

Nelson Community Council

Ordinary Meeting held on 8th December 2022 beginning at 7:00 pm at Nelson Institute

Present: Cllr. R Powell (Chair)
Cllr. G Davies
Cllr. A Gray
Cllr. B Miles
Cllr. E Ap Dafydd
Cllr L Dufty
Mr. L John (Clerk)

Also present: George Edwards, Caerphilly Taxi Association (item 9 only)

No declarations of interest were received.

1 To Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. A John and Cllr. S Morgan.

2 To Receive a Report from the Community Police Representative

Members noted receipt of the report and thanked the police for their comprehensive report. Members suggested it would be useful to see the breakdown of incidents for other areas as a comparison.

3 To Receive and approve minutes:

a. Ordinary meeting on 10th November 2022

The minutes of the ordinary meeting were approved.

Matters arising:

1. Members discussed attendance at meetings and involvement at activities. It was resolved that the Chair contact members to review.
3. Members raised the Cabinet Meeting in which the Bryn Liaison Committee was discussed in October and noted that:
 - The Chair of the Cabinet did not declare an interest and clarity is being sought whether the County Councillor can be a member
 - No mention of Nelson was made during the meeting or during the minutes.
 - Democratic Services are unable to appoint other County Council members on the Committee. The Terms of Reference stipulates that only certain ward members are included but co-option is an option but the process is unclear.
 - A member of Nelson Community Council represented Nelson, as a resident, on the committee previously.
 - It was suggested the rolling programme of changing the resident membership leads to a lack of continuity.

Members resolved to contact Democratic Services to inform them of the intention to make a formal complaint and to seek resolution before the need to do so.

Cllr B Miles was thanked for her assistance in the process.

5. It was confirmed that flowers were shared during a visit on a resident's birthday. Members resolved to give flowers to another resident of a certain age following confirmation of the birthday.

8. It was confirmed that no feedback had been received from Ty Du following the attendance at the last meeting.

12. Members referred to a letter from a resident relating to a complaint about a County Councillor and LA Officer. It was explained that the complaint fell outside of the remit of the Community Council which had been shared with the resident. Members discussed the potential options. It was resolved to share the resident's letter with members not present and to acknowledge receipt of the letter.

4 To receive a report from the Chair

There was no other report to consider.

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 to be made in the period.

c Members noted planning applications submitted during the period.

6 Consider Summer Show proposal from Bedwellty Show Organisers.

Members noted a request from the horticultural part of the Bedwellty Show to partner in organising a joint event. Members discussed the proposal. Following a vote, members resolved to maintain an independent event to preserve the local identity of the event for Nelson residents

7 Consider Pay Award

A Gray declared an interest.

Members resolved to approve the pay award as recommended by NALC for staff.

Members resolved to move the aspect of the Standing Orders which limits the timing of the meetings until 9pm.

8 Consider resident concerns about parking outside of Llancaeath Junior School

The County Councillor present confirmed that a resident had raised concerns separately and there was an ongoing dialogue to help resolve. The LA Officer who had been engaged suggested that a Traffic Regulation Order would be required to change signage. It was an option for the County Councillor to meet with supervisor of the parking enforcement agency.

It was also noted that the school's Heddlu Bach would also be monitoring the situation which could ease the problem for a temporary period only.

Members resolved that the County Councillor should seek a meeting with Parking Enforcement with Cllr Gray.

9 Consideration of the funding model of the Toilet Facilities

Members introduced George Edwards (GE) of Caerphilly Taxi Association who presented the situation relating to the toilets. Information was shared relating to costs and the format was explained. The following was also noted:

- Following a very high bill the toilet facilities have now been closed for 3 weeks. The latest invoice, based on meter readings, is £1000+.
- Footfall is relatively low and not enough to make the facilities sustainable.
- The water bill is reasonable and repairs have been made at the water company's expense.
- No appliances are left permanently on.
- The standing charge is £4 per day. This could be supported by charity funding if needed. The rate is 73p per KW/hr.
- Following legal action, the court has stipulated that that the invoice is payable.
- Caerphilly Town Council's facilities have also closed.
- EDF agreed to investigate further and consider a new meter and a calibration of the old meter. GE will feedback following contact from them next week.
- The power has now been switched off at the main breaker.
- There is now no daily charge or other charges incurred.
- A change of supplier is only possible at the discretion of CCBC.
- It was confirmed that the door entry system and door was purchased by the Community Council and the commitment is to return the investment.
- A registered charity would be entitled to more grant-funding
- CCBC pay bills based on estimates

Members agreed to consider options to support the re-opening of the toilets such as:

- The viability of a grant for solar power or some variation of a self-sufficient system. It was suggested it may not be tall enough or big enough.
- Revenue-generating advertising

Members resolved for Cllr Powell to liaise with GE

GE was thanked for his support throughout and left the meeting.

Members considered the invoice amount and resolved to support, in principle.

Members resolved for the Chair to donate his expenses subject to the Clerk confirming this is possible.

10 To receive any questions from members of the public/report by Members
Members referred to the lease for the unit next to the Nelson Institute and asked how long the lease has been in place, who it is with and how much is paid for it. Members discussed making an enquiry to Land Registry but through research. it is thought it was sold in 2008.

Members resolved for the clerk to seek advice about the lease agreement from CCBC.

Signed.....
CHAIRMAN