patrol the area. A recent incident was prevented by intervention by rugby club members. Members discussed a council and community strategy to support the dispersal of anti-social behaviour.

- Members asked whether drones were in use. It was explained that they are used mainly in Traffic. It is possible to use them if there is a clear and defined purpose.
- Company vehicles that consistently park in or around Mountain Way. The police confirmed that they had witnessed the parking. It was explained that the use has extended to receiving and sharing goods from the rear of the vehicles. It was confirmed that it is challenging when the vehicles are parked legally. A member suggested it may be blocking the views of drivers. It was suggested that residents are becoming increasingly frustrated which may lead to a confrontation. The police had suggested that it was unclear if views of drivers were being blocked.
- Members asked if the police patrol some of the other parking areas in the county borough where anti-social behaviour is prevalent. The police suggested that targeted patrols are not necessarily undertaken unless there is clear intelligence. It was discussed that members of the public can report using Crimestoppers anonymously.
- Police surgeries- it was suggested that surgeries could be held at Nelson Institute which is more central to residents and asked if it had been considered. The police confirmed that the ongoing surgeries have been planned in advance but it will be reviewed in line with timings to maximise engagement. Members suggested that holding sessions at the end of school time may force people to reflect on how they park which is an issue residents have concerns with.
- Members asked about current police resource. It was confirmed that there are 4 CSOs covering the wards that are usually covered within the reports. There are now less people covering more wards. It is also possible that staff can be relocated at short notice across the area that the Force covers when required.
- A member added that the local school has introduced the Heddlu Bach police initiative and staff, pupils and members agree is a very positive. Pupils had commented that parking, litter and vandalism are concerns of theirs.
- Parking challenges on rugby festival day were discussed. It was suggested that more awareness was needed to reduce residents' frustration. Members discussed solutions which could involve other parking areas and providing buses and the need to pre-plan and inform all stakeholders. Members commented on the need to use the Event Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) at CCBC which involves safety, advisory and emergency services.

A member of the public was invited to speak and asked about the reporting of vehicles on pavements. It was confirmed that it is not possible for fines to be issued retrospectively using photographs taken from the member of the public.

3 To Receive and approve the minutes of the 14th April 2022:

The minutes of the ordinary meeting on 14th April 2022 were approved as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising:

3 Nelson Institute

Cllr Morgan apologised for not undertaking the action relating to the building and agreed to arrange.

5i Other

Members were reminded that permission to access the land behind the cenotaph was given on the arrangement that volunteers could pick up litter. The

trees can also be cut back but it is thought that a survey will be required to ensure that any nesting is not disturbed. Members discussed the costs associated with cutting the trees back. It was confirmed that it is likely volunteers will be able to undertake the job

5ii Other

The clerk apologised for not making contact with CCBC to try to determine the owner of the iron bridge. The location of the bridge was clarified and the clerk assured members he would make enquiries.

4 To receive a report from the Chair

The Chair provided a verbal report. It was brief given that it was unclear who would be the Chairperson at this meeting. The following was noted:

- The vandalism at the toilet facilities has been limited compared to other facilities.
- New doors may be required to prevent people taking photographs from underneath.

5 To receive a report from the Clerk

The Clerk provided a verbal report. The following was noted: -

a Details of correspondence available online [here](#)

b Finance available [here](#)

The members noted the payments that had been made in the period.

c Planning applications to be considered, available [here](#)

Members noted planning applications submitted during the period.

Members commented on the development at Colliers Holdings. Members discussed the various activities that were taking place and that were being provided for. It was confirmed that the visitor centre for Parc Penallta is a separate development to be undertaken nearby.

Members discussed whether the Council has been consulted. The Clerk agreed to check the application process to confirm. Members recalled that there were concerns originally around access and egress.

d Activities

Members resolved for the Activities Committee to meet on Thursday 19th May, 7pm at Nelson Institute.

6 Nelson Institute

a. Security Update

It was confirmed that a member was still to replace the internal locks as agreed prior to the issue of the revised Terms & Conditions.

b. Applications process and Terms & Conditions

There was nothing to consider.

c. Applications for hire

There had been no applications for hire. Members resolved that existing groups would be asked to re-apply for the hire of the room at Nelson Institute following

the replacement of the internal locks.

d. AOB

It was noted that Aquasafe had visited the building to attend to the boiler which involved topping it up following reports that a tenant did not have hot water.

Ambassador have a routine visit plan shortly.

Members asked if the Community Centre would be hosting any events relating to the Jubilee. It was confirmed that it was not. It was noted that the school was commemorating the Jubilee with events. Members noted that it was too late to organise an event.

7 To receive any questions from members of the public/report by Members

Members agreed to consider this item earlier in the agenda.

A member of the public requested that the Council work together for the people of Nelson.

The following issues were raised:

- Bridge at the end of Shingrig Road. It was suggested that neighbouring principal authorities seem to be in dispute about responsibility and it continues to create traffic issues.

Councillors confirmed the following:

The principal authority has limited authority as the bridge is wholly within Merthyr. However, Merthyr do not own the structure. Transport for Wales have been undertaking a temporary repair and the lights will be removed in October. There is likely to be further disruption once a more permanent repair is undertaken. It was noted that you cannot legally restrict certain vehicles from using the bridge.

- A zebra crossing was referenced where it is suggested a pelican crossing should be established.
- Bwl Road is limited to one way traffic and with more access could have helped with traffic at recent sports event.

Councillors confirmed the following:

It has generally been accepted by most of the public and the increased pedestrian access seems to have been welcomed

- Resident parking should be enforced at Wern Crescent parking.

Councillors confirmed the following:

The solution is unclear. Residents parking may not suit all residents. It was suggested that the advice has been shared that if enough residents want residents' parking, then a petition will be required with support from others.

Another councillor suggested that the Community Council held a consultation previously on the parking requirement and conveyed their views. The role of the Community Council is limited.

- Ty Penallta could be used for parking for events.

Members agreed that the Council works in a non-political way. Councillors work closely together for the good of the community. The role of the Community Council is limited, however. There is permitted expenses but many opt out.

Members agreed to raise the issue of residents' parking at the next Liaison committee meeting.

Members discussed how the Council communicate with the public and agreed to continue the discussion when agreeing newsletter content at the Activities meeting.

8 Grant aid applications

The member of the public was asked to leave. This matter was considered in a private meeting.

Signed.....
CHAIRMAN